ROAD MAP ACTION ITEMS:

Resources and Examples for Public Health Officials

This ready-for-action guide provides select examples showing how states, cities, and counties are implementing action items in *The Healthy Brain Initiative: The Public Health Road Map for State and National Partnerships, 2013-2018*. The guide also includes links to free resources that can support action item implementation by public health officials.

About The Public Health Road Map

In 2013, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Alzheimer’s Association released *The Healthy Brain Initiative: The Public Health Road Map for State and National Partnerships, 2013-2018* to advance cognitive health as a vital, integral component of public health. View the complete report at [alz.org/publichealth](http://alz.org/publichealth).

The “Road Map” identifies 35 specific action items that public health agencies can pursue to promote cognitive functioning, address cognitive impairment, and help meet the needs of caregivers. These actions are organized into four domains of the Essential Services of Public Health:

- Educate and Empower the Nation (E)
- Monitor and Evaluate (M)
- Develop Policy and Mobilize Partnerships (P)
- Assure a Competent Workforce (W)

This resource guide has four sections that correspond with these four action item domains.
Educate and Empower

E-01 Public Awareness about Brain Health, Alzheimer’s Disease, and Dementia

Identify and promote culturally appropriate strategies to increase public awareness about dementia (including Alzheimer’s disease), to reduce conflicting messages, to decrease stigma, and to promote early diagnosis.

Public Health Education Resources

Administration for Community Living: community education kits
- Brain Health: You Can Make a Difference! (English & Spanish)
- Medicine, Age, and Your Brain
- What Is Brain Health?

Alzheimer’s Association: Community education programs, brochures, and workshops

Alzheimer’s Disease International: World Alzheimer Report 2012: Overcoming the Stigma of Dementia

CDC: Addressing Stigma Associated with Alzheimer’s Disease and Other Dementias (issue brief)

Federal portals for consumers

Institute of Medicine: Cognitive Aging: An Action Guide for Individuals and Families

National Institute on Aging: Forgetfulness: Normal or Not?
- Understanding Memory Loss: What To Do When You Have Trouble Remembering (booklet in English and Spanish)
- Understanding Alzheimer’s Disease: What You Need To Know (booklet in English and Spanish)

Stanford University, Geriatric Education Center: Together We Can! Facing Memory Loss as a Family (fotonovela in English with Community Teaching Guide) and other resources

University of Kentucky, Sanders-Brown Center on Aging: The Book of Alzheimer’s for African-American Churches, written for church leaders interested in helping families cope with dementia

Healthy Living for Your Brain and Body: Tips from the Latest Research
10 Early Signs and Symptoms of Alzheimer’s

http://www.alz.co.uk/research/world-report-2012
http://alzheimers.gov
http://www.nia.nih.gov/health/infographics/forgetfulness-normal-or-not

http://www.alzheimers.gov/alzheimers/publication/understanding-alzheimers-disease/introduction
http://sgec.stanford.edu/dementia_and_caregiving.html
Examples

Arizona
Arizona Department of Health Services and partners developed educational fact sheets about dementia, tailored to racially and ethnically diverse populations (via NACDD grant). The department also added information about Alzheimer’s and dementia caregiving to its website: http://azdhs.gov/prevention/tobacco-chronic-disease/azheimer's/index.php

Arizona
Maricopa County Public Health Dept.—with the regional chapter of the National Black Nurses Association, Banner Health Institute, and potentially other organizations—held a community educational event that raised African Americans’ awareness of Alzheimer’s, dementia, and other cognitive health issues.

California
In FY2017, California Department of Public Health will provide new funding to the state’s Alzheimer’s disease centers for targeted outreach to health professionals to increase early detection and diagnosis, in part through provision of tools.

California (Los Angeles)
Los Angeles County Dept. of Public Health—with the regional chapter of the National Black Nurses Association and potentially other organizations—held a community educational event that raised African Americans’ awareness of Alzheimer’s, dementia and other cognitive health issues.

Florida (Miami)
Developing transit ads to educate about early warning signs and to promote early detection and diagnosis.

Georgia (Atlanta)
Developing billboard campaign to promote public awareness of dementia and an 800-number for more information/help.

Georgia (Atlanta)
Created ministerial alliance on Alzheimer’s and other dementias to work with state government to promote awareness in the African-American community through faith-based organizations.

Hawaii
Adapted existing print materials that encourage people to talk to health care professionals about memory problems, then disseminated the materials for placement in doctors’ offices.

Louisiana (New Orleans)
East New Orleans Health District——with the regional chapter of the National Black Nurses Association and potentially other organizations—held a community educational event that raised African Americans’ awareness of Alzheimer’s, dementia, and other cognitive health issues.

Maine
Maine Public Health Association devoted an issue of its e-newsletter to raising awareness about Alzheimer’s and other dementias.

Maine (Bangor)
Bangor Public Health Department will distribute hundreds of ‘Know the 10 Signs’ brochures throughout the region to enhance public understanding of the early warning signs of dementia, including Alzheimer’s, and the value of early detection.

Maine (Kennebunkport)
Kennebunkport Public Health Office nurses are partnering with their local Alzheimer’s Association chapter to host a series of talks on Alzheimer’s for public health staff and community members.

Maryland
Maryland Dept. of Health and Mental Hygiene—with the regional chapter of the National Black Nurses Association and potentially other organizations—held a community educational event that raised African Americans’ awareness of Alzheimer’s, dementia, and other cognitive health issues.

Massachusetts
Massachusetts Department of Public Health—with the regional chapter of the National Black Nurses Association and potentially other organizations—held a community educational event that raised African Americans’ awareness of Alzheimer’s, dementia, and other cognitive health issues.

Minnesota
With legislative support, Minnesota Department of Health created new program focused on providing outreach and dementia education to African-Americans, African-born residents, and Asian and Hispanic populations.
Minnesota (Northfield)  
Held a summit for individuals from the health care sector and community organizations to highlight the need for early detection and diagnosis.

