

Care Giver Fact Sheet



Stages of Alzheimer's		
Stage 1	No Impairment	Disease not detectable and no symptoms are present.
Stage 2	Very Mild Decline	Minor memory problems may be noticed but is hard to distinguish between normal age-related memory loss. Unlikely to be identified by physician or loved ones
Stage 3	Mild Decline	Cognitive problems are likely to be noticed. Memory tests will reflect poor performance and the physician will be able to identify impaired cognitive function.
Stage 4	Moderate Decline	Symptoms are very apparent such as difficulty with very short-term memory (food eaten at breakfast), unable to perform simple arithmetic, and unable to pay bills.
Stage 5	Moderately Severe Decline	Experience need for help with normal day-to-fay activities such as dressing remembering their phone number, wandering or confusion
Stage 6	Severe Decline	Need constant supervision and may require professional care. They experience confusion with the environment or surroundings. Loss of bowel and bladder control is common.
Stage 7	Very Severe Decline	Since AD is a terminal disease those in this stage are nearing death. They lose the ability to communicate or respond to the environment. They need total care.

Advanced Dementia – Worsening of Symptoms	
Memory loss	Where the individual does not recognize family and friends,
Communication issues	May lose the ability to talk at all,
Mobility problems	Become less mobile and may become confined to wheelchair or bed
Behavior issues (neuropsychological symptoms)	These include increased agitation, depression, aggression, anxiety or hallucinations and delusions
Incontinence problems	Loss of control of bowel and bladder
Weight loss and lack of appetite	Some experience difficulty chewing and swallowing which can lead to other issues such as choking, aspirations etc

Neuropsychiatric Symptoms (NPS) (Behaviors)	
Apathy	Absence or suppression of passion, emotion, or excitement; lack of interest in or concern for things that others find moving or exciting
Aggression,	The action or an act of attacking without provocation.
Psychosis:	A severe mental disorder in which thought and emotions are so impaired that contact is lost with external reality. (hallucinations/delusions)

Sleep disturbances	Involve problems with the quality, timing, and amount of sleep , which result in daytime distress and impairment in functioning
Agitation	Excessive physical movement and verbal activity and can include restlessness, pacing, verbal aggression, combativeness, calling out and crying, and wandering
Vocalizations	Nonaggressive behaviors such as continuous talking and complaining and aggressive behaviors such as screaming and abusive language
Disinhibition	A loss of inhibition, a lack of restraint, disregard for social convention, impulsiveness, poor safety awareness, an inability to stop strong responses, desires, or emotions.
Pseudobulbar Affect (PBA)	Can be found in any underlying neurologic disorder such as Alzheimer's Disease (AD), Parkinson's Disease, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), Multiple Sclerosis (MS), Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) etc. It consists of inappropriate, uncontrollable, exaggerated laughing or crying outbursts, with or without reason or trigger..