

The Caring Connection.

SNAP Packet **THREE** contains the following three Audio cd's

The Aide's Role in Working with Patients with Alzheimer's

Description: Dementia is a brain disorder that seriously affects a person's ability to carry out daily activities. The most common form of dementia among older people is Alzheimer's disease (AD), which involves the parts of the brain that control thought, memory, and language. Although scientists are learning more every day, right now they still do not know what causes AD, and there is no cure. Scientists think that as many as 4.5 million Americans suffer from AD. The disease usually begins after age 60, and risk goes up with age. While younger people also may get AD, it is much less common. About 5 percent of men and women ages 65 to 74 have AD, and nearly half of those age 85 and older may have the disease.

The Aide's Role in Helping to Prevent Falls

Description: Falls and the problems resulting from falls are a serious health threat for older adults. About one third of people living at home who are age 65 or older fall each year. One half to two thirds of nursing home residents fall each year. Most falls are preventable. The in-home aide will be able to describe common causes of falls, safety measures that can help prevent falls, and other tips that can be used while providing care to the client.

The Aide's Role in Improving Pain

Description: Pain can be caused by an acute, chronic or terminal patient condition. Fewer than half (43 percent) of Americans with severe or moderate pain report that they have a "great deal of control" over their pain. Fewer than half (42 percent) of people who visit their doctor for pain believe that their doctor completely understands how their pain makes them feel. Pain can have a terrible impact on a patient's life. It can lead to depression, loss of appetite, social withdrawal, anger, loss of sleep and an inability to cope and function. Pain can greatly impact a patient reaching desired health outcomes, optimum functioning and the relationship with the in-home aide. This in-service will provide the in-home aide with information on their role in improving patient pain.

For additional information on other **SNAP** Packets, go to www.homeandhospicecare.org