

Stages 5-7 of Alzheimer's Disease

Last month we reviewed stages 1 – 4 of Alzheimer's disease. This month we review stages 5 - 7 identifying common patterns of symptom progression and useful frames of reference for understanding how the disease may unfold. The following stages describe the moderate to severe stages of the disease:

Stage 5: Moderate, mid stage

The person with moderate Alzheimer's disease needs assistance with proper attire and other daily skills. There is disorientation in time. While unable to recall important information of their current lives, but still remembers major information about themselves, their family and others.

Stage 6: Severe decline

The inability to remember important information increases significantly. Patients may forget the name of their spouse, and will likely require assistance with dressing, bathing and personal care. Sleep disturbances are common, and personality and emotional changes may be more apparent. Patients may manifest delusional or obsessive behavior, acute anxiety and sometimes violent behavior.

Stage 7: Very severe, late stage

In severe Alzheimer's, speech ability becomes limited to just six or seven words. The ability to walk and sit up is very compromised. At this stage, the brain is literally unable to tell the body what to do.

This information is intended to help people have an understanding of Alzheimer's disease. However, it should never discourage the caregiver from seeing the person as an individual rather than a disease. Focus on what can be done and complement the individual's way of coping with dementia in the best way you are able. Consider joining a support group that will provide camaraderie, great ideas, help with coping skills, and the wonderful support of others on the same path...

There are many resources to help in your journey! Next month we will explore Adult Day Care and how that option can be helpful maintaining independence, quality of life, caregiver respite and much more.

Contact Legacy Harbor for additional information 321-253-6320

Calendar of Events

FREE CONSULTATIONS

Monday – Friday 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Legacy Harbor Memory Resource Center is open to offer a one-stop source of information, education, counseling, support, and referrals. One-on-one consultations are available with a Care Manager. Appointments suggested call 253-6320.

SUPPORT GROUP

Safe Harbor during the Storm

1:30 – 3:00 p.m.

The 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month are the time to share gentle conversation, care & understanding for those facing the uncertainty of caring for a loved one experiencing memory loss and dementia. Hosted by Rev. Donna Carey, VITAS Innovative Hospice Chaplain. For more information call Legacy Harbor at 253-6320

MEMORY SCREENINGS

Appointment necessary

FREE Memory Screenings available! Call for an appointment 253-6320.



One Senior Place
8085 Spyglass Hill Road
Viera, FL 32940
(321) 253-6320

www.OneSeniorPlace.com/legacy

