

Caring for someone with dementia

SOT

Courtney McFarlin, PA, primary care provider at OSF HealthCare

“Those are actually antidepressants, but they can help with some of the behavioral issues we see in patients with frontotemporal dementia. Sometimes we have to incorporate antipsychotics into the treatment regimen.” (:13)

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Courtney McFarlin, PA, primary care provider at OSF HealthCare

“People with dementia can have sundowning, getting up in the middle of the night and wandering around. They can have sleeplessness and other behavioral issues that are worse at night.” (:11)

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Courtney McFarlin, PA, primary care provider at OSF HealthCare

“The family could hire someone to come in a few hours a day or a few days a week to give them a break. Or if it’s a family of multiple siblings, they can take turns.” (:17)

SOT

Courtney McFarlin, PA, primary care provider at OSF HealthCare

“We try to make sure caregivers are also being cared for. Getting adequate rest and making sure their emotional needs are also met.” (:11)

SOT

Courtney McFarlin, PA, primary care provider at OSF HealthCare

“These people may have a lot of behavior problems or do a lot of wandering. The memory care centers are typically on a lockdown status. There are a lot of door alarms and bed alarms to make sure they’re safe, not a fall risk and they don’t leave the facility.” (:20)

SOT

Courtney McFarlin, PA, primary care provider at OSF HealthCare

“If you have the conversation the right way and give the person the resources they need, it can make a sad time less stressful.” (:09)