

### Target Area: Behaviour Problems

<p>Camberg, Woods, Ooi, Hurley, Volicer et al (1999). <i>Evaluation of Simulated Presence: A Personalized Approach to Enhance Well-Being in Persons with Alzheimer's Disease</i>. Journal of the American Geriatrics Society 1999 47(4):446-452</p>	<p>PEDro score - 5/10</p>
<p><b>Method/Results</b></p> <p><b>Design:</b></p> <p>Y Study type: RCT (cross over design).</p> <p>Y Population: n=55 nursing home residents with Alzheimers or related dementias (ADRD) who display at least one agitated or withdrawn behaviour per day. Participants were from 9 nursing homes, and had severe cognitive impairment and low functional ability 22.8% were male, with M=82.7 years, SD=7.5 years.</p> <p>Y Groups: Simulated Presence tape; Placebo tape; Usual Care.</p> <p>Y Setting: Nursing homes.</p> <p><b>Primary outcome measure/s:</b></p> <p>Y Scale for the Observation of Agitation in Persons with Dementia (SOAPD).</p> <p>Y Positive Affect Rating Scale (PARS).</p> <p>Y Visual analog scales for agitation (AVAS) and withdrawal (WVAS).</p> <p>Y Facial diagrams of mood (FACE).</p> <p>Y Staff observation log (SOL).</p> <p>Y Staff ratings using short form of Cohen-Mansfield Agitation Inventory (SCMAI).</p> <p>Y Staff ratings using Multidimensional Observation Scale for Elderly Subjects (MOSES).</p> <p><b>Secondary outcome measure/s:</b></p> <p>Y None.</p> <p><b>Result:</b> Based on staff observation logs, a significant reduction in agitation was found for the Simulated Presence group when compared with both the Placebo and the Usual care; and a significant reduction in withdrawal when compared with usual care. Simulated Presence therapy was superior to the placebo group in producing a happy expression. No group differences were found for agitation or withdrawal however when</p>	<p><b>Rehabilitation Program</b></p> <p><b>Aim:</b> To enhance well-being and reduce agitated and withdrawn behaviours among nursing home residents with Alzheimer's Disease by simulating a live telephone call from a family member.</p> <p><b>Materials:</b> Information packet for family members containing a memory inventory form, conversational guidelines and an instructional audiotape, the personalized, interactive audio tape for the patient, headset, auto-reverse tape recorder, hip pack.</p> <p><b>Treatment plan:</b></p> <p>Y Duration: 17 days.</p> <p>Y Procedure: 30 minutes to train nursing staff; tape administered at least twice /day during the weekdays when agitated or withdrawn behaviour is exhibited.</p> <p>Y Content:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Simulated Presence:</i> An audio tape is recorded, containing a live telephone conversation with a family member/surrogate. The conversation is designed to be rich in selected memories and positive emotions.</li> <li>- <i>Placebo:</i> An audio tape of a person reading emotionally neutral articles from the newspaper.</li> <li>- <i>Usual care:</i> Routine behavioural management interventions (e.g. redirection, physical restraints).</li> </ul>



observations were made by a non-participant observer.

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