

Caregiver Resources

Best Web sites for Professional Caregivers

Description of the topic

Professional caregivers are often looking for good Internet resources. Identified here are Web sites for health professionals caring for persons with Alzheimer's. Each site is unique and aimed at providing current, practical, and expert advice.

Alzheimer's Association National Office.
Chicago, IL.

Comprehensive information for professional caregivers is available at www.alz.org. In addition to the resources below, the *Publications* page at http://www.alz.org/alzheimers_disease_publications.asp provides free access to the entire collection of Alzheimer's Association's brochures, factsheets, and reports.

Dementia Care Practice Recommendations for Assisted Living Residences and Nursing Homes, 2007.

The practice recommendations were developed from the latest evidence in dementia care research and the experience of professional direct care experts. They are the basis for every aspect of the Alzheimer care.

<http://www.alz.org/national/documents/DementiaCarePracticeRecommendations.pdf>

Tools for Early Identification, Assessment and Treatment for People with Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia, 2003.

Alzheimer's Association National Office & National Chronic Care Consortium.

<http://www.alz.org/national/documents/CCN-AD03.pdf>

Professional Care Providers.

This page from the national Web site provides professional-level information and information on training programs, conferences, and CEU opportunities. Notable are the *Diversity Toolbox*, a variety of culturally appropriate materials for diverse populations and a link to the *Dementia Care Practice Recommendations* listed above.

http://www.alz.org/professionals_and_researchers_professional_care_providers.asp

Resource Lists (specialized bibliographies).

A line of expert-reviewed informational publications in both print and electronic covering thirty frequently requested topics.

<http://www.alz.org/Resources/ResourceLists.asp>

Alzheimer's Disease Education and Referral Center (ADEAR).
Silver Springs, MD.

Connections (newsletter).

Features Alzheimer caregiver articles, resources, information, and event listings. Individual copies and print or electronic subscriptions are free by calling 800-438-4380, ordering online, or downloading.
<http://www.nia.nih.gov/Alzheimers/ResearchInformation/Newsletter>

Alzheimer's Disease: Unraveling the Mystery, 2002.

A comprehensive online booklet from the National Institute on Aging that includes both basic and technical data on the disease impact, the brain, causes and disease theories, diagnosis, treatments, and support. Copies are free to download from ADEAR.

<http://www.nia.nih.gov/Alzheimers/Publications/UnravelingTheMystery/UnravelingTheMystery.htm>

Alzheimer's Disease International.

London, UK.

This Web page links to dementia language materials and such publications as *Help for Caregivers, Planning and Design Guide for Community-based Day Care Centres*, and *Starting a Self-help Group*. Click "Other languages" and "Publications" on the home page.

<http://www.alz.co.uk>

Alzheimer Research Forum.

Waltham, MA.

Disease Management.

A Web resource of clinical guidelines, tests, drugs and therapies, patient care, and caregiving support information are provided here.

<http://www.alzforum.org/dis/default.asp>

California Workgroup on Alzheimer's Disease Management, 2002.

Los Angeles, CA.

Guidelines for Alzheimer's Disease Management.

The guidelines present a practical management approach encompassing medical, pharmacological, and psychosocial interventions based on evidence from the literature and expert consensus.

<http://www.alzla.org/medical/index.html>

End of Life / Palliative Education Resource Center (EPERC), Medical College of Wisconsin.

Milwaukee, WI

Fast Facts.

Over one-hundred-seventy, peer-reviewed, one-page outlines on key end-of-life topics for educators and clinicians. *Fast Facts* are also available for downloading onto a PDA.

http://www.eperc.mcw.edu/ff_index.htm

Elder Care Online.

Islip, NY.

Alzheimer's & Dementia Care Channel.

Guest authors provide unique solutions to challenging behaviors on the Web site.

<http://www.ec-online.net/alzchannel.htm>

Hartford Institute for Geriatric Nursing; Alzheimer's Association National Office.
New York, NY: Chicago, IL.

Try This.

Thirty elder care issues are discussed on this web site. Assessment tools are provided for each issue, many dementia specific.

<http://www.hartfordign.org/resources/education/tryThis.html>

Inter-Generations.

Hyannis, MA.

Common Counseling Mistakes: What Not to Say: A Guide for Long Term Care Professionals.

<http://www.intergens.com/featurearticle-4.html>

National Council for Hospice and Specialist Palliative Care Services, 2003.

Belfast, BT.

Breaking Bad News.

http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/publications/2003/breaking_bad_news.pdf

Postgraduate Medicine Online: The Practical Peer-Reviewed Journal for Primary Care Physicians, 1997.

Minneapolis, MN.

After the Diagnosis: Supporting Alzheimer's Patients and Their Families.

This article for physicians recommends involving and educating the family for making treatment decisions in the areas of stages and specific concerns, depression, nutrition, managing behavior, planning and more.

http://www.postgradmed.com/issues/1997/06_97/ham.htm

Reference Tools

AARP.

Washington, DC.

Ageline.

Abstracts of social gerontology and aging-related articles, books, and reports.

<http://www.aarp.org/research/ageline>

National Library of Medicine.

Rockville, MD.

Drug Information.

<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/druginformation.html>

PubMed.

15 million citations for biomedical articles back to the 1950's in a searchable database.

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?db=PubMed>

University of Newcastle upon Tyne.

Newcastle upon Tyne, UK.

Online Medical Dictionary.

<http://cancerweb.ncl.ac.uk/omd>

Prepared by the Alzheimer's Association Green-Field Library; (312) 335.9602; fax (866) 699.1238; greenfield@alz.org

Best of the Best