

## Safety and Alzheimer's disease

### Incredibly Useful Safety Information

#### Description of the topic

Families and professional caregivers often look for information on home safety and products, wandering, driving, the use of restraints, and more. Identified here are Web sites with information on safety and related topics. While there may be some overlap, each site has unique features and is aimed at providing current, practical, and expert information.

Alzheimer's Association National Office.

Chicago, IL.

*Safety topics.*

A section of the Publications page offers eighteen topic sheets and brochures on home safety, medication, travel, driving, wandering, encountering a person with Alzheimer's disease, disaster preparedness, pandemic, the [MedicAlert® + Alzheimer's Association Safe Return®](#) program and more.

[http://www.alz.org/alzheimers\\_disease\\_publications\\_safety.asp](http://www.alz.org/alzheimers_disease_publications_safety.asp)

Alzheimer's Disease Education and Referral Center (ADEAR).

Silver Springs, MD.

*Home safety for people with Alzheimer's disease.*

Includes general safety concerns room-by-room and behavior-by-behavior.

<http://www.nia.nih.gov/node/4416>

Alzheimer's Society.

Toronto, ON.

*Restraints.*

Provides background information on restraints, types of restraints, the issues surrounding their use, and the preferred choices for the safety of nursing home residents.

[http://www.asmt.org/ti\\_Restraints.htm](http://www.asmt.org/ti_Restraints.htm)

AlzOnline.net.

Doty, L.

Gainesville, FL: University of Florida Cognitive and Memory Disorder Clinics.

*Driving and progressive dementia.*

Notable in these educational leaflets are safe driving tips, warning signs, the impact of the driver's decline on traffic, tips to help someone stop driving, tips to stop an unsafe driver, and links to free materials.

*Session 1: Safe driving*

<http://alzonline.php.ufl.edu/en/reading/DrivingADArticleAlzOnlineSess1.pdf>

*Session 2: Safe driving and mild cognitive impairment*

<http://alzonline.php.ufl.edu/en/reading/DrivingADArticleAlzOnlineSess2.pdf>

*Session 3: Safe driving and Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia (memory disorder)*

<http://alzonline.php.ufl.edu/en/reading/DrivingADArticleAlzOnlineSess3.pdf>

Ageless Design.

Cumming, GA.

To find articles on safety, search "safety" or "wandering" in the search box.

<http://www.agelessdesign.com>.

Area Agency on Aging.

Knoxville, TN.

*Alzheimer's safety catalog - making your home safe for your loved one.*

Provides purchasing information and prices on practical safety products for families and professional caregivers. Sections include action steps, bathroom, kitchen and lighting safety, clothing, fall prevention, feeding devices, fire safety, medication, monitors, telephone and temperature regulation devices, wandering prevention, retailers and more. Sections of the catalog can be downloaded.

[https://www.sworps.utk.edu/alz\\_website](https://www.sworps.utk.edu/alz_website)

Caresource Healthcare Communications.

Seattle, WA.

*Just in case: emergency readiness for older adults and caregivers.*

This community education kit from Aging in Stride and the U.S. Administration on Aging is free. It can be streamed online as well as ordered in DVD with a teaching manual and participant handouts.

<http://www.aginginstride.org>

Elder Care Online.

Islip, NY.

Articles related to safety precautions in the home by Mark L. Warner author of *The Complete Guide to Alzheimer-proofing Your Home* and *In Search of the Alzheimer's Wanderer: A Workbook to Protect Your Loved One*.

*Alarms: precautions for wandering.*

<http://www.ec-online.net/Knowledge/Articles/wandering2.html>

*Deterrents and diversions: precautions for wandering.*

<http://www.ec-online.net/Knowledge/Articles/wandering3.html>

*Locks and wandering.*

<http://www.ec-online.net/Knowledge/Articles/wandering1.html>

FDA (Food and Drug Administration).

Washington, DC.

Lambert, V.

*Patient restraints.*

This article from the July 1992 issue of the *FDA Consumer* discusses issues surrounding the use of resident safety vests, lap and wheelchair belts.

[http://findarticles.com/p/articles/mi\\_m1370/is\\_n8\\_v26/ai\\_12811135](http://findarticles.com/p/articles/mi_m1370/is_n8_v26/ai_12811135)

The Hartford.

Hartford, CT.

*Alzheimer's disease, dementia, and driving.*

Informational discussions on driving and dementia including assessing and monitoring driving behavior, easing the transition, positive and productive conversations, seeking help from outside sources, understanding family relationships that affect driving, and advice from caregivers who made this decision,

<http://www.thehartford.com/alzheimers>

Mayo Clinic.

Rochester, MN.

*Alzheimer's understand and control wandering.*

Provides information on why persons with Alzheimer's wander, and tips to prevent and return the person home safely.

<http://www.mayoclinic.com/health/alzheimers/HQ00218>

NIH Senior Health.

Bethesda, MD.

*Caring for someone with Alzheimer's: safety issues.*

The National Institutes of Health has provided a Web site on Alzheimer's disease for computer savvy seniors. Viewing options such as font resize, contrast, speech capability, and printer friendly versions are available. A section of the web site is dedicated to safety issues.

<http://nihseniorhealth.gov/alzheimerscare/safetyissues/01.html>

Weill Cornell Medical College – This Caring Home.

Ithaca, NY.

*Home safety – virtual home.*

This Caring Home provides evidence-based home safety and daily care solutions in a virtual simulation. Mouse over the bathroom, bedroom, kitchen and dining room, stairs and outdoor for a comprehensive list of key issues by area of the home.

[http://thiscaringhome.org/virtual\\_home/default.aspx](http://thiscaringhome.org/virtual_home/default.aspx)