

In This Issue

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To those who have not directly experienced care of someone living with dementia (including but not limited to Alzheimer's), it is easy to assume that they are one and the same disease. As you read this issue, you will learn that they are not the same; that Alzheimer's is a form of dementia, and that dementias can significantly impact the individual, their family, their community, and the capacity of society to rise to the challenge of supporting them.

Two quotes well sum up the complexities of Alzheimer's and dementia:

“Alzheimer's is the cleverest thief, because she not only steals from you, but she steals the very thing you need to remember what's been stolen.” – Jarod Kintz

“A lack of social stimulation is harmful for people living with dementia. It exaggerates the impact of the condition, can lead to depression, and it encourages the person to withdraw into themselves.” – Bob DeMarco

One stark data point sums up the staggering scope and burden of Alzheimer's and dementia in general:

1 in 3 seniors dies with Alzheimer's or another dementia¹

We welcome James M. Ellison, MD, MPH, as guest editor of this issue. Dr. Ellison is the Swank Foundation Endowed Chair in Memory Care and Geriatrics at ChristianaCare, is a Professor of Psychiatry and Human Behavior at Sidney Kimmel Medical College, Thomas Jefferson University, and is himself Editor in Chief of the *Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry and Neurology*.

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Turning our attention now to a positive and exciting note:

After five years of publishing excellence, and dedication from staff, we are pleased to announce our acceptance and inclusion into the National Library of Medicine | National Institutes of Health PubMed® Central. PubMed® comprises more than 32 million citations for biomedical literature from MEDLINE, life science journals, and online books. Citations may include links to full text content from PubMed Central and publisher web sites – and our complete archives will be available there shortly, perhaps by the time you are reading this issue.

We extend our deepest thanks to ChristianaCare and Nemours for their investment that brought us to this point. And, of course, we thank all the past guest editors, authors, peer reviewers, graphics design team members, and many others for their own contributions to the cause.

References:

1. Alzheimer's Association. (2021). Alzheimer's disease facts and figures. Retrieved from <https://www.alz.org/alzheimers-dementia/facts-figures>

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