

Pancarte murale plastifiée Alzheimer's Disease - 50 x 67 cm



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33,00 €

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Alzheimer's Disease

This disease, named after the German neurologist who discovered it, Alois Alzheimer, is a chronically progressive disease of the brain. Over 30 million people worldwide are affected by Alzheimer's disease, and the number of people affected is projected to increase significantly in the coming years. The most common cause of Alzheimer's disease is the accumulation of amyloid plaques and neurofibrillary tangles in the brain, which lead to the death of brain cells and the subsequent loss of memory and cognitive function.

In the early stages, memory loss is the most noticeable symptom. As the disease progresses, other symptoms such as personality changes, mood swings, and difficulty with daily activities may appear. In the advanced stages, patients may lose the ability to recognize family members and perform basic self-care tasks.

There is currently no cure for Alzheimer's disease, but early diagnosis and treatment can help manage symptoms and improve quality of life. Research is ongoing to better understand the disease and develop effective treatments.

First signs of the disease

- Memory loss
- Increasing reluctance towards decisions
- Sleep problems
- Decrease of activities in daily life, possibly loss of own initiative, increased and/or reduced needs
- Decreased control over personal needs, inappropriate needs, irritability, restlessness

Early stage

(The decline in cognitive performance will also be apparent over several months, leading to a noticeable loss of independence)

- Disorientation of time and space
- Disorientation of person and place
- Impaired judgment, inability to solve problems and to follow instructions
- Difficulty in finding words and lower verbal fluency
- Impaired spatial perception

Advanced stage

(The patient is completely dependent on others for daily needs)

- Complete loss of memory
- Loss of personal orientation
- Loss of verbal skills for a few words
- Loss of functional skills and ability to perform basic tasks
- Severe weight loss
- Disorientation of time, place, person
- Loss of control over body posture
- Loss of control over bladder and bowel functions
- Increased delirium

Diagnosis

Diagnosis is primarily based on the presence of specific symptoms. The physician will draw on the description of the family members. The doctor must have had a substantial experience of the onset and progression of the disease and conduct an objective assessment compared to the past performance level. To assess the actual requirements of performance, the physician may employ various tests and methods. In addition, the doctor will examine the patient's medical history, the patient's own verbal and written reports of symptoms, the patient's own verbal and written reports of symptoms, the patient's own verbal and written reports of symptoms, the patient's own verbal and written reports of symptoms.

The causes

Approx. 70% of all cases of Alzheimer's disease are directly hereditary. In the remaining cases, the cause is a mixture of heredity, lifestyle, aging processes and other factors of the brain. Chronic alcoholism may also contribute to the development of the disease. Alzheimer's disease typically involves an accumulation of amyloid plaques in the brain, which lead to the death of brain cells and the subsequent loss of memory and cognitive function.

Treatment

An important factor for an Alzheimer's disease patient is being safe, ensuring a feeling of security and providing intellectual stimulation. The aim of the medication therapy is to delay the progression of the disease. There are also used to treat associated symptoms, such as depression, aggression, delirium, anxiety, insomnia or depression. Medication forms of treatment are especially important. These include: cholinesterase inhibitors, memantine and antidepressants. Family, social or self-help, self-management training and self-help groups. The aim of the therapy is to improve the patient's quality of life and to help them to live as independently as possible for as long as possible.

Altered nerve cells with neurofibrillary tangles

A few tips for family members

- Listen, talk and reassure. Talking provides security and orientation.
- Change any routine if it is necessary.
- Do not argue, quarrel and avoid confrontation with the patient.
- Avoid daily and daily in their activities.
- Care for the patient's health.
- Be prepared for rapid changes in the performance level.
- Do not argue. Take conflicts through discussion and mediation, not through force.
- Consider your strength. Continued needs are necessary and can be met.
- Check for safety hazards from others when necessary.
- Get in touch with a self-help group.
- Seek legal and financial advice in time.
- Contact physician or competent medical care.
- Check insurance in the region where available in your area.
- Attend courses to prepare yourself for providing home care.
- Prepare yourself in time for medical emergencies and in case for hospital care and/or home care arrangements.

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Alzheimer's Disease Handbook

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