# Advance Your Skills in Supporting the Family Caregiver

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Family Caregiving Institute





## **Learning Outcomes**



- •Describe the varied roles of an unpaid caregiver
- •Identify the challenges of the caregiver experience
- •Establish strategies to support the caregiver
- •Discuss resources and care plan for self-care
- •Recognize the importance of maintaining a caregiver's well-being, in addition to, understanding the motivation and intrinsic value of the caregiving role

## The Many Roles of the Family Caregiver

Physical Care Equivalent to Professional Nurse

**Emotional Support** 

Coordinator of Home & Community Support Services

Access Help and Information from Healthcare System

## The Many Roles of the Family Caregiver

Respond to and Address Emergencies

Assist with Household Tasks

Provide Personal Care

Shared Decision

Making with

Care Recipient

Caregiver Self-Care

## Challenges of the Caregiving Experience

- Unprepared → Caregiver Strain
- Financial Implications
- Caregiver Guilt
- Family Dynamics
- Managing Well-Being

## How Do We Support Them?

- Assess Preparedness
  - Caregiver Preparedness Scale
    - <a href="https://hign.org/consultgeri/try-this-series/preparedness-caregiving-scale">https://hign.org/consultgeri/try-this-series/preparedness-caregiving-scale</a>
  - Education
  - Care Navigator/Care Coordinator
- Policy
  - Transitions in Care
  - Financial



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## Caregiver Well-Being

Challenged to Think About Self-Care

Importance of Self-Care

Strategies

## Challenged to Think About Self-Care

"I've forgotten what that is..."

"I don't have time..."

"My family needs me..."

"That's just being selfish..."

## "I've Forgotten What That Is"

- Make a List of Activities/Ideas
  - Breadth of time (few minutes to hours)
- Connect
  - Make a list of people (Video or Call)
  - Join a support group
  - Attend events
  - Take a class



### "I Don't Have Time"



- Relax Outside
- Time to Stretch
- Coloring
- Breathe
- Write a Letter
- Connect

#### Understanding the Motivation and Facilitating Motivation

## Autonomy

• Making choices and planning for the future

## Competence

• Information and understanding about the diagnosis and treatment

#### Relatedness

• Contact and support from other families in a similar situation

## Mutuality

 Care recipient-caregiver relationship characterized by love and affection, shared pleasurable activities, shared values, and empathy (Archbold, Stewart, Greenlick & Harvath, 1990)

#### Intrinsic Motivation versus Extrinsic Motivation

- Higher levels of
  - Autonomy
  - Competence
  - Relatedness
  - Mutuality

Less burden

Less strain

Increased quality of life

## Strategies for Motivation



Increase choice



Increase preparedness



Increase connection/relatedness

## Caregiver Resources



- Family Caregiver Alliance
  - https://www.caregiver.org/
- AARP
  - https://www.aarp.org/caregiving/
- National Alliance for Caregiving
  - <a href="https://www.caregiving.org/">https://www.caregiving.org/</a>
- Alzheimer's Association
  - https://www.alz.org/help-support/caregiving
- US Department of Veterans Affairs
  - <a href="https://www.caregiver.va.gov/index.asp">https://www.caregiver.va.gov/index.asp</a>
- Family Caregiving Institute at UC Davis
  - https://health.ucdavis.edu/family-caregiving/resources/

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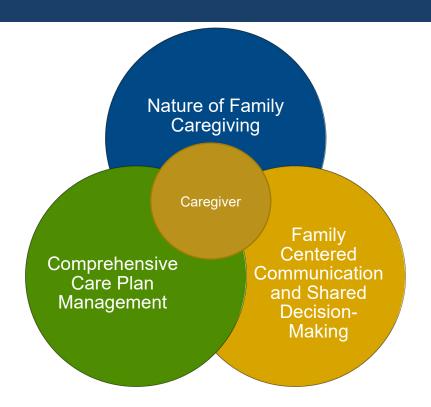
#### Caregiving Champion Education Opportunities

**Current Offering – Academic Certificate Program (three 4-unit elective course)** 

**Coming Soon – Tailored Opportunities** for Working Professionals

Online Continuing Professional Education

Engage with Family Caregiving Institute Faculty



Visit us at: https://health.ucdavis.edu/family-caregiving/education/caregiving-certificate-program



## Thank you!



