

# DEMENTIA CAREGIVER RESOURCES, INC.

THE DEMENTIA DETAILS DISPATCH JULY 2021

Karen Truman, PhD, President and Jeff Truman, MS Ed, Director

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www.dementiacaregiverresources.org



**SUPPORT GROUPS** are going to be starting in August! It is suggested that you call ahead to reserve your space and to make sure all is clear with these communities regarding COVID outbreaks or any weather threats.

**>Thursday August 12<sup>th</sup> 10:15AM**

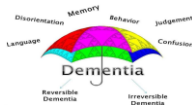
**ARAVILLA Clearwater Memory Care**

3055 Union St. Clearwater (727) **260-2826**

**>Tuesday August 24<sup>th</sup> Time: TBD**

**GRAND VILLA CLEARWATER**

2750 Drew St. Clearwater (727) **286-3479**



## WHY DO SOME ALZHEIMER'S PATIENTS GET SO ANGRY?

Alzheimer's Dementia is a debilitating disease. It begins with simple forgetfulness, slight mental confusion, and difficulty concentrating. As the disease progresses so do the severity of the symptoms. In the later stages, patients struggle to perform simple tasks and to recognize common things. More distressing to patients and their families are the behavioral changes such as sadness, depression, and loneliness, all of which often lead to severe mood swings and anger. No one yet fully understands why anger sets in with Alzheimer's patients in the later stages, but Alzheimer's aggression is a reality of the progression of the disease. Some doctors believe this aggression to be a symptom of the disease itself, while others see it as a result of a patient's frustration with their own cognitive decline. Whatever the cause, it is a phenomena that can be extremely distressing to the families of patients and their caregivers.

Sean W. Scott  
Elder Law Attorney

We qualify clients for Medicaid and veterans benefits to make the cost of care affordable for every family. Getting old is not easy. We help clients obtain benefits to pay for nursing home and assisted living care while preserving your life savings. We also plan for incapacity, and mortality with powers of attorney, wills, trusts and probate of estates.

*To make an appointment for a free consult, call: (727)539-0181*

Visit: <http://www.virtuallawoffice.com/>



## DEMENTIA & DELUSIONS

Approximately 8 million people in the United States are living with a form of dementia, a condition with a core feature of declining cognition (changes in memory, decision-making abilities, language, etc.) resulting in functional impairment. Dementia is a manifestation of an underlying condition which is often progressive and neuro-degenerative in nature. In addition to cognitive decline, dementing illnesses almost universally lead to neuro-psychiatric symptoms, including hallucinations, delusions, and changes in behavior. It is estimated that 2.4 million Americans (or 30% of people with dementia) experience dementia-related hallucinations and delusions. These symptoms may be frequent and severe and may recur over time. Dementia-related psychosis occurs frequently in person's diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, Lewy body, Parkinson's disease, vascular and Fronto-temporal dementia.

*This website may offer you more information and resources:*

<https://www.morethanmemoryloss.com/>



Light for the Journey - Courage for the Soul



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A copy of the official registration and financial information for Dementia Caregiver Resources, Inc., a Florida-based nonprofit corporation (registration no. CH8538), may be obtained from the division of consumer services by calling toll-free 1-800-help-fla (435-7352) within the state or visiting their website [here](http://www.dementiacaregiverresources.org). Registration does not imply endorsement, approval, or recommendation by the state.

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Many of you have heard the news that the FDA approved a new Alzheimer's disease drug. Aducanumab, which will be marketed under the trade name **Aduhelm**, is not only the first new drug therapy approved for Alzheimer's disease since 2003, it is the first medication that targets the underlying disease, rather than simply treating symptoms.

While Aduhelm represents a new treatment option for people with Alzheimer's disease, **Aduhelm has the potential to cause serious side effects.** About 40% of participants in Aduhelm clinical trials experienced brain swelling or bleeding. Although most had few or no symptoms, people taking Aduhelm should have regular brain scans to ensure they can continue to take the drug safely.

**Aduhelm will be costly to both patients and insurers.** Biogen, the company that manufactures Aduhelm, has set the price at **\$56,000/year.** The drug must be administered by infusion in a doctor's office, so the cost of the drug itself may be covered for older patients under Medicare Part B. People taking the drug, however, may have additional costs, including brain imaging to determine if the drug is likely to benefit them, as well as routine imaging to detect side effects. According to the latest reports, many Alzheimer's Experts Say Use of Aduhelm Should Be Sharply Limited. Much discussion has focused on the fact that many scientists, and the F.D.A.'s own independent advisory committee, say the evidence does not convincingly show that the drug works.

**Dementia Caregiver Resources, Inc.**

**P.O. Box 7677**

**Seminole, Florida 33775**



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## MEMORY DISORDER CLINICS

Floridians of any age suspected of having a memory disorder may request that a Memory Disorder Clinic conduct diagnostic evaluations to determine probable Alzheimer's disease or related disorders. In order to locate your nearest Memory Disorder Clinic, please visit this website: <https://elderaffairs.org/wp-content/uploads/memory-disorder-clinics-and-the-florida-brain-bank.pdf> The Memory Disorder Clinics also coordinate with law enforcement agencies after a Silver Alert has been issued.

## BRAIN BANK

Floridians of any age, regardless of a diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease or other related memory disorder, are eligible to sign up with the Brain Bank. Medical records documenting a general physical examination, neurological examination, hematological and biochemical studies, and a scan of the brain must be available. Visit this website: <https://www.msmc.com/neurosciences/wie-n-center-florida-brain-bank/> to learn more about the Florida Alzheimer's Brain Bank which supports the Alzheimer's Disease Research.



☺ **Your donations make all the difference**  
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