

Stay At Home Module Six: Creating a Plan for Loved Ones With Memory Loss



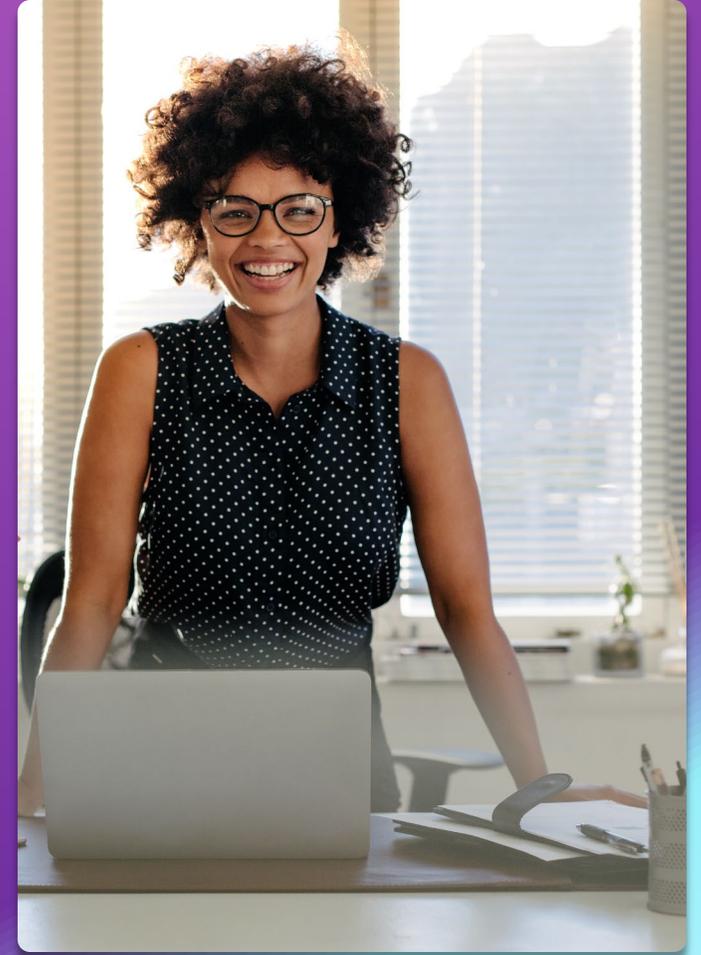
Early Indications, Progression & Recognizing
Signs of Memory Loss

THE CARING GENERATION® SERIES OF FAMILY CAREGIVER PROGRAMS

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Housekeeping

- I use the term “elderly parent or elderly parents.” Substitute this term with spouse, husband, wife, partner, grandparent, friend or the person for whom you provide care.
- The outline for this module is in the course materials for the program
- Print the slide handouts for each section so that you can make notes
- The ellipses . . . are purposeful to help you fill in the blanks about information WE discuss



Early Indications, Progression & Recognizing Signs

- Objectives of Signs of Memory Loss
 - To differentiate between events that happen with age and the treatment needs of elderly parents
 - To identify why dementia is undiagnosed
 - To recite 16 signs of memory loss
 - To explain why elderly parents may have difficulty accepting a memory loss diagnosis



