

# *The Caring Connection.*

## **SNAP Packet TWO contains the following three Audio cd's**

### **The Aide's Role in Understanding Urinary Incontinence**

**Description:** This in-service will focus on assisting the in-home aide in understanding urinary incontinence, its causes, its treatment and its impact on older adults. The in-home aide will be able to describe the role they play in helping to notice and manage urinary incontinence such as tasks that he/she can do to help prevent incontinence and the side-effects of incontinence.

### **The Aide's Role in Assisting Patients with Respiratory Conditions**

**Description:** According to the American Lung Association, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) is a term referring to a large group of respiratory/lung diseases characterized by obstruction to airflow that interferes with normal breathing. Emphysema and chronic bronchitis are the most important conditions that compose COPD and the frequently co-exist.

- ❖ COPD is the fourth leading cause of death in America claiming the lives of 120,000 Americans in 2002. In 2002, 11.2 million U.S. adults were estimated to have COPD.
- ❖ In 2004, the cost to the nation for COPD was approximately \$37.2 billion.
- ❖ COPD interferes with the ability of individuals to carry out normal activities of daily living – such as bathing, mobility and home management.

### **The Aide's Role in Preventing Hospitalization**

**Description:** According to the Delmarva Foundation, home care patients are at the highest risk for hospitalization soon after discharge from the hospital.

- ❖ In CY2003, a quarter of all the hospitalizations of home health patients occurred within seven days of the beginning of the home health episode
- ❖ Nearly 58% occurred within the first three weeks of home health care
- ❖ Of all episodes ending with hospitalization, 68% were for patients who had been hospitalized within two weeks prior to the beginning of the home health episode.

For additional information on other **SNAP** Packets, go to [www.homeandhospicecare.org](http://www.homeandhospicecare.org)