tematically examining the relationship between the re-
resources used in providing care, patients' responses, and 
the elements of care in this video are critical.

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_Dress Him While He Walks, \(\frac{1}{2}\)" videocassette/20 min/color/ 
1993. Producer, Joey Easton O'Donnell and Patrick 
O'Donnell. Distributor, Terra Nova Films, 9848 S. Win-
chester Ave., Chicago, IL 60643. 800/779-8491. Sale $145, 
rent $45.

_Dress Him While He Walks_ takes place in a long-term 
care facility where the main focus is Alzheimer's disease 
and related dementias. The purpose of this video is to 
encourage the staff at such facilities to try to adapt to the 
behavioral idiocyncracies of each patient rather than to try 
to change those behaviors to conform to the standards 
expected of a normally functioning individual.

The emphasis is placed strongly on the concept that 
behaviors such as pacing, yelling, angry outbursts, resist-
ance to bathing, wandering, and wanting to go home are 
normal behaviors for someone who has Alzheimer's dis-
ease, and that the staff members are capable of adapting 
whereas the residents, due to their dementia, are not.

For example, at mealtime, patients who are pacers and 
unable to sit still are given finger foods to eat while walk-
ing, or, in the morning, they are dressed while walking 
down the hall.

Distraction and other problem-solving techniques are 
used to individualize each patient's plan of care. The idea 
is to treat patients as though they were members of one's 
own family, with compassion and understanding, rather 
than treat interactions with them as "just a job." The staff is 
encouraged to separate the person's behavior from the 
person. In other words, you can like the person without 
liking the behavior, but you can accept the behavior be-
cause it is a symptom of the illness.

The video is realistic, accurate, and easy to understand, 
although some of the solutions seem rather simplistic.

It was not mentioned in the video that behavioral man-
agement requires a multidisciplinary approach that in-
cludes a geriatric psychiatrist and a physician to assess the 
severity of the problem and to respond to sudden changes 
in behavior that may be indicative of a physical problem.

This video would be most appropriate for the staff of 
nursing homes and day care centers that accept the moder-
ately to severely impaired patient, although caregivers at 
home might also benefit from the attitudes expressed and 
the problem-solving techniques employed.

There are several natural pauses during which personal 
and practical issues of the staff's caregiving experiences 
could be discussed. Specific techniques that have been 
tried, both successful and unsuccessful, can be shared.

Watching this video may very well stimulate the viewer 
to be more creative and empathic, although some may feel 
that it is too idealistic and would not work in their own 
facility. To this end, in order to implement this type of 
individualized approach, it would be necessary for the 
entire staff to participate in the viewing and the follow-up 
discussion.

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