Nevada (southern region)  
The Southern Nevada Health District with the regional chapter of the National Black Nurses Association, and potentially other organizations to host a community educational event that raised African Americans’ awareness of Alzheimer’s, dementia, and other cognitive health issues.

Oregon  
To promote early detection of Alzheimer’s disease among Hispanic populations, the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) of Oregon adapted an English-language fotonovela -- an educational tool with photos and a story narrative -- for Spanish-language communities. Involvement of promotoras enhanced cultural relevancy. The Alzheimer's Association, Oregon Chapter, the Oregon Health Authority, and many other partners now promote and distribute the fotonovela to Spanish-speaking communities, in part through public health networks.

Puerto Rico  
Puerto Rico Department of Health leads a partnership to implement the Commonwealth’s state Alzheimer’s plan by organizing Un Café por el Alzheimer. Through in-person and social media platforms, the initiative facilitates conversations among experts and community members about cognitive health and Alzheimer’s disease (via an NACDD grant).

South Carolina  
The Department of Health and Environmental Control works with the Alzheimer’s Association South Carolina Chapter to distribute 48,000 of the association’s Know the 10 Signs brochures through its regional offices to raise awareness, especially among African Americans.

South Carolina  
Worked with leaders in underserved communities to conduct culturally appropriate workshops on the differences between normal, age-related cognitive changes and the warning signs of dementia or other health conditions.

Texas (San Antonio)  
Published a column on Alzheimer’s disease in the local Spanish-language paper, with an emphasis on increasing awareness and promoting early detection and diagnosis.

Virginia (Petersburg/Crater Health District)  
The district—with the regional chapter of the National Black Nurses Association, Virginia Commonwealth University, and potentially other organizations—held a community educational event that raised African Americans’ awareness of Alzheimer’s, dementia, and other cognitive health issues.

Washington  
With the National Asian Pacific Center on Aging, the state tested University of Pennsylvania media messages with Asian American adults who may have concerns about changes in their aging parents’ memory or cognition.

E-03 Website Linkages
Encourage public health entities to provide links on their websites to local, state, and national dementia resources, including those specific to Alzheimer’s disease and caregiving.

Consumer-Oriented Online Resources
Federal portals for consumers  
http://alzheimers.gov
https://www.nia.nih.gov/health/alzheimers
http://www.eldercare.gov/Eldercare.NET/Public/Index.aspx

Alzheimer’s Association webpage  
http://alz.org

Know the 10 Signs awareness campaign  
http://alz.org/10signs

CDC general health information for older adults  
http://cdc.gov/aging/aginginfo/index.htm

Medicare Annual Wellness Visits  

Examples
California Department of Public Health  
https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CCDPHP/DCDIC/CDCB/Pages/AlzheimersDisease.aspx

Georgia Department of Public Health  
http://dph.georgia.gov/other-chronic-conditions-alzheimers-disease
E-04  Evidence-Based Messaging about Risk Reduction

Disseminate evidence-based messages about risk reduction for preserving cognitive health.

Public Health Education Resources

Administration for Community Living (ACL): resources to support community education

- Brain Health: You Can Make a Difference! (English & Spanish)
- Medicine, Age, and Your Brain
- Brain Injury

Alzheimer’s Association:

- Healthy Living for Your Brain and Body, Know the 10 Signs, and many other community education brochures and workshops

Messages for public health to use in existing health education and health promotion campaigns

Available upon request: mfrench@alz.org

Summary of the evidence on modifiable risk factors for cognitive decline and dementia: A population-based perspective (from the June 2015 edition of Alzheimer’s & Dementia)

Dementia as a Public Health Issue: A Look at Cardiovascular Risk Factors, Depression & Caregiving (video)

Global Council on Brain Health, an independent collaborative of scientists, health professionals and others, convened by AARP to offer “the best possible advice” about brain health


National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM): Preventing Cognitive Decline and Dementia: A Way Forward

National Institute on Aging: Forgetfulness: Normal or Not?

National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS): Mind Your Risks, a public health campaign to educate people about
controlling blood pressure in midlife to help reduce risk of stroke and possibly dementia

University of California, San Francisco: The Art of Maintaining Cognitive Health as our Brains Age


Background for Public Health Professionals and Health Educators

Alzheimer's Association: Public Health
Spotlight: Heart Health and Brain Health (one-page brief)


Institute of Medicine report: Cognitive Aging: Progress in Understanding and Opportunities for Action


National Council on Aging: Chronic Disease Self-Management Programs: Relevance for Persons with Dementia (recorded webinar)


World Health Organization (WHO): Tobacco and Dementia, WHO Tobacco Knowledge Summaries (2014)


Examples

California Department of Public Health developed infographic flyers for the public about protecting brain health.

Louisiana Department of Health distributed materials about brain health, advance financial planning, and advanced care planning (including brochures from the Alzheimer’s Association Louisiana Chapter) at various community events.

Department of Health created and disseminated a notice to state and local public health professionals encouraging use of ACL’s community education resources on brain health.

New Mexico Department of Public Health’s September 2016 Employee Wellness newsletter (sent to 3,200 state employees) focused on healthy aging. It included basic information on education and support for family caregivers of people with Alzheimer’s and other dementias; the link between healthy lifestyle and brain health, with encouragement to use the ACL Brain Health Resource toolkit; and advance care planning (general).

Department of Health and Environmental Control is integrating messages about brain health into existing health education campaigns.

Dept. of Health and Environmental Control developed a ‘Take Brain Health to Heart’ webpage—http://www.scdhec.gov/health/diseasesandconditions/alzheimers/takebrainhealthtoheart/—with information, tools, and other resources about brain health. As part of the state’s brain health campaign, the department and partners developed a set of PSAs to promote the new webpage and educate the public.

