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Falls Management in Memory Care: Decoding the Messages Before the Fall

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Falls are the leading cause of preventable injury and hospitalization in older adults — and those living with dementia fall at two to three times the rate of the general senior living population. Yet the mechanisms that drive falls in memory care are frequently misunderstood or under-addressed in clinical practice. This presentation moves beyond standard fall management checklists to explore high-yield, evidence-based focus areas specific to dementia care, including behavioral cue recognition, purposeful engagement as a clinical intervention, the dementia-specific environmental picture, and medication management. Learners will acquire evidence-based strategies grounded in current evidence.

Following this presentation, the participant will be able to:

- Identify how dementia-related falls differ from normal aging falls due to unique behavior, thinking and perception risks.
- Recognize nonverbal cues in those living with dementia and describe interventions to reduce fall risk.
- Identify high-risk medication classes and the clinician's role in medication safety.
- Define a framework to align individualized care plan interventions to reduce fall causes.

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