

- Why Does Mamma Do That?
- Behaviors Associated with Alzheimer's Disease
- PRESENTED BY:
- Margaret E. Hemphill
- Introduction
- Statistics:

- 14 million people in the U.S. will have Alzheimer's by the middle of the 21st century.
- 1 in 10 persons over age 65 and nearly half over 85 will succumb to the disease.
- A person will live an average of 8 years and as many as 20 years once symptoms appear.
- The average lifetime cost of care for those with Alzheimer's is \$174,000 per person.
- Most people with Alzheimer's receive Medicare benefits and nearly half receive Medicaid.
 - One in every five Medicare dollars is spent for the care of Alzheimer's sufferers.

- Introduction Cont...

- 7 in 10 people with Alzheimer's live at home with 75% of care provided by family and friends.
- The average annual compensation paid to care givers for care at home is \$12,500.
- At least half of all nursing home patients have Alzheimer's or other forms of dementia.
- The average annual cost of care for those with Alzheimer's in nursing homes is \$42,000.
 - History
 - First case discovered in 1901, by Dr. Alois Alzheimer.
 - Autopsy revealed strange plaques and tangles in the brain.
 - In the 114 years since discovery we have no more help to offer than we did in 1901.
 - Of the top ten causes of death worldwide Alzheimer's Disease is the only disease that can't be prevented, cured, or its progress slowed down.
 - Normal Brain vs. Alzheimer Brain

- Cross section of normal brain tissue
- Cross section of Alzheimer's brain
- HEALTHY BRAIN
- Lobes of the brain
 - Hippocampus
 - Frontal
 - Temporal
 - Occipital
 - Parietal
- HIPPOCAMPUS
- Records new information or short term memory and sends it to other parts of the brain to be stored as long term memory
 - Alzheimer's disease tends to begin in this lobe.
- FRONTAL LOBE
- The Frontal Lobe is responsible for:
 - •alertness
 - •concentration
 - •personality
 - •judgment
 - •impulse control
 - •task sequencing
- SUMMARY
- FRONTAL LOBE:

That part of the brain which is responsible for alertness, concentration, impulse control, judgment, personality and sequencing.

□JUDGMENT:

The operation of the mind, involving comparison and discrimination, by which knowledge of values and relations is mentally formulated.

□ PARANOIA:

Systematized delusions of persecution; suspiciousness

■ TEMPORAL LOBE

■ Ability to speak

■ Ability to understand language

■ Aphasia:

■ Expressive-loss of ability to say words, usually occurs first.

■ Receptive-loss of ability to understand words.

■ OCCIPITAL LOBE

■ Together with the Parietal Lobe is involved with:

■ Vision-ability to see in a wide circle around us.

■ Orientation to the physical environment

■ Ability to visualize things in three dimensions: width, height and length

■ Ability to process rapid movement

■ PARIETAL LOBE

■ The part of the brain that makes "sense" of the senses.

■ Seeing, hearing, tasting, smelling and touching.

■ ABNORMAL BEHAVIORS

■ All of the abnormal behaviors that occur in a person with dementia can be explained by loss of cells in particular areas of the brain.

■ A person with Alzheimer's Disease or any other type of dementia will never get any better, only worse. This is not a situation of "Use it, or lose it!" If you as the caregiver can come to terms with this fact the stress of dealing with the situation will be lessened.

■ STAGES OF ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

■ FIRST PHASE:

- Forgetfulness Stage:
- 2-4 years leading up to and including diagnosis:
- In this early stage the person may know something is wrong yet be able to cover it up from others.

■ SYMPTOMS

- Cannot remember what he/she was just told to do.
- Confusion about places-gets lost on the way to work.
- Loses spontaneity, the zest for life.
- Mood/personality changes-person becomes anxious about symptoms, avoids people.
- Poor judgment-makes bad decisions.
- Takes longer with routine chores.
- Trouble handling money, paying bills.

■ EXAMPLES OF STAGE I

- Loses things. Forgets grocery list.
- Arrives at wrong time or place, constantly, rechecks calendar.
- "Mother's not the same-she's withdrawn, disinterested."
- She spent all day making dinner and forgot to serve several courses.
- "She paid the bills three times over, or didn't pay them for three months."

■ STAGES OF ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

Second Stage

Confusion Stage:

2-10 years after diagnoses. As the disease progresses, the person can no longer hide it from others. AD patients in the middle stages become easily confused and cannot be left alone.

■ SYMPTOMS:

- Increasing memory loss and confusion (longest stage).
- Shorter attention span.

- Problems recognizing close friends and/or family.
- Repetitive statements and/or movements.
- Restless, especially in late afternoon and at night.
- Occasional muscle twitches or jerking.
- SYMPTOMS-STAGE II CONT...
- Perceptual-motor problems.
- Difficulty organizing thoughts, thinking logically.
- Can't find right words-makes up stories to fill in the blanks.
- Problems with reading, writing, and numbers.
- May be suspicious, irritable, fidgety, teary, or silly.
- Loss of impulse control-sloppy-won't bathe, or afraid to bathe-trouble dressing.
- Gains and then loses weight.
- May see or hear things that are not there.
- Needs full time supervision.
- 2nd Stage Examples...
- Examples:
 - Memory loss-can't remember visits even though the visitor just left.
 - Repetitive movements or statements.
 - Sleeps often: awakens frequently at night and may get up and wander.
 - Perceptual-motor problems-difficulty getting into a chair, setting the table for a meal.
 - Can't find the right words.
 - Problems with reading and numbers-can't follow written signs, write name, add or subtract.
 - Suspicious-may accuse spouse of hiding things, infidelity, may act childishly.
 - Loss of impulse control-sloppier table manners: may undress at inappropriate times or in the wrong place.

- Huge appetite for junk food and other people's food; forgets when last meal was eaten, then gradually loses interest in food.
- ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE-THIRD PHASE
- Terminal Stage
 - (dependent stage)
 - 1-3 years

In the final stages of the disease, AD patients become quite disoriented and it is the time of complete dependence on the caregiver. Placement in a facility is usually necessary because of the scope of the care required.

- Symptoms
 - Can't recognize family or self in a mirror.
 - Loses weight even with a good diet.
 - Little capacity for self-care.
 - Can't communicate with words.
 - May put everything in mouth or touch everything.
 - Can't control bowels or bladder.
 - May have seizures, experience difficulty swallowing, skin infections.
- THIRD PHASE EXAMPLES...
- EXAMPLES:
 - Looks in the mirror and talks to own image.
 - Needs help with bathing, dressing, eating, and going to the bathroom.
 - May groan, scream, or make grunting noises.
 - May try to suck on everything.
 - Sleeps more.
- GOD'S VIEW OF THE ELDERLY AND HIS PROMISE TO THEM
- Ps. 103:13,14

As a father has compassion on his children, So the Lord has compassion on those who fear him;
For he knows how we are formed, he remembers that we are dust.

- GOD'S VIEW cont.
- John 6:37-40
- All that the Father gives Me shall come to Me; and the one who comes to Me I will certainly not cast out.
- For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of Him who sent Me.
- And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that of all that He has given Me I lose nothing, but raise it up on the last day.
- GOD'S VIEW cont.
- John 10:28-30
- "and I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand.
- "My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand.
- "I and the Father are one."