Utah Department of Health posted an Alzheimer’s Association anti-smoking message on the Facebook page of its Quitline campaign.

Vermont Tobacco cessation campaign – 802Quits – trained health care providers about dementia risk and smoking and provided a link to WHO’s tobacco and dementia brief.

E-06 Effective and Sensitive Communication

Identify and promote strategies for the public about how to communicate effectively and sensitively with persons with dementia, including Alzheimer’s disease, and their families.

Information and Resources

Alzheimer’s Association:

http://www.alz.org/training

Effective Communications Strategies (free,
online training session)

Communicating with People with Dementia
(3-part video series)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kPppik-FtGE&list=PLb15WDa0LdCYxu4Zx9pISVFClNCxxrpnU&index=16

Challenging Conversations About Dementia

Dementia-Capable Wisconsin – Training for all members of the community on responding appropriately to dementia needs, available in English and Spanish

http://training.alz.org/products/4043/challenging-conversations-about-dementia

South Carolina: Arnold School of Public Health (USC) and the SC Department of Health: Dementia Dialogues – 5-part training session on care for those with Alzheimer’s (CME credit)


I’m Still Me (YouTube video series featuring people from Northern Ireland who have dementia)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aJZ_YPy6mFA
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zgApIDPZiCg
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CPBbURIr7s

Examples

Minnesota

Chisago County Public Health Department supported training of local law enforcement officers and first responders on how to effectively communicate with and serve people with dementia.

http://www.cc.det.uwosh.edu/stc/dhsedementia/psciis.dll?linkid=995929&mainmenu=DHSDEMENTIA&top_frame=1

Texas (San Antonio)

Educated and trained all transit employees, senior center employees, and police department staff on Alzheimer’s basics, early warning signs of dementia, and dealing with people with dementia.

E-07 Advance Care and Financial Planning

Promote advance care planning and advance financial planning to care partners, families, and individuals with early-stage dementia.

Information and Resources

Alzheimer’s Association:

Financial and legal planning


Position statements on ethical, medical and care topics related to Alzheimer’s and dementia


CDC Advance Care Planning for consumers

http://www.cdc.gov/aging/advancecareplanning/index.htm

CDC Advance Care Planning as Part of the Public Health Agenda

http://www.cdc.gov/aging/advancecareplanning/professionals.htm

CDC Selected Resources for the Public

http://www.cdc.gov/aging/pdf/acp-resources-public.pdf

Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA) Training Curriculum: Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Dementias Supplemental Modules

https://bhw.hrsa.gov/grants/geriatrics/alzheimers-curriculum

https://bhw.hrsa.gov/sites/default/files/bhw/grants/geriatrics/Provid er_Role_in_Shared_Decision_Making.pptx

NIA: legal and financial planning for people with Alzheimer’s disease


The Conversation Project and Institute for Healthcare Improvement, Your Conversation Starter Kit for Families and Loved Ones of People with Alzheimer’s Disease or Other Forms of Dementia

http://www.jhartfound.org/blog/tools-you-can-use-conversation-starter-kit-for-alzheimers-disease-and-other-forms-of-dementia/#more-10882
Examples

Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment—with local Alzheimer’s Association chapters—is teaching first responders how to effectively communicate with and serve people with dementia.

Louisiana Department of Health distributed materials about brain health, advance financial planning, and advanced care planning (including brochures from the Alzheimer’s Association Louisiana Chapter) at various community events.

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene provides small grants to local health improvement coalitions to help them provide individuals with educational programs and resources on cognitive health, aging, and financial and legal planning.

New York State Department of Health partnered with University of Albany to provide free CME online training for primary care physicians, along with informational resources and tools. *Alzheimer's Disease and Advanced Directives: A Primer for Primary Care Physicians:* [http://www.albany.edu/sph/cphce/phl_0915.shtml](http://www.albany.edu/sph/cphce/phl_0915.shtml)

**E-10 Awareness and Prevention of Abuse and Exploitation**

Promote awareness of abuse and exploitation and support related prevention efforts as they relate to persons with dementia, including Alzheimer’s disease.

**Information and Resources**

- Alzheimer’s Association and National Center on Elder Abuse 2016 webinar: *Vulnerability, Cognitive Impairment, and Undue Influence—A Recipe for Mistreatment* (recording) [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u1lqSg206xo&authuser=0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u1lqSg206xo&authuser=0)
- CDC: information for professionals on elder abuse, including prevention strategies and uniform definitions to support surveillance [http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/elderabuse/index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/elderabuse/index.html)
- National Center on Elder Abuse [https://ncea.acl.gov](https://ncea.acl.gov)

**Examples**

- Minnesota Department of Human Services established a common point of entry for reporting abuse, neglect, and exploitation of vulnerable adults statewide, including those with dementia.

**Monitor and Evaluate**
**M-01  BRFSS and Data Surveillance**

Implement the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System’s Cognitive and Caregiver Modules.

**Information and Resources**


- Public Health Alzheimer’s Resource Center Data Collection (background information, state fact sheets)
- Alzheimer’s Data Collection and Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (video)
- CDC: Caregiver Optional Module http://www.cdc.gov/aging/healthybrain/brfss-faq-caregiver.htm

Public Health Alzheimer’s Resource Center Data Collection (background information, state fact sheets) http://alz.org/publichealth/data-collection.asp

**M-02  Translating Data to Practice**

Use surveillance data to enhance awareness and action in public health programming.

**Examples**

Rhode Island  BRFSS Office and state epidemiologist analyzed 2015 Cognitive Module data and are preparing a manuscript, which will be submitted to a regional medical journal.

**M-05  Economic Impact of Dementia**

Assess information about the economic impact of dementia on states and communities.

