



Working together to link individuals and families affected by Alzheimer's disease and other dementias to a community of learning, services and support.

**Benefits to:
specialists, physicians
and other health
providers**

- ★ First Link® lets health providers focus on the medical aspects of dementia care. Staff at the Alzheimer Society can provide ongoing support, education and help in navigating the health care system.
- ★ The Alzheimer Society is able to provide information about issues that arise such as driving and advanced care planning.
- ★ This partnership provides a holistic approach to care, and may result in fewer unplanned visits to a physician's office or other medical facilities.

**Benefits to:
patients**

Early access to information, services and support.

Early intervention provides an opportunity for people with dementia to have a voice in planning for their own care while they are still able to do so.

Ongoing support throughout the continuum of the disease.

Intentional follow-up by Alzheimer Society staff gives care partners the information and support they need as the disease progresses.

Helps to reduce the overall incidence and intensity of caregiving crisis situations.

Care partners report they are more knowledgeable about expectations and are more confident in their caregiving role.

**Benefits to:
the health system**

- ★ Patients are connected to services at a local level for a more community-based, integrated continuum of care.
- ★ The hope is that early intervention through education and support will delay a move to a long-term care setting, reducing costs to the health care system.