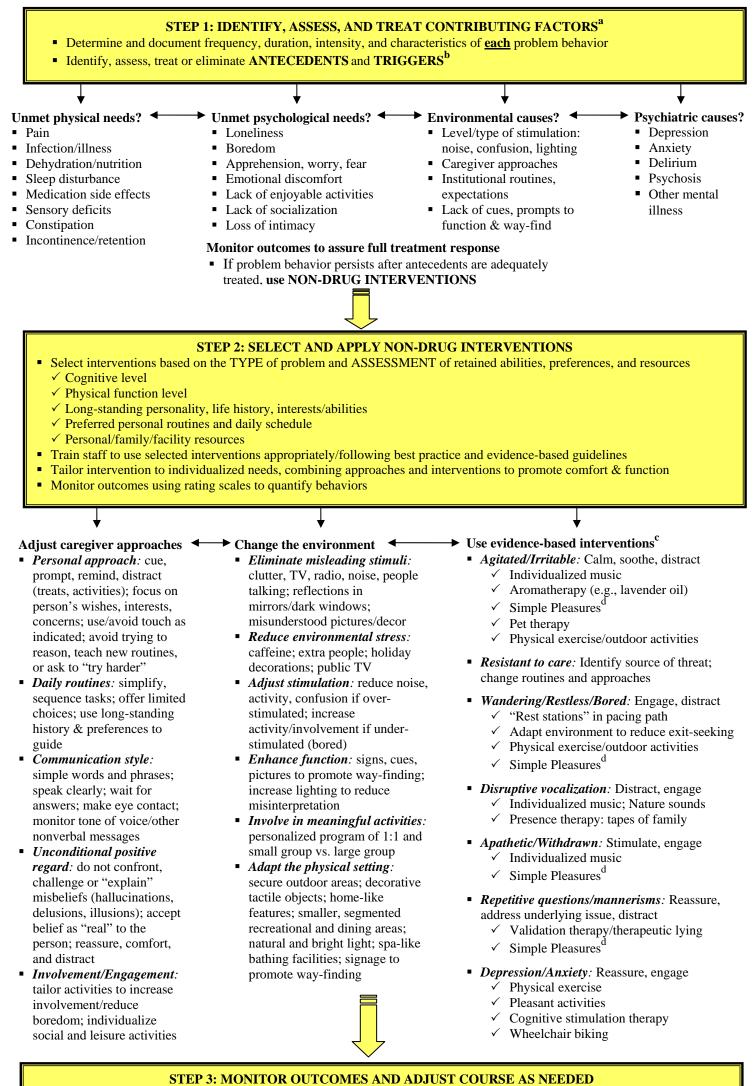
Algorithm for Treating Behavioral and Psychological Symptoms of Dementia (aka Problem Behaviors)



- Quantify behavioral symptoms using rating scale(s)
- Assure adequate "dose" (intensity, duration, frequency) of interventions
- Provide/reinforce staff training and development activities to assure full understanding and cooperation in daily care
 - Adapt/add interventions as needed to promote optimal outcomes
 - Consider antipsychotics for persistent and severe cases that meet criteria for use. See Antipsychotic Prescribing Guide.

Footnotes:

- a. Diverse symptoms must be assessed and treated individually to assure optimal outcomes.
- b. Causal and contributing factors must be fully assessed and treated before psychotropic medications are used. Ongoing monitoring of these factors is essential to high quality care. Antecedents or triggers are things that happen before a problem behavior. These may be causal or contributing factors.
 c. Use of evidence-based interventions requires full understanding of the protocols and appropriate application to assure optimal outcomes.
- d. For more information about Simple Pleasures, see: http://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/conditions/dementia/edge/interventions/simple/index.htm