

Table e-1. Free text responses from all participants, as assessed post-intervention.

1	[It was] great to see what dementia patients are like...and to talk to their caregivers.
2	I learned about a great program...that I had not heard about before.
3	It was very inspiring to see the way caregivers can work with their loved ones with dementia. Clearly, their disease has not changed their relationships. Many people with dementia are much more cognizant and competent than the average medical student or individual may think, and it is important to be aware of this before writing them off as a dementia patient.
4	Increasing exposure to patients with dementia that we might not have had in the past, plus it's nice that it is not in a medical context.
5	[It is] helpful for people who have limited experience with dementia patients...[I'm] going to see if my family member can attend [a program]!
6	It can improve our understanding of how people with dementia perceive the world. I think it made me view dementia patients in a more positive way because I saw how insightful they were when discussing the art.
7	I really liked getting to interact with memory impaired patients in a setting that is not a medical facility. It was lovely to see caretakers and patients enjoy the art and being together.
8	Getting to see dementia out of a hospital setting, doing a program where they can be creative is very helpful to understanding their lives outside of sickness. Also, getting to interact with their caregivers in this setting is helpful, to see what they do for them out of the hospital.
9	This program was very interesting. I have had very little experience with dementia patients since a volunteering [at] a nursing home [years prior]. It was wonderful to see dementia patients being so creative and enthusiastic about artwork, and really inspiring to see their family/caretakers help them throughout the day. The program benefits me and my colleagues by teaching us more about what it's like to take care of dementia patients.
10	The program offers the opportunity to interact with people with dementia and their caregivers in a non-medical context. It is easier to get to know them as people in this setting. Also, it's fun to be able to look at art, which everyone enjoys.

11	A benefit I see in this program is its exposure to the spectrum of patients with dementia. My impression is that my colleagues have an exaggerated/extreme conception of dementia and thus are intimidated.... This program could help clarify such misconceptions, foster more willingness to engage and learn from these patients. Also, by observing the interactions between the caregivers and patients, we learn how one must adjust and compromise to meet the needs of these patients. Seeing how caregivers negotiate this challenge could help us empathize better with future patients with dementia.
12	Exposure to patients with dementia and their caregivers [was positive, and to] see how they can be creative and insightful.
13	The simple act of sharing time with patients with dementia can go a long way as far as making healthcare providers more confident in their day-to-day interactions with these patients.
14	I think it's helpful to interact with older people who vary from healthy (ie caretakers or people with mild dementia) at the same time as interacting with people who seem to have florid dementia. The juxtaposition helps to remind you that age is just a number and even a diagnosis of dementia does not paint a full picture of someone's mental capabilities in a given moment. Also, programs like these need support. It was clear that the caretakers and elderly persons were being engaged and enjoying themselves during the program.
15	It was lovely to see the caregiver-participant interaction, and how much love they still had for each other.
16	The program was eye opening since I had never directly encountered a person with dementia for an extended period of time. Exposure would be the biggest benefit of participating in a program like this because just from a brief session I could quickly and clearly pick up on some of the problems they may deal with on a daily basis
17	I especially liked seeing the participants with their caregivers. I saw one participant, a nonverbal stroke survivor, who was there with his wife and I found her affection and patience with him to be touching and inspiring.
18	It can help us learn more about the art programs available to patients with dementia and give my colleagues a chance to interact with patients with dementia in a context when their dementia isn't the main focus, when we get to see what they are capable of more so than what they are incapable of- which so often is what cognitive tests force a patient to do.

19	Great exposure to people with dementia in a non-medical setting, seeing people living their daily life. There was a huge amount of diversity among the patients. Also great exposure to the care-givers.
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Each line represents an individual response. All students provided responses and are included here in their entirety except for minor redactions to ensure anonymity of responses.