

What about the future?

Unfortunately, Alzheimer's disease is a progressive illness. Over time, the symptoms you are experiencing will become worse and you will need more help. There is no way to predict how or when this will happen for you. It is a good idea for you to make and record decisions about your future as early as possible in the course of disease.

You may want to discuss and make plans for:

Work

- If you are still working, speak to your employer or business partner regarding your symptoms. You may be able to cut down your hours and transfer some of your responsibilities.
- If you own your own business, you will want to develop a plan for its future.

Money and Legal Matters

- Talk to your family about appointing someone as Durable Power of Attorney for Finance.
- It will be important to make sure money matters are in the hands of someone you trust like your spouse or partner, son or daughter.
- When you seek legal consultation consider taking someone with you to help explain and interpret the information you are given.
- You should also appoint or obtain a Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care to make decisions for you when you are unable to do so. This person may or may not be the one helping you with your finances. It is important that this person knows your wishes regarding your future healthcare.
- You should also consider whether you want Advanced Directives. These clarify your wishes regarding your future healthcare. Refer to your primary healthcare provider to receive these documents.

Living Arrangements

- Talk to your family and friends about future living arrangements.
- Explore options with a financial advisor to help determine what you can afford.