

Alzheimer's Disease Task Force

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Overview of Alzheimer's Disease

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Definitions

Dementia – a general term for a group of disorders that cause irreversible cognitive decline as a result of biological damage to brain cells

Alzheimer's disease (AD) – the most common dementia, accounting for 50-70 percent of cases

Other forms of dementia include

- Vascular dementia
- Parkinson's disease
- Dementia with Lewy bodies
- Frontotemporal dementia
- Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease
- Normal pressure hydrocephalus

Alzheimer's disease = Alzheimer's disease and related dementias

National

Prevalence

- 5.1 million Americans have Alzheimer's disease in 2007
- 4.9 million aged 65 and older
- 200,000 under age 65 with early onset Alzheimer's

National

Breakdown by Age

- Age 65-74 – 300,000 people or 2 percent
- Age 75-84 – 2,400,000 or 19 percent
- Age 85 and older – 2,200,000 or 42 percent

Overall 1 of 8 over age 65 have AD

National

New cases of Alzheimer's

- 2000 - 411,000
- 2010 - 454,000
- 2030 - 615,000
- 2050 - 959,000

Every 72 seconds someone in America develops Alzheimer's

Mortality

- Average survival time after an AD diagnosis is 4-6 years, but survival can be as long as 20 years from the time of first symptoms
- AD was listed as the underlying cause of death for 65,820 Americans in 2004
- Seventh leading cause of death for people of all ages and fifth leading cause of death of people age 65 and older.

Change in selected leading causes of death from 2000-2004

Cause	2000	2004	% Change
Heart disease	710,760	654,092	- 8.0
Breast cancer	41,200	40,110	- 2.6
Prostate cancer	31,900	29,900	- 6.3
Stroke	167,661	150,147	- 10.4
Alzheimer's disease	49,558	65,829	+ 32.6

Mortality

- AD is substantially underreported as a cause of death
- Co-existing conditions are common in Alzheimer's
- AD exacerbates other health conditions of the elderly
- Complications of AD increase the risk of pneumonia, the most common identified cause of death among elderly persons with Alzheimer's.

Mortality

Blurred distinction between
death *with* dementia and
death *from* dementia

Medicare and Medicaid

- Medicare spends 3 times as much for beneficiaries with AD as those without Alzheimer's
- Beneficiaries with AD had 3.4 times as many hospital stays as those without Alzheimer's
- Dementia complicates the care for the most costly conditions, such as heart disease, diabetes and chronic pulmonary disease and medical costs are more than double when dementia is present.
- 51 percent of nursing home residents with AD rely on Medicaid to help pay for care.

Caregiving

- 10 million Americans are caring for a person with Alzheimer's
- Two-thirds of working caregivers report that they missed work because of caregiving responsibilities
- Caregivers provided \$83 billion worth of unpaid care in 2005
- 70 percent of persons with AD are cared for at home.

Iowa

People with AD age 65 and older

- 2000 – 65,000
- 2010 – 69,000

Iowa

Growth in elderly from 2006 to 2011

Age group	2006	2011	% Change
65+	439,919	474,493	+ 7.8
85+	73,919	82,023	+10.9

Iowa

AD Mortality in Iowa

- 887 deaths in 2003
- 30.1 deaths per 100,000 population
- 21.8 deaths per 100,000 population is the national average

Iowa

Caregiving

- 93,556 caregivers in Iowa
- 80,757,917 hours of unpaid care
- \$789,812,426 value of unpaid care

Special Challenges with AD

- Persons with AD who are under age 65
- Stigma associated with the disease delays diagnosis and treatment
- Workforce issues – number of direct care workers, training opportunities, pay, etc.
- Difficulty in quantifying the problem in Iowa.
- Lack of coordinated efforts among stakeholders in Iowa

**“We live in
exponential times.”**

Source: “Did you know?” video
Shift Happens

Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures, 2007

Alzheimer's Association