**Examples**

- California (San Francisco) Examined the costs and readmission rates of individuals with dementia in area hospitals.
- California (Santa Clara) Examined the costs to meet the needs of those with dementia and the gaps in financial resources in the health care system (e.g. clinics, hospitals) that might impede the ability of people with dementia to receive complete care from diagnosis to end-of-life.
- North Dakota University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences published “Estimating the Potential Cost Savings” in Health Affairs (2014), estimating the potential cost savings of enhanced caregiver support services and interventions for the state over a 15-year period.

**M-06  Needs Assessments to Identify Disparities and Opportunities to Address**

Support state and local needs assessments to identify racial/ethnic; lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender; socioeconomic; and geographic disparities related to cognitive health and impairment and help ensure materials are culturally appropriate.

**Information and Resources**


- Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO): Utilizing the Healthy Brain Initiative Road Map to Improve Population Health through Monitoring and Evaluation http://www.astho.org/Prevention/Healthy-Aging/Issue-Brief/Utilizing-the-Healthy-Brain-Initiative/
### Examples

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arizona</td>
<td>Arizona Department of Health conducted a community needs assessments for caregivers.</td>
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<tr>
<td>California (San Diego)</td>
<td>County public health agency conducted needs assessments in 2015 and 2016 and reported on the findings in <em>Alzheimer's Disease and Other Dementias in San Diego County</em>: <a href="http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdchhsa/programs/phs/community_health_statistics/Alzheimers.html">http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdchhsa/programs/phs/community_health_statistics/Alzheimers.html</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>California (Santa Clara)</td>
<td>Assessed where more resources are needed to assist in the early detection and diagnosis of individuals with dementia by mapping where people with dementia were &quot;entering&quot; the system (e.g., hospitals, aging services).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>Georgia Dept. of Public Health analyzed surveillance data to describe the prevalence of Alzheimer’s and related dementias among Georgia Medicare beneficiaries, including the overall burden, disparities, and impact on service utilization and related costs. Findings were published in <em>Alzheimer's Disease &amp; Related Dementias Among Medicare Beneficiaries -- Georgia, 2015</em>. <a href="http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdchhsa/programs/phs/community_health_statistics/Alzheimers.html">http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdchhsa/programs/phs/community_health_statistics/Alzheimers.html</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Maine</td>
<td>Developed GLBT-inclusive messaging for public awareness campaigns.</td>
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<td>Minnesota (Northfield)</td>
<td>Conducted a community-wide assessment of community organizations, nursing homes, and health systems to identify needs and gaps in services/supports and to determine what existing resources could be used to fill gaps.</td>
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<tr>
<td>New York</td>
<td>To address disparities, the New York State Department of Health funded a two-year referral and outreach demonstration project that primarily serves African-American and Hispanic communities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina</td>
<td>North Carolina’s Disease Event Tracking and Epidemiologic Collection Tool (NC DETECT), part of the state’s public health surveillance system, was used to analyze five years of data to obtain rates of emergency department visits with a dementia diagnosis: <a href="http://ncdetect.org/files/2016/12/EDVisitsDementialDiagnosis2010_2014EDdataFINAL.pdf">http://ncdetect.org/files/2016/12/EDVisitsDementialDiagnosis2010_2014EDdataFINAL.pdf</a></td>
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### M-13 Assessment of Technology-Based Services

Conduct a national-level literature review on the potential and optimal use of technology for delivering best practices in programs for caregivers and persons with dementia, including Alzheimer’s disease.

#### Examples

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<tr>
<td>New York</td>
<td>Expanded and updated the Alzheimer’s Disease Caregiver Support Initiative to include demonstration and evaluation of technology-based services for caregivers and persons with dementia.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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### Policies and Partnerships

#### P-01 State and Local Alzheimer’s Disease Plans

Collaborate in the development, implementation, and maintenance of state and local Alzheimer's disease plans.

#### Information and Resources

- **ACT on Alzheimer's: Dementia-Friendly Communities Toolkit**: [http://www.actonalz.org/toolkit](http://www.actonalz.org/toolkit)
- **Administration for Community Living: Dementia-Capable States and Communities: The Basics**: [https://nadrc.acl.gov/node/93](https://nadrc.acl.gov/node/93)
- **Alzheimer’s Association: information on state Alzheimer’s disease plans**: [http://www.alz.org/stateplans](http://www.alz.org/stateplans)
American Bar Association: Developing Dementia-Friendly Communities and Dementia-Capable Professionals (article, slides, webinar)  

Wisconsin Department of Health Services: Building Dementia-Friendly Communities toolkit  
[https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/dementia/healthy-brain-initiative.htm](https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/dementia/healthy-brain-initiative.htm)

**Examples**

California (San Diego): The Alzheimer’s Project: A Call to Arms  

California (San Francisco): 2020 FORESIGHT: San Francisco’s Strategy for Excellence in Dementia Care (a report presented at the 2009 Alzheimer’s and Dementia Summit)  

Georgia Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Dementias State Plan  
Sixteen Road Map action items included as official state plan recommendations

Massachusetts: City of Boston Alzheimer’s Initiative  

South Dakota  
South Dakota Department of Health staff serve on the working group that is developing the state’s first Alzheimer’s and other dementias plan.

Utah’s State Plan for Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Dementias  
Lawmakers declare Alzheimer’s disease to be a public health issue and provide appropriations to enable the Utah Department of Health to implement plan recommendations.

**P-02 Integration into Government Plans**

Integrate cognitive health and impairment into government plans (e.g., aging, coordinated chronic disease, preparedness, falls prevention, and transportation plans).

