

WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT DEMENTIA

- Does not discriminate
- Last In – First Out
- Life expectancy is eight to ten years after symptoms becomes noticeable to others. Individuals can live with this disease 20+ years depending on age and other health factors.
- New technologies allow even greater certainty in diagnosis. Clinical diagnosis of AD (by experts) is more accurate than the diagnosis of Lupus.
- Early diagnosis is vital

IMPACT ON THE CAREGIVER

- In the 2014 Alzheimer's Association poll, 41% of caregivers who provide care to a loved one with Alzheimer's or other dementias reported that no one else provided unpaid assistance.
- 16 million Americans provide an estimated 18.5 billion hours of unpaid care for individuals living with Alzheimer's or other dementias. The estimated value of this unpaid care is over \$234 billion.
- Approximately one-quarter of caregivers are “sandwich generation” caregiver meaning they are also caring for an individual under the age of 18.

WANDERING

- 6 in 10 individuals with Alzheimer's or other dementias will wander.
- Many cases end tragically if the individual is not found within 24 hours.
- Project Lifesaver - Personalized wristband that emits a tracking signal on an individually assigned FM radio frequency.
- In Alabama, Project Lifesaver has a 100% success rate.

PRESENTATION REVIEW

- Alzheimer's Disease has no known cure.
- Significant loss of memory is not a normal part of aging.
- Factors such as depression can cause dementia.
- You should not try to correct someone with dementia.