

VIRTUAL DEMENTIA TOUR® RESEARCH

EFFICACY OF THE VIRTUAL DEMENTIA TOUR

Baerg, C; Hupaelo, T; Scott D. Interprofessional Student Team Approach to Care for Patients with Dementia. Canadian Journal of Medical Laboratory Science; Hamilton Vol. 71, Iss. 5, (Oct 2009): 204.

Beville, PK: Virtual Dementia Tour® helps sensitive health care providers. Am J Alzheimer's Disease & Other Dementias. May/June 2002; 17(3): 183-190.

Beville, PK: "Guest Editorial: The Virtual Dementia Tour: A Call to Action for Sensitivity Training," The American Journal of Alzheimer's Disease and Other Dementias, Sep.-Oct. 2002, vol. 17, No. 5, p. 261-262.

Beville, P. K. (2014). Dementia Simulation: Methods and Systems for simulation of cognitive decline. *National Nursing Home: Quality Improvement Campaign*.

Campbell, M.; Warmack, A.; & Larche, D. (2013, May). Lasting impact to dementia sensitivity training: Nursing staff experience after the virtual dementia tour. Poster presented at the Canadian Gerontological Nursing Association Conference Vancouver, Canada.

Christine DiLeone, Annette T. Maruca, Evaluating the virtual dementia tour with undergraduate nursing students using the RE-AIM framework, *Geriatric Nursing*, Volume 73, 2026, 104298, ISSN 0197-4572, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gerinurse.2026.104298>.

Sara M. Deprey, Karie Ruekert Kobiske, Dementia Simulation Impact on Empathy of Nursing and Physical Therapy Students: A Quantitative Study, *Clinical Simulation in Nursing*, Volume 81, 2023, 101412, ISSN 1876-1399, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecns.2023.03.005>

Donahoe, J.; Moon, L.; & VanCleave, K. (2014). Increasing student empathy toward older adults using the virtual dementia tour. *Journal of Baccalaureate Social Work*, 19(1), 23–40.

Gilmartin-Thomas, J., McNeil, J., Powell, A., Malone, D., & Carson, I. (2018) Qualitative evaluation of how a virtual dementia experience impacts medical and pharmacy students' self-reported knowledge and attitudes towards people with dementia. *Dementia*, 0(0), 1–16.

Hadley, M. D., Young, M. D., Knebl, J., Severance PhD, J., Smith, D., Prasad MHA, S., & Hartos, J. (2017). Development of A Geriatric Training Certificate For Family Medicine Residents.

Karana, Z., Paun, O., Kujath, A., & Inventor, B. (2026). Effects of Dementia Simulation on Empathy in Family Caregivers: A Pilot Study. *Journal of Psychosocial Nursing and Mental Health Services*, 0(0), 1-7. <https://doi.org/10.3928/02793695-20260209-02>

Karana Z, Paun O. Dementia Simulation for Family Caregivers of Persons With Dementia: A Scoping Review. *West J Nurs Res*. 2023 Nov;45(11):1053-1062. doi: 10.1177/01939459231201085. Epub 2023 Sep 27. PMID: 37754748.

Kelekar, A. & Alonso, N. (2019) Does a personal experience influence recommendations by preclinical medical students? Effects of a Virtual Dementia Simulation. Poster presentation, Department of Internal Medicine, Department of Foundational Studies, Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak, MI, Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine.

Kimzey, Michelle & Mastel-Smith, Beth. Impact of dementia simulation on nursing students: when empathy breeds awareness. *Teaching and Learning in Nursing*, 2021, ISSN 1557-3087, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.teln.2021.11.010>.
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1557308721001311>)

Kimzey, Michelle & Mastel-Smith, Beth & Seale, Ashlie. Effects of Dementia-Specific Education for Nursing Students. *Nurse educator*. 44(6):338-341, November/December 2019. 10.1097/NNE.0000000000000623.

Kimzey, M., & Patterson, J. (2020). Effects of Dementia Simulation on Nursing Student's Knowledge and Empathy. *Innovation in Aging*, 4(Suppl 1), 2. <https://doi.org/10.1093/geroni/igaa057.005>

Karie Ruekert Kobiske, Sara M. Deprey, A Dementia Simulation as a Teaching Strategy for Nursing and Physical Therapy Students: A Qualitative Study, *Clinical Simulation in Nursing*, Volume 67, 2022, Pages 11-17, ISSN 1876- 1399, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecns.2022.03.007>.

