

Errorless Learning in dementia

A practical manual

Maartje de Werd, Daniëlle Boelen & Roy Kessels

Errorless Learning is an instructional method that has proven effective for optimising the learning capacity of people with severe memory disorders. It allows everyday activities to be (re)learned, which can increase the independence and self-esteem of people suffering from dementia and other disorders. It can also ease care demands placed on informal carers. This, in turn, may delay or decrease the needs for professional care. Errorless learning can also contribute to reduced care needs for individuals living in institutions.

This manual describes how the principle of Errorless Learning can be applied in practice, and is intended for psychologists, occupational therapists, physical therapists, speech therapists, activity coordinators and nurses working in care-related contexts. Practical tips are offered for guiding people with a reduced learning capacity to (re)learn skills, as well as recommendations for a positive approach. The book contains elaborated examples from daily practice and provides an overview of the scientific literature on the learning capacity of people with dementia. It also provides an overview of the need for professionals to use structured learning methods in current geriatric care. Finally, the manual provides advice on implementation, including sample scripts, step by step instructions and case studies from clinicians. The ASSBI website (www.assbi.com.au) provides additional information and instructional films.

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