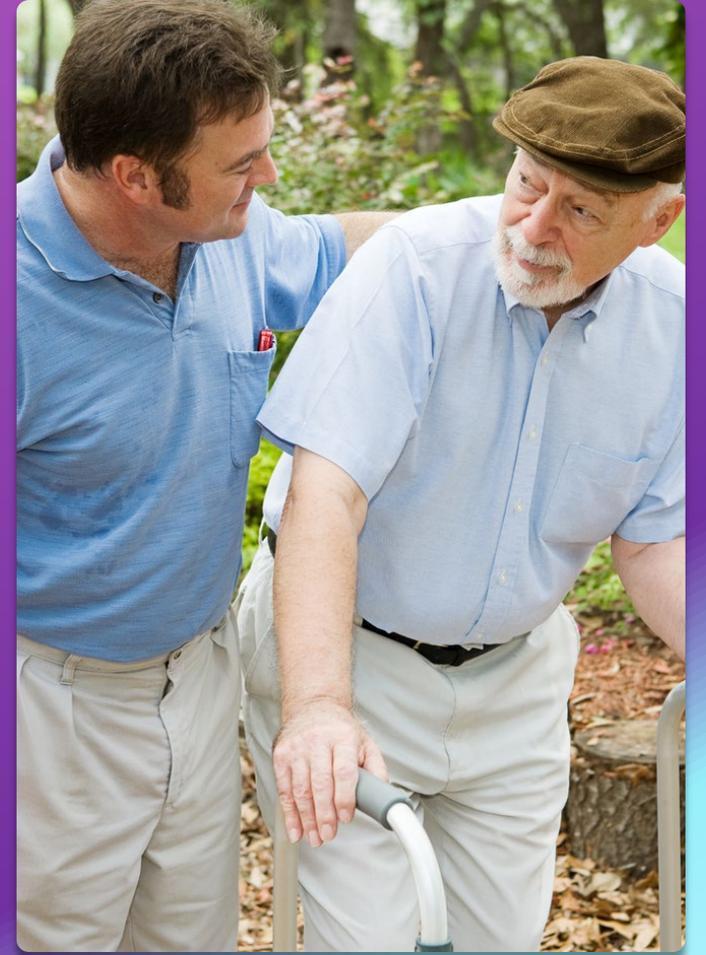
Things Happen With Age – Not Always!

- Signs of dementia may go unnoticed until an accident happens
- Things that happen with age rob people of creating . . .
- What are your thoughts about aging?



Care-Forward Living

- We can make up our minds about how we want to live regardless of . . .
- This mindset requires . . .
- You must be the change to fight against . . .



Why Dementia is Undiagnosed

- Bias – “people become old and physically weak.”
- We don’t notice physical changes
- There is no . . . event
- Aging adults do not . . .
- Years ago dementia was called “senility”



The Caring Generation® Podcast

How to Talk to a Parent With Dementia

- Primary caregivers become frustrated with family members who refuse to visit elderly parents diagnosed with dementia
- Other family members speak inappropriately
- Why does this happen?

The Caring Generation® Talk Radio

How to Talk to a Parent with Dementia



<https://pameladwilson.com/caregiver-radio-programs-the-caring-generation/>

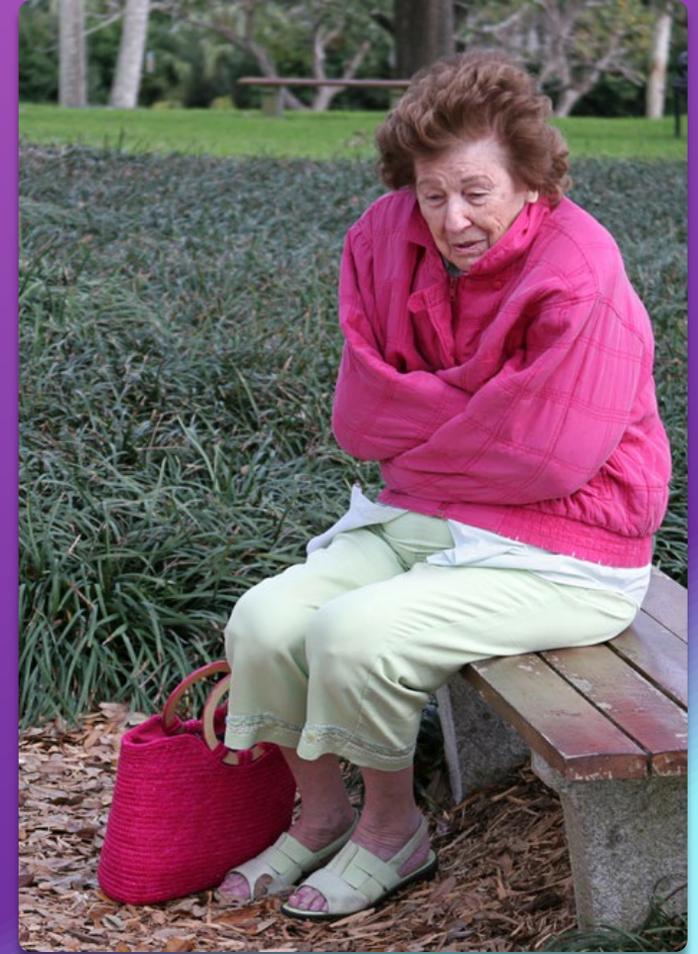
Sixteen Signs of Dementia (1-2)

