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LPN Certification for Alzheimer's

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Basics of Certification

Most [certification \(#\)](#) courses provide at least eight hours of training, giving a comprehensive overview of the individuals with Alzheimer's. Training typically covers topics in dementia, diagnosis, prognosis, treatment, care, paranoia, hallucinations, wandering, hoarding, aggressive behaviors, pain management, bathing, dressing, support, care planning, pet and horticultural therapies, emergency management, spiritual care, and end of life care.

National Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners

The National Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners offers four [certifications \(#\)](#) for those who serve as Certified Dementia Practitioner, which requires extensive special training specifically for Alzheimer's care; the Certified Dementia Practitioner for nurses for managing a unit with patients who suffer from Alzheimer's; the Certified First Responder Dementia Practitioner who may be called to care for an Alzheimer's patient; and the NCCDP Alzheimer's Dementia Trainer, which trains other practitioners.

National Certification Board for Alzheimer's Care

The National Certification Board for Alzheimer's Care grants the Certified Alzheimer's Caregiver and the Certified Alzheimer's Caregiver certification is for those who are in direct care of people with Alzheimer's and offers them practical training facilities. The Educator certification is to train the trainers and equip care providers to advocate outside the facility.

Prerequisites

Most accredited certification institutions require that nurses who want this training have work experience in dementia care, and all require that licensure be up to date (<http://www.ehow.com/date/>) and in good standing.

Reasons to Certify

Certification is a symbol of excellence and a quality indicator. It helps nurses prove they've been trained in anywhere. Moreover, with the growing Alzheimer's population, it is a mark that separates one nurse from a continuing education, nurses who get additional certification have smoothed the path to promotion and car

References

- National Certification Board for Alzheimer's Care: Candidate Handbook
- Department of Labor: Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses
- National Council of State Boards of Nursing: Spring 2001 Practice and Professional Issues (PPI)

Resources

- National Institute on Aging: Alzheimer's Disease Fact Sheet
- National Institute on Aging: Alzheimer's Training Materials

Who Can Help

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- Hidden Gems at a Thrift Store

