



MAKING A REFERRAL TO *FIRST LINK*®

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

Who to refer to *First Link*®?

- Individuals with a diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia
- Caregivers
- Family members
- Individuals with a diagnosis of MCI(Mild Cognitive Impairment) or other memory problems

When to refer?

- As soon as a diagnosis is made
- At any other time in the dementia journey

Why refer?

- It is often difficult for individuals and families to ask for help
- Information and support will help patients and families cope with more confidence
- Planning for the future is critical
- There are community and health care services that families need to know about
- With knowledge and skills, people are able to maintain quality of life while living with dementia

Who can make a referral?

- Physicians
- Health Care professionals
- Home Care
- Community organizations working with individuals and families affected by dementia



How to refer?

1. Ask the individual or family member for permission to forward their information to the Alzheimer Society.
2. Complete the referral form and fax or email the form to the Alzheimer Society.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN *FIRST LINK*® RECEIVES THE REFERRAL?

Individuals or family members will receive:

- A phone call from the Alzheimer Society (for those newly diagnosed, we wait 3 to 4 weeks before calling to allow time to adjust to the diagnosis; others are contacted as soon as possible.)
- An information package specific to their needs
- Referrals to community and health care services that may be helpful
- Follow up contact at 3 months, 6 months, 9 months, 1 year etc.
- A quarterly newsletter to keep them informed about education and support programs available throughout the community
- An invitation to follow us on Facebook and Twitter

First Link® will send a confirmation to each referring professional when contact has been made with the individual or family.

For more information or to receive a referral form, contact us by:

Phone: 1-506-459-4280

Fax: 1-506-452-0313

Email: info@alzheimernb.ca