Lavender, D., Johnson, B. R., Logan, L., Glasgow, J., Vitale, D., & Caballero, J. (2025). Evaluation of pharmacy student empathy toward patients living with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias and caregivers following a dementia simulation. *Gerontology & Geriatrics Education*, 1–14.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/02701960.2025.2465675>

A.K. Lorio, PT, DPT, NCS; B Cayce, MS, PT; J.B. Gore, PhD; PK Beville, M.S. "8 minutes of Awareness: Can A Single Experiential Learning Exercise Transform Understanding and Awareness of Dementia in a DPT Curriculum?" Georgia State University, Atlanta Georgia

Lorio, A. K., Gore, J.B., Warthen, L., Housely, S.N. & Burgess, E.O. Teaching Dementia Care to Physical Therapy Doctoral Students: A Multimodal Experiential Learning Approach. *Gerontology and Geriatric Education*, 2017 Jul- Sep; 38(3):313-324. doi: 10.1080/02701960.2015.1115979. Epub 2016 Feb17.

Mastel-Smith, B., Kimzey, M., & He, Z. (2019). Dementia Care Education for Nursing Students. *Journal of Nursing Education*, 58(3), 136-143. DOI: 10.3928/01484834-20190221-03.

- Beth Mastel-Smith, Michelle Kimzey, Jennifer Garner, Osama A. Shoaib, Eric Stocks & Takova Wallace. Dementia care boot camp: interprofessional education for healthcare students. ORCID Icon Received 15 Nov 2018, Accepted 19 Nov 2019, Published online: 13 Dec 2019.
- Meyer K, James D, Amezcua B, White C. Simulation learning to train healthcare students in person-centered dementia care. *Gerontol Geriatr Educ*. 2022 Apr-Jun;43(2):209-224. doi: 10.1080/02701960.2020.1838503. Epub 2020 Oct 20. PMID: 33081626; PMCID: PMC8055727.
- Moore, S. C., & Murphree, L. K. (2019). Relationship Between a Sensory Immersion Experience Simulating Dementia and Health Science Student Perceptions of Empathy.
- Carla Monzo, OTS; Kylie Godwin, OTS; Lisa Prenni, OTS; Jenna Sciulli, OTS; Jodi Schreiber, OTD, OTR/L, C/NDT (October 2018) Virtual Dementia Tour: A Window into Their World. Chatham University, Pittsburgh, PA. Poster presented at Pennsylvania Occupational Therapy Association, Monroeville, Pennsylvania.
- Kathleen Morales, Modupe Adewuyi, Cynthia Johnson, Rebecca Gee, The effect of combining an e-learning module with the Virtual Dementia Tour® on knowledge and attitudes toward person-centered dementia care in prelicensure nursing education, *Nurse Education in Practice*, Volume 77, 2024, 103951, ISSN 1471-5953, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.nepr.2024.103951>.
- Morganti F, Brignoli P, Beville PK. The Italian version of the Virtual Dementia Tour: Manual translation and an analysis of consistency, validity, and reliability of its pre- post-experience survey. *Alzheimers Dement (N Y)*. 2022 Jul 26;8(1):e12323. doi: 10.1002/trc2.12323. PMID: 35910665; PMCID: PMC9322825.
- Pair, K. (2019). Preparing for the Next Healthcare Crisis: An Exploration of Student-perceived Preparedness to Care for People with Dementia.
- Peng X, Wu L, Xie X, Dai M, Wang D. Impact of Virtual Dementia Tour on empathy level of nursing students: A quasi-experimental study. *Int J Nurs Sci*. 2020 Jun 24;7(3):258-261. doi: 10.1016/j.ijnss.2020.06.010. Erratum in: *Int J Nurs Sci*. 2020 Dec 06;8(1):V. PMID: 32817846; PMCID: PMC7424149.
- Randall, J. (2024). *Impact of Simulation-Based Learning on Empathy Development in Physical Therapy Students* (Doctoral dissertation, University of Bridgeport).
- Richardson, Katherine & Kennedy, Mary (2019). A single centre service evaluation of the Virtual Dementia Tour® (VDT®). University of Essex Health and Care Research Service, School of Health and Social Care. Princess Alexandra Hospital NHS Trust.
- Slater, P, Hasson, Felicity and Gillen, Patricia (2017) A research evaluation of an interactive training experience: The virtual Dementia Tour (VDT). Health Service Executive. Nursing Midwifery Planning and Development. 60 pp.
- Paul Slater FHEA, PhD, MSc, BSc Hons, Felicity Hasson PhD, FHEA, MSc, Pg. Dip, BA Hons, Patricia Gillen FHEA, PhD, PGD, MSc, BSc Hons, Anne Gallen PhD, MSc, BSc (Hons), ENB, RGN, & Randal Parlour PhD, MSc,

BSc (Hons), RMN, RGN May 9, 2019. Virtual simulation training: Imaged experience of dementia. International Journal of Older People Nursing <https://doi.org/10.1111/opn.12243>