**Information and Resources**

Alzheimer’s Association: Public Health Spotlight: Safety Issues for Those with Dementia (one-page 2013 issue brief)  

CDC: Addressing Emergency Preparedness Needs of Individuals Living with Cognitive Impairment and Their Care Partners (issue brief)  

**Examples**

Colorado  
[https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/sites/default/files/SAPGA-Nov-2016-Strategic-Plan.pdf](https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/sites/default/files/SAPGA-Nov-2016-Strategic-Plan.pdf)

Indiana (Boone County)  
Boone County integrates provisions to reduce Alzheimer’s and dementia-related mortality in community health improvement plan.  
[http://boonecounty.in.gov/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=D2WDHH9SH8E%3D&tabid=130](http://boonecounty.in.gov/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=D2WDHH9SH8E%3D&tabid=130)

Minnesota  
Minnesota Department of Health will include dementia alongside other chronic conditions and obesity in its annual report regarding projected health and long-term care spending. Beginning in Nov. 2016, the health commissioner may apply any savings between projected versus actual outlays to state-administered health care programs.

Minnesota (Benton, Sherburne, and Stearns)  
County public health departments are developing a guide for employers on how to integrate dementia awareness and education, plus caregiver support, into worksite wellness programs.
Counties) Minnesota (Dakota County) Dakota County Public Health Department is enhancing evidence-based falls prevention programs to encourage early identification of people with dementia and to better serve this population.

Mississippi The Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) incorporated cognitive health into the MSDH Coordinated Chronic Disease Plan and the Health Promotion State Plan.

Mississippi Mississippi Department of Mental Health included dementia-specific considerations for improving access to care for those with Alzheimer’s.

New Mexico New Mexico Healthy Aging Collaborative includes “cognitive health” as part of its multi-agency effort to support elders in New Mexico.

Oregon Oregon Public Health Authority aids the integration of brain health and healthy aging into community health improvement plans through a partner meeting.

South Carolina South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control involved local Alzheimer’s chapters in the development of a strategic plan aimed at integrating cognitive impairment and caregiver issues.

Utah Utah Department of Health is working with local Alzheimer’s Association chapters and community groups to make St. George, Utah, a dementia-friendly community.

Wisconsin (Chippewa County) Chippewa Health Improvement Partnership sets out to create a dementia-friendly community.

P-03 Public Health Reports
Promote incorporation of cognitive health and impairment into public health burden reports.

Information and Resources


CDC’s Healthy Aging Data Portfolio (state and metropolitan) http://nccd.cdc.gov/DPH_Aging/Default.aspx


Examples

California: California Department of Public Health included Alzheimer’s data in its annual county health status profiles report. https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHSI/Pages/County-Health-Status-Profiles.aspx

California: San Diego County Health & Human Services Department report, Alzheimer’s Disease in San Diego County http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/hhsa/programs/phs/community_health_statistics/Alzheimers.html


Updated September 2017

2015 Population Health Needs Assessment

Oklahoma: Oklahoma City documented dementia prevalence among county Medicare beneficiaries


P-04 Healthy People 2020

Integrate Healthy People 2020 objectives on “Older Adults” and “Dementias, including Alzheimer’s disease” topic areas into state-based plans.

Examples

California (San Francisco)  Utilizing recommendations of the San Francisco city plan, Strategy for Excellence in Dementia Care, to reduce hospital readmission rates among individuals with dementia.
Iowa  Healthy Iowans includes delivery of Medicare annual wellness visits, which includes assessing cognitive function, in 2015 progress report:

http://idph.iowa.gov/Portals/1/Files/HealthyIowans/2015_progress_report.pdf

P-05 Differential Impact of Dementia

Engage national and state organizations and agencies to examine policies that may differentially impact persons with dementia, including Alzheimer’s disease.

Information and Resources

Alzheimer’s Association: Public Health Spotlight: Race, Ethnicity & Alzheimer’s Disease (2013 one-page brief)


Examples

California  California Department of Public Health convened stakeholder meeting (including health plans, health care providers, researchers, and community organizations) to update the Guideline for Alzheimer’s Disease Management (via an NACDD grant).
Minnesota  Convened a public stakeholder meeting with state agency staff (including public health, human services, and aging services) and community organizations to examine what policies (and what Road Map action items) can positively affect families with Alzheimer’s throughout the state.

Workforce Development

W-01 Public Health Professional Expertise

Develop strategies to help ensure that public health departments have expertise in cognitive health and impairment grounded in research and best practices.

Information and Resources

Alzheimer’s Association e-learning: The Basics: Memory Loss, Dementia and Alzheimer’s


Alzheimer’s Association: Educational materials

http://alz.org/publichealth/education.asp
and curriculum for public health professionals and schools of public health

ASTHO Healthy Aging Webinar Series http://www.astho.org/Prevention/Healthy-Aging/Healthy-Brain-Initiative/Webinars/

Federal (NIH, CDC, ACL): Alzheimer’s and Related Diseases Webinar Series for Professionals covering awareness building, research, and caregiver support


Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA) Training Curriculum: Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Dementias

https://bhw.hrsa.gov/grants/geriatrics/alzheimers-curriculum

Gerontological Society of America (GSA): KAER Toolkit


National Alzheimer’s and Dementia Resource Center (NADRC): Resources geared primarily for the aging services network supported by the Administration on Aging

https://nadrc.acl.gov

National Association of Geriatric Education Centers: education/training for health care professionals, including on cognitive health, impairment, and functioning.

http://www.n-age.org/nagec/

Examples

Alaska Department of Health and Social Services briefed public health and aging stakeholders about applying public health approaches to Alzheimer’s disease, including Road Map action items.

Arizona Department of Health Services trained over 400 health department and community health workers on core knowledge of Alzheimer’s disease, cognitive impairment assessment, referral, and caregiver support and services (via an NACDD grant).

Arkansas Department of Health briefed public health and aging stakeholders about applying public health approaches to Alzheimer’s disease, including Road Map action items.

Georgia State government established a position to coordinate work on Alzheimer’s disease and the implementation of the state Alzheimer’s disease plan.

Georgia Department of Public Health trained clinical staff (70 physicians and 75 nurse practitioners) about dementia and the need for increased awareness and diagnosis.

