

16 July, 2025

Research Newsletter

Research updates from the Care Lab, powered by the Sam Katz Community Health & Aging Research Unit



Be EPIC-VR: A New Standard In Dementia Care



Discover how Be EPIC-VR stands apart from traditional dementia training by turning knowledge into practice through hands-on learning with virtual reality and conversational artificial intelligence.

This newsletter highlights key findings from Be EPIC-VR sessions delivered to over 80 healthcare professionals across Ontario. Discover managers' perspective on its impact and how PSWs performed following the training.



Managers valued **Be EPIC-VR's** impact on **improving person-centered communication** and reducing responsive behaviours. **PSWs significantly increased the use of person-centered communication** after their training.



Managers noted that **Be EPIC-VR supports person-centered, culturally responsive care** and promotes staff well-being. **PSWs reported greater work competence and confidence** in communication with persons living with dementia after the training.



Despite initial hesitation, managers found **Be EPIC-VR compatible with workflow**. Its small-group, remote-delivered format **supported implementation without disrupting care**, and its innovative methods sparked staff interest.

! Visit us to learn more !

**We will be showcasing Be EPIC-VR at the
Alzheimer's Association International Conference (AAIC)
July 27 - 31, 2025 in Toronto, Canada!**

Come visit us at our booth (#522) or stop by our poster sessions to learn how Be EPIC-VR enhances emotion-based care by building person-centered communication skills among the dementia care workforce.



Contact us:

✉ msavund@uwo.ca
(Dr. Marie Y. Savundranayagam)

Follow us:

[@samkatzCHARU](https://twitter.com/samkatzCHARU)



Visit our website