Slater, P., Moore, K., Sharkey, F. & Hasson, F. (2022). Development and Psychometric Test of the 'Empathy and Understanding in the Dementia Index' for Health Professionals. International Journal of Research in Nursing, 13(1), 1-10. <https://doi.org/10.3844/ijrnsp.2022.1.10>

Sharkey, F., Moore, K., Slater, P. F., & Hasson, F. (2019, Oct 1). The Impact of a Virtual Reality Training Programme on Health Professional Knowledge, Understanding and Empathy in relation to Dementia. <https://pure.ulster.ac.uk/en/publications/the-impact-of-a-virtual-reality-training-programme-on-health-prof>

Cathleen S. Solecki, MSN, RN-BC, CCRN, CNRN, Carman L. Turkelson, DNP, RN, CCRN-K, CHSE-A, and Margaret A. Harris, PhD, RN. Experiential Learning Through a Dementia Simulation. Published Online: November 01, 2021, Journal of Gerontological Nursing. Vol. 47, No. 11, <https://doi.org/10.3928/00989134-20211013-03>

Thompson, W.R. Alzheimer's disease & other dementias caregiver workshop facilitator manual for the Beaver Dam Community Hospital. MPH in Community Health Education, May 2014, 161pp. (M.Pettit)

Valenčič, G. (2011). Simulation application for sensitization of patients with dementia (Doctoral dissertation, University of Maribor, Faculty of Health Sciences).

Allyson M Washburn, Abby Schwartz Interest Group Session – Qualitative Research: Innovative Qualitative and Mixed-Methods studies of Older Adults' Lived Experiences in Networks of Care and Caring. Innovation in Aging, Volume 3, Issue Supplement_1, November 2019, Page S554, <https://doi.org/10.1093/geroni/igz038.2041>

Werner, D., Powell A., & Clark, R. (2014) Increasing Empathy Toward Older Adults with Dementia: Results of a Dementia Simulation. Journal of Baccalaureate Social Work: 2014, Vol. 19, No. 1, pp. S-93-S-105.

SPECIALIZED VERSIONS OF THE VIRTUAL DEMENTIA TOUR

Cope, Sarah, "Impact of Hospital Virtual Dementia Tour® on Caregivers' Knowledge and Attitudes Towards People with Dementia" (2025). Regis University Student Publications (comprehensive collection). 1165. <https://epublications.regis.edu/theses/1165>

Harrington, C.C. Neil, J., Roberson, D., Hardin, S., Pabbu, B. (2018). A Change in Reality: Discovering the value of the Virtual Dementia Tour® with family dementia caregivers [Abstract]. Innovation in Aging 2(Supp.1). 899. Retrieved from <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6239630/>

Felske, Heather & Badalamenti, Alexandra & Travis, Erinmarie & Newman, Mary. (2018). A GLIMPSE INTO THE WORLD OF DEMENTIA FOR CAREGIVERS: IMPROVING QUALITY OF LIFE FOR CAREGIVERS AND INDIVIDUALS WITH DEMENTIA. Alzheimer's & Dementia. 14. P1494. 10.1016/j.jalz.2018.06.2548.

Beville, PK. Ph.D, Assessing Staff Behavior During Dementia Care, Assessing Staff Behavior During Dementia Care, McKnight Senior Living · Jun 24, 2021 McKnight Senior Living · Jun 24, 2021

<https://www.mcknightsseniorliving.com/home/columns/marketplace-columns/assessing-staff-behavior-during-dementia-care/>

Broman, E. (2014). Art to Life: The Preservation of Personhood. *Journal of Community Engagement and Scholarship*, 7(2), 11.

Bhattacharyya K.K. (2021) Aging and Dementia. In: Rethinking the Aging Transition. Springer, Cham.

https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-88870-1_7

Susana Cariñanos-Ayala, Marta Arrue, Jagoba Zarandona, Teaching and learning about dementia care among undergraduate nursing students: A scoping review, *Nurse Education in Practice*, Volume 61, 2022, 103326, ISSN 1471-5953, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.nepr.2022.103326>.

Chaby Laurence, Benamara Amine, Pino Maribel, Prigent Elise, Ravenet Brian, Martin Jean-Claude, Vanderstichel Hélène, Becerril-Ortega Raquel, Rigaud Anne-Sophie, Chetouani Mohamed. Embodied Virtual Patients as a Simulation-Based Framework for Training Clinician-Patient Communication Skills: An Overview of Their Use in Psychiatric and Geriatric Care. *Front. Virtual Real.*, 29 June 2022. Sec. Virtual Reality and Human Behaviour, Volume 3 - 2022 | <https://doi.org/10.3389/frvir.2022.827312>

Hall, John, Providers see and taste the world of dementia residents, January 2, 2020

<https://www.mcknights.com/print-news/providers-see-and-taste-the-world-of-dementia-residents/>

Hamilton, C., & Morris, A. H. (2012). Transformative learning in simulated environments. *Transformative Learning in Nursing: A Guide for Nurse Educators*. New York, NY: Springer Publishing Company, 107-118.