Illinois The Illinois Department of Public Health partnered with the Illinois Public Health Association to conduct a webinar with continuing education units to educate public health professionals about the role of local public health agencies in promoting early detection and diagnosis of Alzheimer’s and other dementias.

Minnesota University of Minnesota School of Public Health created a dedicated professorship focused on dementia education for public health students (anticipated to begin in 2016-2017 academic year). Curriculum development underway.

New Mexico Integrated basic information about cognitive impairment and dementia into New Mexico Department of Health’s process for onboarding new employees.

Louisiana Louisiana Department of Health conducted a workshop for its employees on advance care and advance financial planning.

Maine (Bangor) Bangor Public Health & Community Services invited Alzheimer’s Association Maine Chapter staff to an in-person meeting to educate its employees on how to prepare for the Alzheimer’s public health crisis, with an emphasis on early detection, early diagnosis and other Healthy Brain Initiative action items.
New Mexico
New Mexico Department of Health conducted a symposium on the public health aspects of Alzheimer’s at the New Mexico Public Health Association’s annual meeting.

New Mexico
New Mexico Department of Public Health’s September 2016 Employee Wellness newsletter (sent to 3,200 state employees) focused on healthy aging. It included basic information on education and support for family caregivers of people with Alzheimer’s and other dementias; the link between healthy lifestyle and brain health, with encouragement to use the ACL Brain Health Resource toolkit; and advance care planning (general).

New York
New York State Department of Health joined the Alzheimer’s Workplace Alliance and is providing extensive training for employees on Alzheimer’s and caregiving in partnership with the Alzheimer’s Association. As a first step, department leaders posted an article on its intranet to announce this new effort, and the article will be shared with other NY state agencies to encourage them to join as well.

Oregon
Oregon Public Health Division hosted a symposium for state and local public health officials on intersection of public health and Alzheimer’s.

Oregon
Oregon Health Authority and Oregon Department of Human Services conduct a statewide summit on Healthy Aging and the Healthy Brain Initiative during which both the Oregon Chapter and the Oregon Public Health Division educated health and human services professionals about the role of public health in addressing Alzheimer’s and caregiving.

Utah
Developing dementia-related competencies of primary care providers and non-health workforces across the continuum of care through Dementia Dialogues.

Wisconsin
Regional public health offices partnered with the Alzheimer’s Association’s Southeastern Wisconsin Chapter to educate local public health staff about dementia and the Road Map.

Wisconsin
With legislative support, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services will award grants to counties for their mobile crisis teams to obtain training on recognizing and serving individuals with dementia.

W-02 Introductory Materials for Public Health Professionals
Develop introductory, basic materials for public health professionals on cognitive health and impairment to help them understand their role.

Information and Resources
Administration for Community Living: Dementia-capable States and Communities: the Basics
Alzheimer’s Association:
  What You Need to Know about Alzheimer’s (facts, weblinks, short issue briefs, and video)
  The Healthy Brain Initiative: The Public Health Road Map for State & National Partnerships (video)
  Road Map (four videos, featuring different action items)
  Alzheimer’s Association 2017 Alzheimer’s Disease Facts and Figures (video)
  Alzheimer’s Curriculum for Undergraduate Public Health Students (video)
  Challenging Conversations About Dementia
Alzheimer’s Disease International (ADI):
  Dementia Friendly Communities (research, policy briefs, dementia plans, data and more)

http://www.alz.org/publichealth/what-you-need-to-know.asp
Introductory video: Understanding Alzheimer’s Disease as a Public Health Issue
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ymEC2QpxJlE&list=PLb15WDa0LDYXu4ZX9pISVFCt1NCxsrrpnU&index=7
https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLb15WDa0LDYXu4ZX9pISVFCt1NCxsrrpnU
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aLsVS0lrRD0&list=PLb15WDa0LDYXu4ZX9pISVFCt1NCxsrrpnU&index=19
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eK6rSk3QrDug&list=PLb15WDa0LDYXu4ZX9pISVFCt1NCxsrrpnU&index=15
http://training.alz.org/products/4043/challenging-conversations-about-dementia
https://www.alz.co.uk/dementia-friendly-communities
American Bar Association: Developing Dementia-Friendly Communities and Dementia-Capable Professionals (article, slides, webinar) http://www.americanbar.org/publications/bifocal/vol_36/issue_3_februay2015/dementia_friendly.html

Dementia-Capable Wisconsin – Training for all members of the community on responding appropriately to dementia needs, available in English and Spanish https://wss.ccedet.uwosh.edu/stc/dhsdementia/gsciis.dll?linkid=995929&mainmenu=DHSDEMENTIA&top_frame=1

Dementia Friendly America (tools and other resources for communities) http://www.dfamerica.org/

Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA) Training Curriculum: Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Dementias https://bhw.hrsa.gov/grants/geriatrics/alzheimers-curriculum


Examples

**Alabama**
Alabama Department of Public Health had one of its divisions, Alabama Public Health Training Network, conduct a webcast for public health professionals about Alzheimer’s basics, with a free CEU available for state employees. Almost 200 people participated, and the recorded training is posted on YouTube.

**Arizona**
Trained health department staff based on needs assessment findings (via NACDD grant).

**Hawaii**
The Hawaii Director of Health sent a “Dear Colleague” letter to physicians encouraging early detection and diagnosis, including through the use of the Medicare Annual Wellness Visit benefit. The letter recommended training and informational resources. Update to *Dementia Capability Curriculum* for public health professionals, clinicians, and aging services (via an NACDD grant).

**Maine**
Distributed the State Plan for Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Dementias in Maine – a special insert for health care providers on cognitive assessment tools, early detection, and the value of early diagnosis – to primary care professionals through hospital and health systems.

