



## Alzheimer's Public Health News

June 2020

### Live Webcast: COVID-19 and Dementia

As public health agencies mobilize contact tracing efforts, tailoring will be necessary to communicate with and assist people living with Alzheimer's and other dementia, including their caregivers. Join us on Tuesday, June 30 from 1:30 to 2:00 p.m. EDT for **Contact Tracing: Special Considerations for Dementia**. Please [register in advance](#).

Guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) calls for special consideration for cognitive impairment in contact tracing. During the webcast, CDC experts will discuss the challenges that dementia can create on contact tracing communications, planning, and adherence to quarantine and self-isolation. Participants will learn about practical ways to effectively work with this population and resources their departments can use. A pre-recorded video with optional background information will be provided to all who register by June 28.

Please [register in advance](#) and share this notice with relevant colleagues.

### COVID-19 and Dementia Resources

- To complement the contact tracing webcast, a new [tip sheet](#) for public health agencies is now available. This guidance for state and local public health officials outlines the specific challenges dementia poses to contact tracing programs and personnel, and it offers actions that help improve communication, planning, and adherence to quarantine and self-isolation among those living with cognitive impairment.
- Many emergency medical services (EMS) personnel encounter individuals living with dementia on the job. An [editable poster](#) for EMS offers guidance for these health care providers on communicating effectively and compassionately among those with Alzheimer's.

### Alzheimer's Public Health Curriculum



A free, flexible curricular resource introduces Alzheimer's as a public health issue.

### The HBI Road Map



Designed for state and local public health practitioners, the Healthy Brain Initiative Road Map encourages 25 actions that help promote brain health, address cognitive impairment, and support the needs of caregivers.

### Road Map for Indian Country



Designed for American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) communities, the Healthy Brain Initiative *Road Map for Indian Country* is a guide for AI/AN leaders to learn about Alzheimer's and begin planning their response to dementia.

- As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, state public health agency staff are carrying bigger workloads with many also providing more care at home. A new [virtual case study](#) highlights an innovative approach to educating state employees about the challenges of dementia caregiving. The case study highlights an online training module developed by the Louisiana Department of Health to train supervisors on how caring for someone with dementia can affect their direct reports. The training describes ways supervisors and employers can support employees who are caregiving for others.

- Find downloadable tip sheets, additional information, related facts, and resources to guide the public health response at [alz.org/publichealth-covid19](#).

- Stay up to date with the latest information about and for older adults and COVID-19 from CDC at [cdc.gov/aging/covid19](#). Find the full CDC library on COVID-19 at [cdc.gov/covid19](#).

Learn about the public health approach to Alzheimer's with topic-specific primers, examples, and resources at [alz.org/publichealth](#)

### Contact

For more information on the Healthy Brain Initiative, public health priorities, or Alzheimer's disease in general, contact [Molly French](#) or check out [alz.org/publichealth](#).

---

## Alzheimer's & Brain Awareness Month

- June is Alzheimer's & Brain Awareness Month, calling attention to the impact of Alzheimer's and opportunities to reduce risk for cognitive decline.

- One well known risk factor for cognitive decline is high blood pressure. Many public health agencies could incorporate cognitive health into existing services and campaigns to lower incidence of hypertension. The action brief [Protecting the Heart and the Brain: Managing Hypertension to Reduce the Risk of Cognitive Decline](#) outlines ways public health can reduce risk of cognitive decline in populations through prevention and management of hypertension. An [executive summary](#) is also available.

- As part of Alzheimer's & Brain Awareness Month, the [Tennessee Department of Health](#) released a [public service announcement](#) (PSA) about risk factors associated with dementia. The PSA encourages individuals to exercise, engage in healthy behaviors, and talk to a health care provider about any cognitive concerns. To date, the PSA has been viewed over 3,000 times on social media.

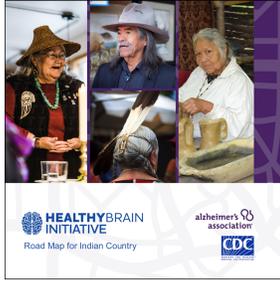
---

## Healthy Brain Initiative



The Healthy Brain Initiative's (HBI) [State and Local Public Health Partnerships to Address Dementia: The 2018-2023 Road Map](#) is designed to mobilize the public health community in mitigating the future impacts of Alzheimer's and other dementias, especially among

vulnerable populations. Read the [full Road Map](#), [executive summary](#) or get started with the [planning guide](#).



The Healthy Brain Initiative's *Road Map for Indian Country* is a guide for American Indian and Alaska Native leaders to learn about dementia, educate their communities, and start taking action against Alzheimer's. Read the [full Road Map](#), [executive summary](#), or

the [dissemination guide](#) to get started.

*The Alzheimer's Public Health E-News is supported (in part) by Cooperative Agreement #5 NU58DP006115-05, funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or the Department of Health and Human Services.*

For subscription services, please visit [alz.org/publichealth](http://alz.org/publichealth).