Harrington, C.C., Hardin, S.R., Cacchione, P.Z., Roberson, D.W., & Neil, J.A. (2022) Rural family caregivers' discoveries following a person-in-context dementia simulation. *Online Journal of Rural Nursing and Health Care*, 22(1) <https://doi.org/10.14574/ojrnhc.v22i1.695>.

Hodgson, N., & Craemer, G. (2013). In sickness and in health: Coregulation of spousal caregivers' and dementia patients' cortisol levels, relationship quality and health outcomes. *Alzheimer's & Dementia: The Journal of the Alzheimer's Association*, 9(4), P481.

Karana Z, Paun O. Dementia Simulation for Family Caregivers of Persons With Dementia: A Scoping Review. *Western Journal of Nursing Research*. 2023;0(0). doi:10.1177/01939459231201085.

Jackson, Melora, MS, Keep it real with evidence-based simulation learning, August 2, 2019

<https://www.mcknightsseniorliving.com/home/columns/marketplace-columns/keep-it-real-with-evidence-based-simulation-learning/>

- Moore, J., & McKenzie, M. (2013). Enhancing senior nursing students' education of Alzheimer's disease: A partnership with the Alzheimer's Association. *Alzheimer's & Dementia: The Journal of the Alzheimer's Association*, 9(4), P481-P482.
- Mufidah, Atikah & Kurniawati, Farida. (2025). Impact of empathy interventions on cognitive, affective, and behavioral empathy in nursing students: a systematic literature review. *Frontiers of Nursing*. 12. 185-194. 10.2478/fon-2025-0020.
- Patterson, J.B. and Kimzey, M. (2024), "Impact of student attributes on empathy during a dementia simulation: a mixed methods study", *The Journal of Mental Health Training, Education and Practice*, Vol. ahead-of-print No. ahead-of-print. <https://doi.org/10.1108/JMHTEP-12-2022-0103>
- Permana, B.S., & Pandin, M.G. (2022). How To Enhance Empathy Nursing Students In Education: Literature Review. *medRxiv*. [PDF] [How To Enhance Empathy Nursing Students In Education: Literature Review | Semantic Scholar](#)
- Potts, D. C., Carden, K. D., Broman, E., Myrick, J., Gately, S., Sanders, B., & Allen, R. S. (2015). Bringing art to life: An intergenerational service learning course and visual art therapy intervention for college students, persons with Alzheimer's disease and dementia, and caregivers. *Alzheimer's & Dementia: The Journal of the Alzheimer's Association*, 11(7), P581.
- Laurence M. Solberg, Colleen S. Campbell, Kimberly Jones, Ivana Vaughn, Uma Suryadevara, Carmen Fernandez, Ronald Shorr, Training hospital inpatient nursing to know (THINK) delirium: A nursing educational program, *Geriatric Nursing*, Volume 42, Issue 1, 2021, Pages 16-20, ISSN 0197-4572, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gerinurse.2020.10.018>.
- Slater, P., Moore, K., Sharkey, F. & Hasson, F. (2022). Development and Psychometric Test of the 'Empathy and Understanding in the Dementia Index' for Health Professionals. *International Journal of Research in Nursing*, 13(1), 1-10. <https://doi.org/10.3844/ijrnsp.2022.1.10>
- Tay JL, Xie H, Sim K. Effectiveness of Augmented and Virtual Reality-Based Interventions in Improving Knowledge, Attitudes, Empathy and Stigma Regarding People with Mental Illnesses—A Scoping Review. *Journal of Personalized Medicine*. 2023; 13(1):112. <https://doi.org/10.3390/jpm13010112>
- White, Laura W. PT, DScPT1; Dawson, Nicole PT, PhD2; Saale, Blair P. PT, DPT1; Lemley, Trey MLIS, JD, AHIP(D), MA3 Physical Therapists' and Physical Therapist Students' Experiences and Views on the Provision of Physical Therapy Services to People With Dementia: A Scoping Review, *Journal of Geriatric Physical Therapy*: April 07, 2022 - Volume - Issue - 10.1519/JPT.0000000000000351
- Wilson, C. Reducing excessive noise [online]. *Australian Ageing Agenda*, Jan/Feb 2019, Feb 2019: 40. <https://search.informit.com.au/documentSummary;dn=150522846640326;res=IELHEA> ISSN: 1836-7348. [cited 29 Jan 20].

Revised September 2, 2026