**Maryland**
Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene encouraged public health professionals to learn about cognitive health in its September 2016 Chronic Disease Connection newsletter: http://phpa.dhmh.maryland.gov/ccdpc/learning/Pages/Newsletters.aspx

**Minnesota**
ACT on Alzheimer’s (public-private collaboration), *Dementia Friendly Communities Toolkit*: http://www.actonalz.org/toolkit

**Mississippi**
Completed assessment of barriers, which if altered, would facilitate the integration of brain health into chronic disease programs. Results will help guide the development of introductory materials for public health professionals and future work.

**Missouri**
The Saint Louis University’s College for Public Health and Social Justice surveyed local public health agencies in Missouri, which revealed a need for more information about supports available to care partners for people with Alzheimer’s disease. The college worked with the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services and the Alzheimer’s Association, St. Louis Chapter, to send care partner brochures and resource sheets to all local public health agencies in the state.

**New Jersey**
New Jersey Department of Health arranged for the Alzheimer’s Association to brief its commissioner’s deputies on the Alzheimer’s Road Map and Alzheimer’s as a public health issue.

**New York**
The New York State health commissioner (New York Department of Health) sent a “Dear Colleague” letter promoting early detection and diagnosis, noting the availability of reimbursement through the Medicare Annual Wellness Visit and local support resources for both health care professionals and their patients.


South Carolina  South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, Division of Healthy Aging, included an article titled “November is Alzheimer’s Disease Awareness Month” in its monthly newsletter. The article provides basic information about Alzheimer’s disease.

Tennessee  Tennessee Department of Health arranged for the Alzheimer’s Association to brief about 20 of its top leaders on the Alzheimer’s Road Map and Alzheimer’s as a public health issue.


Wisconsin  Wisconsin Department of Health Services: Building Dementia-Friendly Communities toolkit: https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/dementia/healthy-brain-initiative.htm

**W-03 Continuing Education on Early Diagnosis and Detection**

Support continuing education efforts that improve healthcare providers' ability to recognize early signs of dementia, including Alzheimer's disease, and to offer counseling to individuals and their care partners.

**Information and Resources**

ACT on Alzheimer’s: Dementia Education  http://www.actonalz.org/dementia-education

Alzheimer’s Association:  http://alz.org/health-care-professionals/health-care-clinical-medical-resources.asp

Health Care Professionals and Alzheimer’s Resource Center

Early Detection of Alzheimer’s Disease (webinar)  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3ENlatzyUic&index=6&list=PLb15WDa0ldCyYu4ZX9pI5VFCTNCxrrpU


**Examples**

California (San Francisco)  Northern California and Northern Nevada Chapter of the Alzheimer’s Association convened a summit for emergency department physicians on detection and diagnosis.

Georgia  Georgia Department of Public Health hosts educational webinar for physicians on dementia awareness, Medicare Annual Wellness Visit, and the importance of early detection and diagnosis. continuing medical education (CME) credit available for successful completion.

Missouri  With the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, the Saint Louis University's College for Public Health and Social Justice conducted two webinar training for professionals employed with local public health agencies, adult protective services, and Veterans Administration. The first webinar covered Alzheimer's basics and the other addressed cognitive assessment tools. Participants were offered continuing education units.

Nebraska  The University of Nebraska Medical Center and the Alzheimer’s Association, Nebraska Chapter trained Alzheimer’s navigators across the state.

Utah Utah Department of Health contracted with Health Insight (a quality improvement organization) to query primary care providers about current efforts and challenges related to assessing for cognitive impairment and caring for people with dementia.

Vermont University of Vermont College of Medicine engaged public health students to document the medical community's views about assessing for dementia and preferences for training. Students subsequently developed an online course for the medical community.

Vermont Vermont Department of Health partnered with the Alzheimer’s Association, Vermont Chapter, to conduct a webinar for public health professionals on early detection and diagnosis.

West Virginia Alzheimer’s Association, West Virginia Chapter, provides education and training on Alzheimer’s and dementia in partnership with aging and disability resource centers, the West Virginia Geriatric Education Center, the West Virginia Hospital Association, and the Bureau for Senior Services.

Wisconsin Wisconsin’s secretary of health (Wisconsin Department of Health Services) sent a letter to the Wisconsin Medical Society encouraging health care providers and organizations to use available resources to promote awareness of cognitive impairment and dementia within the state, to enhance early detection and diagnosis, and to make referrals to in-state resources.

**W-04 Roles of Community Health Workers and Paraprofessionals**

Identify appropriate roles and determine effectiveness of community health workers, promotoras, patient navigators, and paraprofessionals with respect to care related to dementia, including Alzheimer’s disease.

**Information and Resources**

Dementia-Capable Wisconsin – Training for all members of the community on responding appropriately to dementia needs, available in English and Spanish


Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA) Training Curriculum: Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Dementias

[https://bhw.hrsa.gov/grants/geriatrics/alzheimers-curriculum](https://bhw.hrsa.gov/grants/geriatrics/alzheimers-curriculum)

**Examples**

Arizona Trained community health workers based on needs assessment (via NACDD grant).

Oregon Aging and Disability Resource Connection of Oregon published *¡Unidos Podemos! Enfrentando la pérdida de memoria en familia*, a fotonovela for Spanish-speaking community members on caring for loved ones with Alzheimer’s disease. The Oregon Department of Human Services, Alzheimer's Association's Oregon Chapter, and Oregon Health Authority now promote and distribute the fotonovela to Spanish-speaking communities and public health networks.

**W-05 Care Coordination**

Develop strategies to help ensure that healthcare professionals recognize the role of care partners in the care coordination of persons with dementia, including Alzheimer’s disease.