- Difficulty paying bills, managing money or . . .
- Becoming isolated – Hope’s story
 - A consequence of isolation is . . . which occurs in about 40% of the population



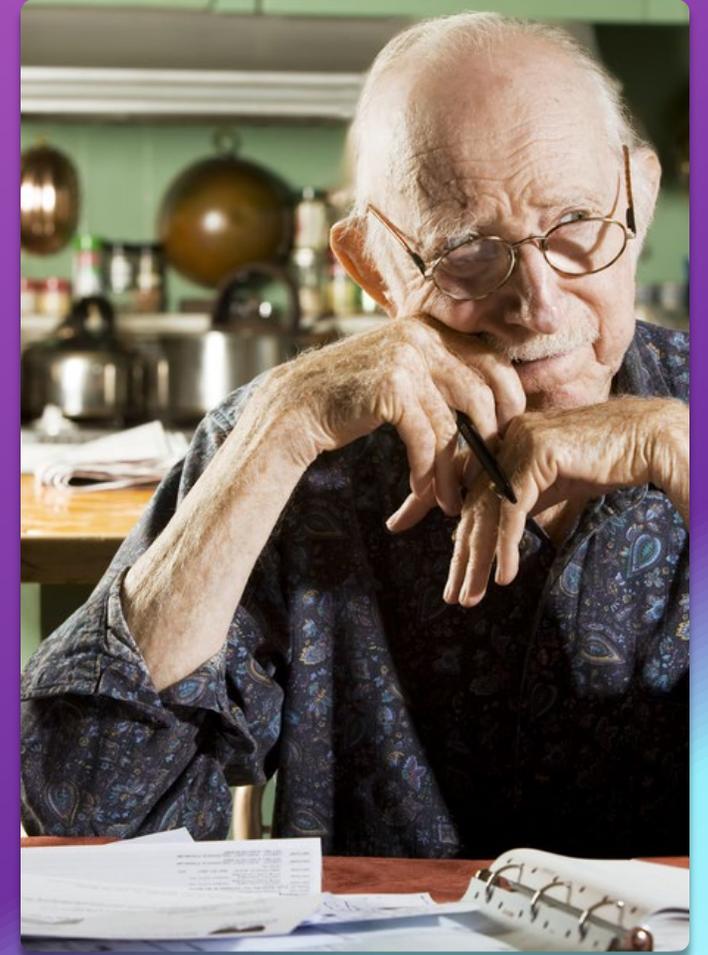
Sixteen Signs of Dementia (3-7)

- Making poor decisions or exhibiting . . .
- Forgetting recent . . .
- Forgetting to complete . . .
- Loss of social skills
- Inability to recall how to . . .



Sixteen Signs of Dementia (8-13)

- Trouble planning or . . .
- Orientation to day, date or . .
- Difficulty communicating or .
- Repetitive speech or . . .
- Visual or spatial activities
- Behaviors that change from day to . . .



Sixteen Signs of Dementia (14-15)

