

Assessment of dementia and cognitive changes

One in seven people over the age of 70 experiences dementia and another 22% demonstrate symptoms of cognitive decline that falls short of dementia. Those who escape the symptoms of dementia may spend a substantial portion of retirement years caring for a friend or family member with cognitive impairment. The rise of the baby boomer generation is expected bring unprecedented rates of cognitive syndromes like Alzheimer's disease, yet most mental health professionals have formal training to work with this vulnerable population. This workshop provides a clinical approach to understanding and assessing these syndromes.

Target Audience

Psychologists
Therapists
Social Workers
Psychiatrists
Counselors
Nurses
Course level: Intermediate

Learning Objectives

At the end of this seminar, participants will be able to:

- (1) Identify common dementia syndromes and their clinical symptoms.
- (2) Describe the difference between normal cognitive aging and dementia.
- (3) Describe the underlying neuropathological changes and their connection to clinical changes in Alzheimer's disease and other dementias.
- (4) Select appropriate cognitive screening measures for use in a variety of clinical settings.
- (5) Apply diagnostic criteria to clinical case studies.

Seminar Schedule

Typically begins at 12:00 PM and ends at 3:15 PM Eastern time. There is one 15 minute break. However, check the webinar schedule.

Outline

Begin 12 PM ET

Common dementias and pre-dementia cognitive changes
Alzheimer's disease
vascular dementia,
dementia with Lewy bodies
mild cognitive impairment

BREAK 1:30-1:45 PM ET

Cognitive screening instruments
clinical utility (sensitivity, specificity)
In depth cognitive testing
Neuropsychological evaluation
Detection
Diagnosis
Care planning
End 3:15 PM ET

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Continuing Education Credit

To earn CE's, you must attend the entire webinar. No partial credit is available. For both the webinar and the home study version, you will have to pass a post-test with 80% correct and complete a seminar evaluation to earn the certificate. You can take the test up to three times. Participants will earn 3 CE's for attending once they have completed these requirements.

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The Presenter

Benjamin Mast, Ph.D., ABPP, is a licensed clinical psychologist, a board certified clinical geropsychologist and a Fellow with the Gerontological Society of America. He serves as Professor and Chair in the Department of Psychological & Brain Sciences at the University of Louisville. He has served as president of the Society of Clinical Geropsychology (APA Division 12, Section II) and co-Editor in Chief of the American Psychological Association Handbook of Clinical Geropsychology (2015, American Psychological Association). Dr. Mast is the chair of the American Psychological Association task force to revise the Guidelines for the Evaluation of Dementia and Age-Related Cognitive Change. Dr. Mast has written several books on dementia, mild cognitive impairment and Alzheimer's disease including *Whole Person Dementia Assessment* (2011, Health Professions Press), *Second Forgetting: Remembering the Power of the Gospel During Alzheimer's Disease* (2014, Zondervan/HarperCollins), and *Alzheimer's Disease, Dementia and Mild Cognitive Impairment* (2017, Hogrefe). Dr. Mast is active in conducting dementia evaluations at the Optimal Aging Clinic at the University of Louisville.

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This seminar has been reviewed and approved by Keith Hannan, Ph.D., Phil Rich, LICSW, Daphne Fatter, Ph.D., and Loreen Yearick, MSN, RN. This approval expires on March 1, 2025.

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tzkseminars, LLC
2110 South Eagle Road
P.O. Box 310
Newtown, Pa. 18940