

Communities not facilities -

Meaningful Engagement in Aged care

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From Can't to
➔ *Can Do!*

REDESIGNING DEMENTIA CARE

REDESIGNING DEMENTIA CARE USING A MONTESSORI PHILOSOPHY

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The Association Montessori
International (AMI) Program for Aging
and Dementia is a
person-directed philosophy of care

Essential Components of the Montessori for Ageing and Dementia Approach

Mixed abilities of
elders working
together

Choice of
meaningful
engagement from
a range of options

Uninterrupted
blocks of activity
time

Specialized activity
materials and
memory supports

Freedom of
movement within
the care
community

Trained Montessori
staff and educated
family members

Role of Healthcare Professionals

- Work in collaboration with older adults to fill in the gaps of their abilities

Use preserved
abilities

Modify the
environment

Continually
educate and
support staff

Involve
families

Standards and Quality Indicators

- **Leadership**
- **Staff**
- **Prepared Environment**

“The first aim of the prepared environment is, as far as it is possible, to render the growing child independent of the adult.”

Maria Montessori. The Secret of Childhood, 1966.

The first aim of the prepared environment is, as far as it is possible, to render the older adult as independent as possible.

The Prepared environment

- Is organized and aesthetically pleasing
- Provides enticement to engage
- Has dedicated interactive spaces
- Provides appropriate cues to support memory loss and independence.
- Offers meaningful engagement materials that are accessible at any time.
- Offers different spaces for quiet contemplation, meaningful engagement, reading, intimacy and socialization.



Roles are activities & tasks that are part of daily life & contribute to a person's community whether it be an residential care community, private or group home, respite service or day centre