
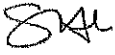


Scott Harris, M.D., M.P.H.
STATE HEALTH OFFICER

MEMORANDUM

TO: Denise Milledge MBA, BSN, CPM 
Director, Bureau of Health Provider Standards

FROM: Scott Harris, M.D., M.P.H. 
State Health Officer

DATE: September 12, 2022

SUBJECT: Dementia Education and CMS Hand in Hand Training

As authorized by Act 2019-453 ("Alabama Alzheimer's and Dementia Education, Care, and Training Act"), and until receipt of funding by the Alabama Department of Public Health to allow development of educational programs and services concerning Alzheimer's disease, dementia, and related diseases, the "CMS Hand in Hand: A Training Series for Nursing Homes," offered through the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services is approved as an equivalent training for purposes of compliance with the following State Board of Health Rules.

State Board of Health Rules for Assisted Living Facilities (ALFs), Rule 420-5-4-.04(6)(a)12, requires that:

"All staff who have contact with residents, including the administrator, shall have initial training prior to resident contact and refresher training annually and as necessary; identifying signs and symptoms of dementia."

State Board of Health Rules for Specialty Care Assisted Living Facilities (SCALFs), Rule 420-5-20-.04(9)(b), requires that:

"Prior to providing any resident care, all staff shall complete The Dementia Education and Training Act (DETA) Care Series Training developed by the Alabama Department of Mental Health or equivalent training approved by the State Health Officer. All licensed staff shall complete DETA Brain Series Training, The Pharmacological Management of Dementia, and the Dementia Assessment Series provided by the DETA Program or equivalent training approved by the State Health Officer prior to resident contact. Documentation of all staff training to include attendance records and any required post-test evaluations shall be maintained."

SH/LM

cc: Michele Jones, M.S.
Karen Landers, M.D.