

**Northwest Community EMS System**  
**August 2023 CE: Cognitive and Congenital Disorders**  
**Credit Questions**

Name (Print):		EMS Agency:		
EMS Educator:				
Date submitted	Score:	<input type="checkbox"/> Acceptable <input type="checkbox"/> Not acceptable	<input type="checkbox"/> Incomplete <input type="checkbox"/> Incorrect answers	Date returned w/ feedback
Resubmission received:	Score:	<input type="checkbox"/> Acceptable <input type="checkbox"/> Not acceptable	<input type="checkbox"/> Incomplete <input type="checkbox"/> Incorrect answers	Date returned w/ feedback:
# CE Hours awarded:		Date		

This packet should take 2 hours to complete – which earns the equivalent of the 2 hour live CE class.

**Source of information/answers:** October 2023 CE Participant slide deck handout, SOPs

1. Which of the following is true about patients who presents with symptoms that may be caused by stroke? Select all that apply. (Slides 8 - 11)
  - a. Impression should be documented as “Stroke”
  - b. Impression should be documented as whatever their presenting symptom is
  - c. An 18g IV should be placed in the AC site
  - d. A stroke alert should be called as long as symptoms have been present for < 24 hrs
  - e. A stroke alert should be called, even when a patient’s symptoms only lasted a short time and the patient is currently without symptoms

2. What significance does stroke symptom duration of < 24 hrs or > 24 hrs have for EMS? (Slide 10; SOP p 39)

3. Which of the following must be shared in the handoff report? Select all that apply. (Slide 18)
  - a. PMH
  - b. Interventions
  - c. Demographics
  - d. Assessment findings
  - e. Chief complaint and HPI
  - f. Response to interventions
  - g. VS, SpO2, EtCO2, GCS, ECG, glucose

4. Read the 4 PCR narratives on slides 20-23. List 2 behaviors noted in these PCRs that were consistent with behaviors found in persons with dementia. (Slides 30-35)

5. What is dementia? (Slide 25)

6. Which if these correctly describes effects of dementia? Select all that apply. (Slide 25)

- a. Risk for fractures
- b. Frequent infections
- c. Fixation on the past
- d. Increased risk for stroke
- e. Eventual loss of independence
- f. Memory loss and disorientation
- g. Behavior and personality changes
- h. Difficulty learning and retaining new information

7. What is impaired in dementia? (Slide 28)

8. What underlying pathology do all the types of dementia except vascular have in common? (Slide 29)

9. Arrange the following behaviors according to the stage of dementia they correlate with, in order from earliest to latest. (Slides 30-35)

- \_\_\_\_\_ Normal outward behavior. No noticeable changes.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Very mild memory changes. Functions normally at home, work.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Knows loved ones. Confused about address, phone #, current location. Personality and mood changes.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Trouble maintaining attention. Work performance deteriorates. Unable to retrace steps to find lost items.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Loss of ability to speak, eat, swallow, and walk. Does not remember the past or loved ones. Needs 24-hr care.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Minimal memory of the past. May not recognize loved ones. Sleeps during the day. Wanders. Difficulty speaking.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Recalls most of the past. Recognizes loved ones. Struggles w/ cooking, laundry, and bill paying. Makes mistakes when driving.

10. List the 2 types of “Cognitive enhancers” for treating dementia, and how they work. (Slides 36-37)

Drug type	Action

11. Which of the “TALK” tactics for communicating with persons with dementia does the following correspond to? Reorienting or correcting the patient may cause distrust or agitation, as in their mind, they may truly believe they are right. Redirect by making a connection to another event, relative, or place and time. (Slide 39)

- a. Take it slow
- b. Ask simple questions
- c. Limit reality checks
- d. Keep eye contact

12. What are some indications that the patient you have encountered may have dementia and has wandered off? Select all that apply. (Slide 40)

- a. Older age
- b. Abnormal gait
- c. Destroying property
- d. Talking to themselves
- e. Blank facial expression
- f. Not clothed for weather conditions
- g. Does not recognize dangerous behavior or situation
- h. Appears to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol

13. There is a fire in a senior-living condo building, and you are going door to door to make sure residents evacuate. A frantic older woman opens the door, and says, "My husband has dementia, and I can't get him to leave!" You ask what the husband likes, and his wife says, "Oh, he loves cars from the 1960s". You approach the man, introduce yourself, and tell him that there's a 1972 Ford Thunderbird parked downstairs, and ask if he'd like to see it. Which of the guidelines for disaster response involving persons with dementia is this an example of? (Slide 41)

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14. List criteria an adult patient must meet to qualify as "eligible" for referral to Adult Protective Services? (SOP p 64)


15. Under what circumstances is EMS mandated to report suspected elder abuse? (SOP p 64)

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16. For what reasons is EMS commonly called for patients with dementia? (Slide 43)

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17. What 2 pieces of information are important for EMS to ascertain when arriving on the scene to such a situation? (Slide 43)


