



Update: Health Resources and Services Administration Dementia Activities

Advisory Committee on Interdisciplinary, Community-Based Linkages
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Vision: Healthy Communities, Healthy People



Prevalence of Alzheimer's Disease

- An estimated 6.2 million Americans age 65 and older are living with Alzheimer's dementia today.
- This number could grow to 13.8 million by 2060 barring the development of medical breakthroughs to prevent, slow or cure AD.
- Official death certificates recorded 121,499 deaths from AD in 2019, the latest year for which data are available, making Alzheimer's the sixth-leading cause of death in the United States and the fifth-leading cause of death among Americans age 65 and older.

Vision Statement

For millions of Americans, the heartbreak of watching a loved one struggle with Alzheimer's disease is a pain they know all too well. Alzheimer's disease burdens an increasing number of our Nation's elders and their families, and it is essential that we confront the challenge it poses to our public health.

- President Barack Obama

National Alzheimer's Project Act (NAPA)

- On January 4, 2011, President Barack Obama signed into law the National Alzheimer's Project Act (NAPA) (Public Law 111-375), requiring the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to establish the National Alzheimer's Project to:
 - Create and maintain an integrated National Plan to overcome Alzheimer's disease.
 - Coordinate Alzheimer's disease research and services across all federal agencies.
 - Accelerate the development of treatments that would prevent, halt, or reverse the course of Alzheimer's disease.
 - Improve early diagnosis and coordination of care and treatment of Alzheimer's disease.
 - Decrease disparities in Alzheimer's disease for ethnic and racial minority populations that are at higher risk for Alzheimer's disease.
 - Coordinate with international bodies to fight Alzheimer's disease globally.

NAPA

- NAPA also established the Advisory Council on Alzheimer's Research, Care, and Services (Advisory Council)
- Requires the Secretary of HHS, in collaboration with the Advisory Council, to create and maintain a National Plan to overcome Alzheimer's disease and related dementias (ADRD).

Goals

- Prevent and effectively treat ADRD by 2025.
- Enhance care quality and efficiency.
- Expand supports for people with ADRD and their families.
- Enhance public awareness and engagement.
- Improve data to track progress.
- Accelerate Action to Promote Healthy Aging and Reduce Risk Factors for Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias (added in 2021).

Health Resources and Services Administration

Education and Training Activities 2012 - 2022

Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program (GWEP)

- From Fiscal Year (FY) 2012 – 2020, through Geriatrics Education Centers and Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Programs provided 5,383 interprofessional educational offerings on dementia to 687,048 trainees.
- In FY 2013, HRSA, in collaboration with ASPE, supported the development of a Medscape continuing education course entitled "Case Challenges in Early Alzheimer's Disease," aimed at educating primary care physicians, nurse practitioners, and social workers on how to utilize evidence-based strategies to diagnose, monitor, and treat patients with Alzheimer's disease and improve early detection in primary care and outpatient settings. After two years on the Medscape website, over 65,000 health professionals have participated in this training.
- In FY 2013, HRSA, in collaboration with the HHS/Office on Women's Health (OWH), also supported the development of a second Medscape continuing education course on assessing, managing, and treating Alzheimer's disease in the context of multiple chronic conditions. This educational offering, titled "Bidirectional Impact of Alzheimer's Disease and Common Comorbid Conditions" was released in September 2016. 11,915 health professionals participated in the training.



GWEP (con't)

- In FY 2016 HRSA, in collaboration with federal partners and external stakeholders, created a 16-module Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementia's (ADRD) curriculum which has continuing education accreditation for CEUs, CECH, CNE and CME. These modules are accessible through the [HRSA Train Health Care Workers About Dementia page](#). Module 3 is dedicated to diversity and equity.
- Between July 2, 2018 and March 31, 2021, there were
 - 22,776 views of the HRSA dementia page
 - 9,094 registered users of the ADRD modules
 - 9,034 CE certificates issued (1 CEU per module)
- HRSA Caregiving Curriculum
 - Four modules help providers understand and address caregiver needs
 - Five modules teach caregivers of persons living with dementia how to take care of their own health and cope with the challenges of caregiving

GWEP (con't)

- Strengthen state aging, public health, and intellectual and developmental disability workforces.
- Educate physicians and other health care providers about accessing long-term services and supports.
- Clarify and disseminate information on privacy, autonomy, and safety issues for physicians.

GWEP (con't)

- In FY2020, \$4 million in administrative supplements to 48 GWEP grant recipients
- Purpose:
 - Educate and train students and clinicians on providing telehealth-enabled COVID-19 referral for screening and testing, case management and outpatient care; and/or
 - Maintaining primary care functionality away from physical sites, especially for COVID-19 positive, quarantined, elderly and individuals at a higher risk of severe illness, **including persons living with dementia** and their families and caregivers.



GWEP (con't)

- In FY2021 HRSA provided \$2.2 million supplemental funding to 12 currently funded GWEPs
- Purpose: Provide COVID-19 specific education and training to the nursing home workforce, and nursing home residents, **including those living with dementia**, and their family and caregivers and to improve care to nursing home residents.
- Partnering with 12 additional GWEP grant recipients and over 500 nursing homes
- Training includes development of a COVID-19 national curriculum to address needs of nursing home populations.

GWEP (con't)

- **Institute for Healthcare Improvement
Age-Friendly Recognition**
 - **Level-1: Participant**
 - 286 primary care practice sites
 - 48 GWEP grant recipients
 - **Level-2: Committed to Care Excellence**
 - 86 primary care practice sites
 - 25 GWEP grant recipients

HRSA Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias Curriculum

- From April 1, 2021 to June 30, 2021, 744 persons received continuing education credits. The three modules with the most activity were Diversity (178 learners), Management of mid-to-late Stage Dement (160 learners) and Care Transitions (136 learners).
- <https://bhw.hrsa.gov/alzheimers-dementia-training>

Dementia Specialists Report to Congress

- In FY2021, HRSA provided support to develop a Report to Congress on Current Capacity of Dementia Specialists
- Collaboration with Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation
- The report includes details of provider shortages and screening capacity, identify barriers for early detection of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias and adequate access to care, and provide recommendations to both address any provider shortages and streamline the patient's Alzheimer's diagnostic pathway.



Questions and Thank You for Your Help



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