



Therapeutic Scenario—Jane and Mr. Smith

- Jane is observing residents in the dayroom during activities and notices Mr. Smith looks angry and preoccupied.
- Mr. Smith glares at others with clenched fists.
- Jane: “Hello, Mr. Smith. I noticed they have your favorite paint brush over there. Would you like me to get it for you?”
- Mr. Smith grunts and mutters, “No,” and continues to glare at the others at the table.
- Jane: “You don’t seem like yourself today, Mr. Smith. If the noise is bothering you, we can find somewhere else for you to sit.”
- Mr. Smith: “Finally, someone wants to help me. Yes please, Jane. They are irritating me and I’m tired.”
- Jane: “I’m sorry you are tired. Would you like to sit at that table over there alone or do you need the quiet of your room.”
- Mr. Smith: “Please take me back to my room, Jane. I didn’t sleep good last night but I still want to paint.”
- Jane (Nods in understanding): “I can understand that the dayroom gets pretty loud and that’s not enjoyable if you’re tired.” (Jane guides Mr. Smith away from the table and toward his room). “Let me help you get back to your room and then I’ll come back after you rest (smiling). Then maybe you can talk to me about why you didn’t sleep well last night while you paint ... and maybe listen to that new CD your daughter sent; It is a good one!”
- Mr. Smith: “Girl, you know it is. That guy can really play! Thank you, Jane. I’d like that. I’m taking a nap!”
- Jane: “That sounds like an excellent idea.”