**Information and Resources**

ACT on Alzheimer’s: Dementia In-Person Training


California Department of Public Health: Guidelines for primary care providers

[http://www.caalz.org/home.aspx](http://www.caalz.org/home.aspx)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Examples</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>Updated the guideline for primary care providers on detection, diagnosis, communication of</td>
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<td></td>
<td>diagnosis, and care pathways; guidance includes information about the role of caregivers.</td>
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<td>New Mexico</td>
<td>New Mexico Department of Health mobilized the New Mexico American Academy of Family</td>
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<td>Physicians to post online fact sheets on care planning for people with cognitive impairment</td>
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<td></td>
<td>and the G0505 Explanatory Guide for Clinicians. G0505 is a new CMS billing code for</td>
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<td></td>
<td>comprehensive assessment and care planning (including the role of care partners).</td>
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<td>New York</td>
<td>The state health commissioner (New York Department of Health) sent a ‘Dear Colleague’ letter</td>
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<td></td>
<td>encouraging health care providers to conduct comprehensive assessments and care planning for</td>
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<td>people diagnosed with Alzheimer’s and other dementias. The letter highlights the new CMS</td>
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<td>billing code for this service, which assures caregivers learn about available supports. The</td>
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<td></td>
<td>letter also more broadly encourages advanced care planning.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oregon</td>
<td>Tribal health agencies added a session on caregiving for people with Alzheimer’s and other</td>
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<td>dementias in their annual caregiver summit.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Utah</td>
<td>Utah Department of Health partnered with the Alzheimer’s Association, Utah Chapter, to create</td>
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<td></td>
<td>a resource guide for health care providers on cognitive assessment tools, resources available</td>
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<td></td>
<td>for patient referrals, and the new CMS billing code (G0505) for comprehensive cognitive</td>
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<tr>
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<td>assessment and care planning (including the role of care partners).</td>
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**W-06 Healthcare Provider Education**

Educate healthcare providers about validated cognitive assessment tools that could be administered in such settings as physician offices, clinics, emergency rooms, and acute care hospitals’ admission offices.

**Information and Resources**

See also recorded webinar trainings in action W-01

- Alzheimer’s Association: written and video information for health care professionals; also an app to support assessment in primary care settings
  - [Challenging Conversations About Dementia](http://training.alz.org/products/4043/challenging-conversations-about-dementia)
- ACT on Alzheimer’s:
  - [Dementia Education Provider Practice Tools Video Tutorials on Cognitive Assessment](http://www.actonalz.org)
- Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA) Training Curriculum: Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Dementias
  - [https://bhw.hrsa.gov/grants/geriatrics/alzheimers-curriculum](https://bhw.hrsa.gov/grants/geriatrics/alzheimers-curriculum)
Gerontological Society of America (GSA): KAER Toolkit  

NIA: Assessing Cognitive Impairment in Older Patients: A Quick Guide for Primary Care Physicians covers the benefits of early screening and ways to screen quickly, accurately  

NIA: Talking with Your Older Patient: A Clinician’s Handbook, with a chapter on assessing for cognitive impairment  

South Carolina: Arnold School of Public Health (USC) and the SC Department of Health: Dementia Dialogues – 5-part training session on care for those with Alzheimer’s (CME credit)  

University of Kentucky: Alzheimer’s training for health care providers  
[http://www.cecentral.com/dementia](http://www.cecentral.com/dementia)

**Examples**

**California**  
California Department of Public Health convened a stakeholder meeting (including health plans, health care providers, researchers, and community organizations) to update the **Guideline for Alzheimer’s Disease Management** – an educational tool for primary care providers to detect, diagnose, and manage dementia (via an NACDD grant).

**California**  
California Department of Public Health worked with California Alzheimer’s Disease Centers to update the Alzheimer’s Clinical Care Guideline and provide a toolkit for community practitioners on early detection and diagnosis in support of the updated guideline.

**California**  
California Department of Public Health is working with the California Alzheimer’s Disease Centers to develop a toolkit for community practitioners on early detection and diagnosis. The toolkit will align with Alzheimer’s Clinical Care Guidelines.

**New York**  
New York State Department of Health awarded Centers of Excellence contracts to train physicians, nurses, and social workers about early detection and diagnosis.

**New York**  
Contracted with the University of Albany to analyze a representative sample of Medicare Annual Wellness Visit data in large physician groups’ health IT systems to assess the extent to which physicians are routinely performing cognitive assessments.

**Utah**  
The executive director of the Utah Department of Health issued a ‘Dear Colleague’ letter explaining the importance of assessing cognition during the Annual Medicare Wellness Visit.

**Utah**  
Utah Department of Health partnered with the Alzheimer’s Association, Utah Chapter, to create a resource guide for health care providers on cognitive assessment tools, resources available for patient referrals, and the new CMS billing code (G0505) for comprehensive cognitive assessment and care planning (including the role of care partners).

**Utah**  
Utah Department of Health worked with partners to plan and host a physician summit to identify validated cognitive assessment tools that can be used during patients’ Medicare Annual Wellness Visit and to begin developing physician guidance on cognitive assessment.

**W-07 Healthcare Professional Education**

Increase awareness among healthcare professionals about care partner health.

**Information and Resources**

Alzheimer’s Association: Dementia as a Public Health Issue: A Look at Cardiovascular Risk Factors, Depression & Caregiving (video)  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ceqawplWoo&index=5&list=PLb15WDa0LDcyxu4ZX9pISVFCtNCxrpnn](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ceqawplWoo&index=5&list=PLb15WDa0LDcyxu4ZX9pISVFCtNCxrpnn)

Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA) Training Curriculum: Alzheimer’s  
[https://bhw.hrsa.gov/grants/geriatrics/alzheimers-curriculum](https://bhw.hrsa.gov/grants/geriatrics/alzheimers-curriculum)
Stay Connected

Keep up-to-date on emerging programs, resources, policies, and issues related to Alzheimer’s disease and other dementias.

Alzheimer’s Association: Alzheimer’s Public Health News (newsletter/9 issues per year)  

National Association of Chronic Disease Directors: quarterly phone-based interest group on Alzheimer’s disease.  
For more information, contact David Hoffman, DPS, CCE, Director, New York State Department of Health, Bureau of Community Integration and Alzheimer’s Disease: david.hoffman@health.ny.gov