First Link® to dementia support

What is First Link®?
First Link is a referral program designed to help physicians and other health care providers connect individuals with dementia and their care partners to Alzheimer Society of B.C services and support.

What does First Link® offer your patients or clients?
- Proactive contact with individuals and families, plus regular follow up.
- Early and ongoing access to reliable services, learning opportunities and support.
- First Link bulletins, with information about current education and support programs throughout the community.
- Connection to a supportive community of others living with dementia.
- Knowledge, confidence and skills to live a full life while facing the many challenges dementia brings.

You can refer your patient or client to First Link as soon as a diagnosis is made or at any other time on the dementia journey. The earlier the person is referred, the better their opportunities for participating in decision-making around health care and future planning.

How to refer to First Link®
- Ask the individual or family member for permission to forward their name to First Link.
- Complete a referral form and fax it to the Alzheimer Society of B.C.

First Link staff will contact the individual or designated contact person as soon as possible, or, if newly diagnosed, within 3-4 weeks to allow time to adjust to the diagnosis.

First Link will send a confirmation note to each referring professional when contact has been made.

Referring professionals also receive the First Link bulletins.

Working together to link individuals and families affected by Alzheimer’s disease or another dementia to a community of learning, services, and support.