18. Which type of dementia is the most common? (Slide 45)

- a. Vascular
- b. Lewy body
- c. Alzheimer's
- d. Frontotemporal

19. What is the goal of the most common Alzheimer's medications? (Slide 48)

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20. How do these 2 types of meds (Qu. #19) work? (Slide 48)


21. What is so ground-breaking about the 2 new meds for Alzheimer's released this year? (Slide 50)

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22. What two disease severity groups are Aduhelm and Leqembi currently approved for? (Slides 50-51)


23. Which of the following are features of Lewy body dementia? Select all that apply (Slide 52)

- a. Frequent falls
- b. Loss of emotion
- c. Motor problems
- d. Vivid hallucinations
- e. Sleep disturbances
- f. Drastic fluctuations in symptoms
- g. Progressively worsening tremors

24. What are two unique features of FTD, which are not known to be true of the other dementias? (Slide 55)

- a. Difficulty planning and organizing
- b. Up to 30% of cases are inherited/genetic
- c. Impacts areas of the brain responsible for language
- d. Occurs often in combination with Parkinson's disease
- e. Over half patients experience onset between the ages of 45 – 60

25. True or False: Parkinson's disease is a type of dementia. True or false? (Slide 57)

True      False

26. List 4 observable symptoms commonly seen in patients with Parkinson's disease. (Slide 58)


27. What does Levodopa do in the brain to improve movement in Parkinson's disease symptoms? (Slide 58)

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28. Involuntary, erratic, writhing of face, arms, legs, or trunk that can be fluid & dance-like, rapid jerking, or slow extended spasms, describes which major side effect that impacts ~ half of persons who take Levodopa for more than 5 years? (Slide 61)

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29. EMS can provide patients and their families living with dementia with written resources containing contact information and a describing services available through the Community Cares Act and the IL Dept on Aging. EMS may also consider contacting Adult Protective Services directly, or make a referral to social services if available to their agency/municipality. List three types of assistance or support available to these patients/families/caregivers. (Slides 68-70)


30. EMS should anticipate what symptoms or disabilities in patients with meningoceles and myelomeningoceles? Select all that apply. (Slides 74-75)

- a. Bed sores
- b. Blindness
- c. Leg weakness
- d. Problems with bowel and bladder control

31. What assessment and history findings should cause EMS to suspect hydrocephalus in a newborn or infant? Select all that apply. (Slides 77)

- a. Seizures
- b. Irritability
- c. Vomiting
- d. Unequal pupils
- e. Bulging fontanel
- f. History of spina bifida
- g. Poor feeding and sleepiness

32. EMS is called for a 3 month old with vomiting. On arrival, parents tell you that the baby has a ventriculo-peritoneal (VP) shunt for hydrocephalus, and has been irritable for the past 2 days, is sleeping a lot, and does not seem to want to eat. Parents deny fever now or in the past days. What should you suspect? Select one. (Slides 78)

- a. Meningitis
- b. Shunt occlusion
- c. Gastrointestinal “flu”
- d. Possible child neglect
- e. Shaken baby syndrome

33. What 2 risks related to feeding do cleft lip and or cleft palate pose for babies and children? (Slide 83)

and
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34. List 3 areas of function that may be impacted in persons with autism spectrum disorder. (Slide 85)


35. You are called by law enforcement to transport a young male found alone, wading in a shallow pond in a desolate area. It is Nov. PD reports the patient initially tried to leave when they first arrived. On arrival, you find a nervous-appearing adolescent male, looking around anxiously, not making eye contact, and not responding to either the police or your attempts to get information. You suspect that the patient may have autism. Which “fact” from slide 86 may explain why the patient is not answering questions?

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36. Re: the above scenario: Which two behaviors common to persons with autism, found on slides 87 and 88 (Recognizing ASD behaviors), might also have alerted you that your patient had autism disorder?


37. Respond True or False to the following statements about stress-related behaviors in patients with autism disorder. (Slides 89 and 90)

- \_\_\_\_\_ Behaviors such as rocking, hand flapping, pacing, and repetitive noises/phrases are calming to a person with autism disorder. They should be allowed as long as they are not harmful to the patient or others.
- \_\_\_\_\_ A person w/ autism who has verbal communication abilities will consistently communicate effectively even in situations where they are stressed
- \_\_\_\_\_ Persons with autism will readily approach or seek out an emergency responder’s help when they are in danger or frightened
- \_\_\_\_\_ Emergency responders, when confronted with a person with autism disorder who is upset and agitated, should quickly prepare to administer sedation and to then restrain the patient
- \_\_\_\_\_ If a person with autism is behaving violently, EMS providers should attempt to calm and gain the patient’s cooperation while maintaining a safe distance

38. What principles should guide EMS’ actions in the following scenario? EMS has been informed that a 17y male patient with autism disorder is nonverbal. The provider turns away from the patient, and begins asking the staff person about the patient’s symptoms. (Slide 91)

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39. Respond to the following Re: assessing patients w/ autism disorder according to guidelines on slide 92.

Touching the patient:
Before you proceed:

40. What is considered to be EMS’ greatest asset, with respect to resources in caring and interacting with patients with autism disorder? (Slides 911, 92, 94)

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