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**Title of Research**  
Training to Advance Geropsychiatric Care: Comparison of Innovative CD-Based Depression and Dementia Programs

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**Introduction & Purpose**  
The purpose of the this study was to compare and contrast two innovative CD–based programs, one each for depression and for dementia care, implemented in long–term care (LTC) facilities and evaluated using a pre–post training design. Similarities and differences in approaches and outcomes are presented, with a focus on potential explanatory factors.

**Experimental Design**  
The depression training clinical trial used a pre–post repeated measures design with two intervention groups and a control group. Nurse and resident were paired for training (N=58 dyads), with nurses working independently. The dementia training trial used a single group pre–post design that used an interdisciplinary team of study participants. 48 residents and 53 staff were paired although staff worked together as a team.

**Results**  
Few statistically significant differences in resident outcomes emerged from pre to post training in both studies. Moreover, there was an overall lack of change in documentation to suggest that training influenced resident care. However, anecdotal and field notes were suggestive of practice changes for a small number of residents. Several themes emerged from content analysis of staff evaluations that overlapped for both studies.

**Conclusions**  
Scheduled interactions among participants using self-directed learning may promote a sense of shared responsibility and purpose to change care practices. Greater stakeholder involvement related to training strategies selected, timing, and use of skills in practice may increase motivation, provide release time to complete training, and improve integration into daily care. Alternative approaches to measure outcomes may identify clinically significant changes not observed on scales.