Alzheimer’s disease is not just memory loss – Alzheimer’s kills.


- Among 70-year-olds with Alzheimer’s, 61 percent are expected to die within a decade. Among 70-year-olds without Alzheimer’s, only 30 percent will die within a decade.

- Deaths from Alzheimer’s increased 68 percent between 2000 and 2010, while deaths from other major diseases, including the number one cause of death (heart disease), decreased.

- Alzheimer’s is the only cause of death among the top 10 in America without a way to prevent it, cure it or even slow its progression.

- Dementia is the second largest contributor to death among older Americans, second only to heart failure.

Today, there are no survivors of Alzheimer’s. If you do not die from it, you die with it.

- One in every three seniors dies with Alzheimer’s or another dementia.

- In 2013, an estimated 450,000 people in the United States will die with Alzheimer’s, meaning they will die after developing the disease.
More Americans are dying either from or with Alzheimer’s because a growing number of Americans are developing Alzheimer’s.

- Today, over 5 million Americans are living with Alzheimer’s disease, including an estimated 200,000 under the age of 65. By 2050, up to 16 million will have the disease.
- Of Americans aged 65 and over, 1 in 9 has Alzheimer’s, and 1 in 3 people aged 85 and older has the disease.
- Another American develops Alzheimer’s disease every 68 seconds. In 2050, an American will develop the disease every 33 seconds.

Alzheimer’s takes a devastating toll not just on those with the disease – but also on their caregivers.

- In 2012, 15.4 million family and friends provided 17.5 billion hours of unpaid care to those with Alzheimer’s and other dementias – care valued at $216.4 billion.
- Nearly 15 percent of caregivers are long-distance caregivers, living an hour or more away from their loved ones. Out-of-pocket caregiving costs are nearly twice as high for long-distance caregivers compared with local caregivers.
- More than 60 percent of Alzheimer’s and dementia caregivers rate the emotional stress of caregiving as high or very high; more than one-third report symptoms of depression.
- Due to the physical and emotional toll of caregiving, Alzheimer’s and dementia caregivers had $9.1 billion in additional health care costs of their own in 2012.

2013 Costs of Alzheimer’s = $203 Billion

- Medicare $107b
- Medicaid $35b
- Out-of-Pocket $34b
- Other $27b

The growing Alzheimer’s crisis is helping to bankrupt America.

- In 2013, the direct costs of caring for those with Alzheimer’s to American society will total an estimated $203 billion, including $142 billion in costs to Medicare and Medicaid.
- Average per-person Medicare costs for those with Alzheimer’s and other dementias are three times higher than for those without these conditions.
- Average per-person Medicaid spending for seniors with Alzheimer’s and other dementias is 19 times higher than average per-person Medicaid spending for all other seniors.
- Unless something is done, Alzheimer’s will cost an estimated $1.2 trillion (in today’s dollars) in 2050. Costs to Medicare and Medicaid will increase over 500 percent.