Setting the Stage: The National Plan to Address Alzheimer’s Disease

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National Alzheimer’s Project Act (NAPA)

Signed into law January 4, 2011

Requires the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to establish the National Alzheimer’s Project to:

- Create and maintain an integrated national plan to overcome Alzheimer’s
- Coordinate research and services across all federal agencies
- Accelerate the development of treatments that would prevent, halt, or reverse the disease
- Improve early diagnosis and coordination of care and treatment of the disease
- Improve outcomes for ethnic and racial minority populations at higher risk
- Coordinate with international bodies to fight Alzheimer’s globally.
- Create an Advisory Council to review and comment on the national plan and its implementation
Advisory Council Members
(Website: http://aspe.hhs.gov/daltcp/napa/#Council)

- Chair -- Ronald Petersen, Ph.D., M.D., Mayo Clinic
- 13 members representing:
  - People with Alzheimer’s disease
  - Caregivers
  - Providers
  - State government
  - Local government
  - Researchers
  - Patient advocates
- Department of Health and Human Services
- Department of Defense
- National Science Foundation
- Department of Veterans Affairs

Public

Federal Government
National Plan Development Process

- Federal inventory of work
- Input from the public – listening sessions
- Input from the Advisory Council
- Alignment with other HHS plans
- Made drafts available for public comment
- First National Plan released on May 15, 2012
Goals

1. Prevent and Effectively Treat Alzheimer’s Disease by 2025
2. Optimize Care Quality and Efficiency
3. Expand Supports for People with Alzheimer’s Disease and Their Families
4. Enhance Public Awareness and Engagement
5. Track Progress and Drive Improvement
National Plan

- Balance work on treatments with care needed by people with the disease and their families now

- National Plan, not just a federal plan: Requires engagement of public and private sector stakeholders

- Long-term goals, strategies to achieve those goals, and immediate actions

- Transparent reporting on progress:
  - Implementation timeline is appendix
  - Bi-annual reporting on progress to Advisory Council

- Living document: Updated annually
  - 2013 Update released in June 2013
  - Expect to release 2014 Update in Spring 2014
Progress to Date

- Developed recommendations on how best to advance research: [Alzheimer’s Disease Research Summit 2012: Path to Treatment and Prevention](#)

- Funded new research projects, including two major new clinical trials, genetics sequencing, and development of innovative new cellular models

- Provided resources to train >10,000 health care providers on topics from dementia diagnosis to effective behavior management

- Launched [www.alzheimers.gov](http://www.alzheimers.gov) to increase public awareness and connect people with a diagnosis and their caregivers with important resources
Progress (continued)

- CMS and NIH identified a set of brief tools that physicians can use to assess cognitive impairment.

- AoA/NIA Webinars on clinical trial enrollment and supports that researchers can refer families and patients to.

- ACL, Alliance for Aging Research, and MetLife Foundation report, “Translating Innovation to Impact: Evidence-Based Interventions to Support People with Alzheimer’s Disease and Their Caregivers at Home and in Their Communities”

- Specific Populations Task Force to identify the unique challenges faced by groups unequally burdened by Alzheimer’s disease. Report released July 24

- NIH meeting on AD for people with Down syndrome (April 2013)

- NIH research summit on other dementias (May 2013)
Questions?

http://aspe.hhs.gov/daltcp/napa/
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Watch Advisory Council meetings at www.hhs.gov/live