

Start	End	Topic	Speakers
09:00	09:05	Introduction	William Gibson
09:05	09:15	Dementia; the basics, and how it impacts the lower urinary tract	William Gibson
09:15	09:35	Ethical issues in continence care for people living with dementia in the community	Catherine Murphy
09:35	09:55	Ethical issues in continence care for people living with dementia in aged care facilities	Joan Ostaszkiwicz
09:55	10:15	Ethical issues in continence care when considering pharmacological or surgical management	Anne Suskind
10:15	10:30	Discussion	William Gibson Catherine Murphy Joan Ostaszkiwicz Anne Suskind

### **Description**

Major Neurocognitive Disorder, also known as dementia, describes a group of syndromes characterised by progressive, multidomain cognitive impairment with associated functional impairment. It is well recognised that dementia is a significant risk factor for incontinence, the prevalence of incontinence in PLWD is higher than any other group, other than those with spinal cord injury. Major neurocognitive disorder also leads to multiple ethical challenges in delivering continence care, including maintaining dignity for the PLWD receiving continence care, managing the balance between the needs of the family caregiver and the PLWD, and making decisions to offer or not offer medical and surgical treatments. These decisions are often challenging and require solid foundations in the principles underlying medical ethics.

The workshop shall use a series of illustrative cases. Each case shall have an ethical dilemma to consider and we will use Mentimeter, an online interaction tool, to allow the audience to consider and discuss the potential ethical principles and pitfalls and vote on their preferred course of action.

Dr Bill Gibson (University of Alberta, Canada) will present case of major neurocognitive disorder to give an introduction to non-specialists into the clinical presentation of dementia, its management, and its impact on continence and the lower urinary tract, and how a dementia diagnosis can create ethical challenges.

Dr Cathy Murphy (University of Southampton, UK) will present a case of a PLWD living in the community and receiving continence care from their spouse

Dr Joan Ostaszkiwicz (National Ageing Research Institute, Australia) will present a case of a PLWD in an aged care home. She will invite the delegates to discuss the ethical issues surrounding the management of incontinence at night in nursing homes. The case study will explore the complexities surrounding aged care providers' responsibilities to uphold the rights of PLWD to optimal choice about sleep and access to toileting assistance, which they must counterbalance with their duty of care to protect PLWD from falls and skin breakdown.

Dr Anne Suskind (University of California, San Francisco, USA) will present a case of a PLWD with incontinence and disagreement among her caregivers as to the best course of action.

### **Aims of Workshop**

Dementia is common in older people and is associated with the development of incontinence. This workshop will use case studies to explore the ethical challenges faced when managing continence in people living with dementia (PLWD), using the four principles of medical ethics. Four experts will outline these challenges in three contexts; the ethical challenges for the family caregiver, ethical challenges in aged care homes, and ethical challenges in medical and surgical management. The workshop aims to provide attendees from all professional backgrounds with the tools necessary to provide ethically-sound care to people living with dementia and advocate for their needs

### **Educational Objectives**

This workshop, presented by the ICS' Ethics Committee, will use a series of interactive case discussions to outline the challenges of delivering ethics-informed and person-centred care PLWD. Four speakers will cover 1) an introduction to dementia and the impact of cognitive impairment on continence and continence care, 2) how dementia impacts the delivery of continence care in

the community, with a focus on the challenges faced by informal and family caregivers in community settings, 3) delivering continence care to PLWD in aged care homes, and 4) the impact of a dementia diagnosis on medical and surgical treatment decision making.

It is well recognised that people living with dementia have both a high prevalence of incontinence and other LUTS, and that their dementia syndrome impact every aspect of the management of continence. People living with dementia may have difficulties with communication and advocating for their own needs, and as such are at risk of ethically compromised care, through both inappropriate action or inaction.

### **Learning Objectives**

1. The basics of dementia and incontinence
2. The ethical challenges for families and professionals which arise when managing incontinence and delivering continence care to PLWD
3. How to apply the four principles of medical ethics; autonomy, non-maleficence, beneficence and justice to this practice context.

### **Target Audience**

Urology, Urogynaecology and Female & Functional Urology, Conservative Management

### **Advanced/Basic**

Intermediate

### **Suggested Learning before Workshop Attendance**

<https://www.ics.org/Wasabi/Documents/DocumentsDownload.aspx?DocumentID=6258>