

Alzheimer's Disease Information Sheet

for Patients and Carers

What is Alzheimer's Disease?

Alzheimer's Disease is a progressive, neurological condition, which means symptoms develop gradually over a period of time, usually years. The first sign of Alzheimer's is minor memory problems but as the condition develops these symptoms become more severe and develop into further symptoms including:

- Disorientation, confusion and getting lost in familiar places
- Problems with speech and language
- Personality changes such as becoming aggressive and demanding towards others
- **Hallucinations** (seeing and hearing things that are not there) and **delusions** (believing things that are not true)

Financial Support

Carer's Allowance



Caring for someone can lead to money worries, especially if you are having to give up work. You are entitled to a free carer's assessment from Herefordshire Council who will then decide whether you are eligible for help. To arrange a care assessment call 01432 260101 or email the Adult Social Care team on ascadviceandreferralsteam@herefordshire.gov.uk

Attendance Allowance (AA)

Attendance Allowance (AA) is a benefit for people over State Pension age who need help with personal care or supervision because of illness or disability. The amount you get is based on the help you need and is not means tested. You can call the AA helpline on 0800 731 0122 or download a claim form from the government website (www.gov.uk). The form can be quite daunting but Age UK are a charity who can help with filling it in. They can be reached on their Advice Line at 0800 678 1602.

Wellbeing Support for Carers

CarerLinks



Supporting carers to improve their wellbeing through 1:1 support, information, advice, advocacy and signposting. Supporting with applications for Attendance Allowance, Carer's Allowance and blue badges. Linking carers with help and support. Visit the CarerLinks website at www.crossroadstogether.org.uk/our-services/carerlinks/carerlinks-herefordshire/ or call 01432 663057 or email herefordshire@crossroadstogether.org.uk

Alzheimer's Society

Providing local information and support to people with Alzheimer's and their families in the way they need it. Based at 178 Widemarsh Street, Hereford HR4 9HN. Call 01432 371137 or email herefordshire@alzheimers.org.uk

DVLA

You must tell the DVLA if you have Alzheimer's or dementia or you can be fined up to £1,000.00. You need to fill in a **CG1 form** and return it. You can find this form on the www.gov.uk website by entering "CG1 form" into the search box.

Council Tax

You will be eligible for **reduced Council Tax** if you are claiming certain benefits including AA. You can download a form for this on the Herefordshire Council website www.herefordshire.gov.uk or by calling **01432 260000**.

Useful Telephone Numbers

Adult Social Care and Occupational Therapy (Herefordshire Council)- 01432 260101

Wye Valley Trust Wheelchair Service (Wheelchair assessments) — 01432 363903

Dementia Matters Here(fordshire) for people affected by Dementia, their families and carers - 01432 804480

Citizens Advice Bureau Hereford (Benefits help and advice) - 0344 826 9685

Age UK Hereford Branch (Help applying for benefits, advice and support) - 0800 008 6077

