

Empower Patients and Caregivers of Persons with Alzheimer's Disease and Other Dementias

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INTRODUCTION

The National Association of Chronic Disease Directors is collaborating with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Division of Population Health on communicating the current status of brain health related to Alzheimer's disease and heart disease and stroke.

The number of people 65 years and older grew from 13% of the population in 2010 to 14.9% in 2015. (US Census) With the aging population comes cognitive decline: one in eight adults aged 60 and older (12.7%) experience "confusion or memory loss that is happening more often or is getting worse" over the past 12 months. (CDC)

According to reports from The Healthy Brain Initiative, a collaborative program of CDC, 5 million older adults have Alzheimer's Disease and the prevalence may triple to 13.8 million people by 2050; Alzheimer's is a disease of aging; the likelihood of developing Alzheimer's doubles about every five years after age 65; and Alzheimer's is the 5th leading cause of death for individuals 65 years of age and older (*The Healthy Brain Initiative: The Public Health Road Map for State and National Partnerships, 2013–2018*). Almost two-thirds of the population with Alzheimer's are women. Alzheimer's disease is defined as a degenerative brain disease and a common cause of cognitive decline and dementia. "Productivity, independence, and quality of life for millions of Americans depend on the nation's collective ability to prevent and treat cognitive impairment and dementia, and to promote cognitive functioning for individuals living in our communities."



GOALS & OBJECTIVES

- Assess and document progress towards meeting the nation's Healthy People 2020 objectives for Aging/Alzheimer's Disease and related dementias.
- Analyze the "State of Aging and Health" with respect to brain health in relation to cognitive decline, caregiver issues, and heart disease and stroke.

IMPACT

- A mid-course Healthy People 2020 data report will achieve increased integration of state-of-the-art technology into data collection and information systems.
- State of Aging Briefs will deliver and accomplish improved quality, availability, and accessibility of public health education materials, training, and evaluation tools and resources.

OUTLOOK

Providing public health professionals with epidemiological tools allows for data to develop programing, evaluate programs and products and provides the evidence to collectively improve function of individuals living in communities.