- Walking balance, and . . .
- Poor . . . Skills
- The George Weller Story



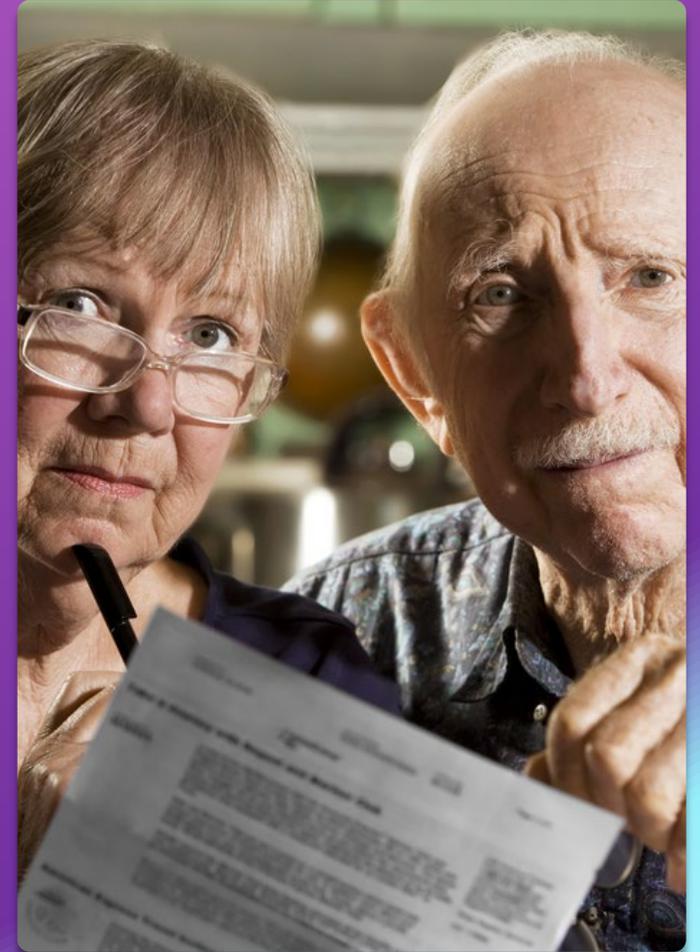
Sixteen Signs of Dementia (16)

- Accidents in the home



Difficulty Accepting a Diagnosis

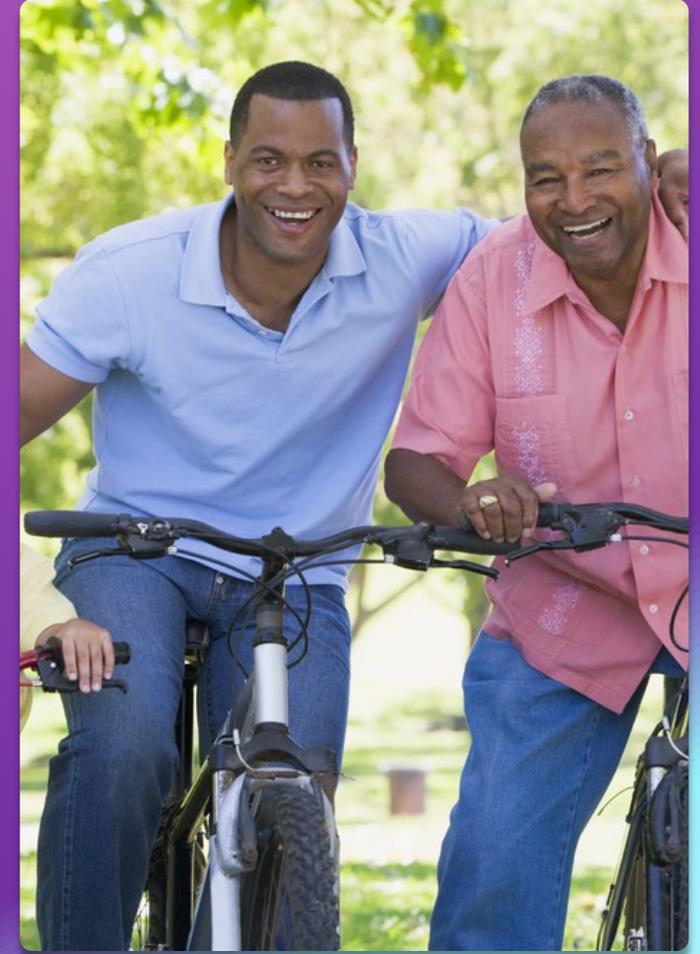
- A lack of definitive signs
- Memory loss creeps up just like caregiving tasks
- Admit to having memory loss but not knowing



Recognizing the Signs of Memory Loss

Summary

- Adopting a care-forward attitude and thinking
- Diagnosing supports conversations about consequences and care
- Noticing signs can indicate the progression of memory loss



The Signs of Memory Loss Summary

- Symptoms of memory loss begin 10-20 years before a diagnosis
- The consequences of MCI are not regularly discussed
- Noticing signs of dementia can lead to an early diagnosis

