

We Are Pleased to Present

National Speakers  
Universal Issues

# Issues in Aging

Virtual Event:  
Join us on [Zoom](#)

MONDAY • APRIL 19, 2021 • 9 AM - 3:40 PM



## 2021: Team Approach to Frailty Care

### AGENDA:

8:45 am | Sign In

9:00 am | *Cannabinoids for Agitation in Dementia: Clearing the Smoke*



**Krista Lanctot, PhD**, Senior Scientist  
Sunnybrook Research Institute, Professor of  
Psychiatry and Pharmacology, and Vice-Chair,  
Dept. of Psychiatry, University of Toronto

10:25 am | 5 minute slide break

10:30 am | *Caregiving in Diverse Populations*



**Sheria Robinson-Lane, PhD, RN**,  
Asst. Professor University of Michigan,  
Dept. of Systems, Populations and Leadership

12:00 pm | Lunch & email check

12:30 pm | *Aging in Place: Key to Good Life*



**Susan Stark PhD, OTR/L**, Assoc. Professor  
Occupational Therapy, School of Medicine  
Washington University in St. Louis

2:00 pm | *Love is Listening: Dementia Without Loneliness*



**Michael Verde, MA**  
Founder of Memory Bridge  
Bloomington, Indiana

3:30 pm | Q&A and Evaluations

### 6 CREDITS FOR:

Social Workers • Nurses  
Nursing Home Administrators  
Occupational Therapists  
OTAs • Physical Therapists  
PTAs • Case Management  
Educators &  
General Attendance

Professionals \$30  
Student/Family  
Caregivers \$15

[REGISTER  
HERE](#)

### OBJECTIVES:

- Be aware of current treatments for agitation in dementia
- Know the pharmacologic rationale for cannabinoid use in dementia
- Describe results for the most recent nabilone trial
- Discuss national trends in caregiving
- Identify dementia-specific concerns related to caregiving
- Describe clinical implications and research directions
- Understand how the home environment can influence behavior
- Define home modifications
- Recognize the primary source of suffering of people with dementia is emotional isolation
- Recognize that the chief contributing factor to the emotional isolation of people with dementia
- Distinguish recognizing a unique person from caring for a “person with dementia”
- Describe the differences phenomenologically between “care” as an action verb and “care” as a being verb

### Any questions?

Contact: Donna MacDonald  
at: 248-719-0640 or  
donnamacdonald@wayne.edu

www.iog.wayne.edu  
www.alz.org/gmc

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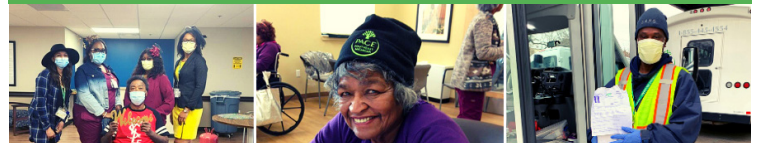
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Dr. Gwendolyn Graddy-Dansby  
Chief Medical Officer, PACE Southeast Michigan



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ANNUAL ONE-OF-A-KIND CONFERENCE



SAVE THE DATE  
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*A Meaningful Life with Alzheimer's Disease*

*Learn about state-of-the-art research, treatments and caregiving options for those living with cognitive decline. This is a collaboration between the WSU, Institute of Gerontology and the Greater Michigan Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association.*



*Alzheimer's Disease ...  
Diabetes of the Brain?*  
Scherrie Keating, RN  
BSN, CDCES, CDC, NDPP, Life Coach, CDP



*Impactful Caregiving - Step by Step*  
Jill Gafner Livingston  
BSBM, CDP, CADDCT



Stay up to date. View WSU, Institute of Gerontology lists at: [url will go here](#)



# Cannabis for Agitation in Sementia: Clearing the Smoke



## **Krista Lanctôt, PhD**

Senior scientist

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## **Research Summary:**

Neuropsychiatric symptoms associated with illness include mood changes, apathy, aggression and cognitive changes. These are common sequelae of many central nervous system disorders such as dementia, traumatic brain injury, cerebrovascular disease and stroke. Dr. Lanctôt's goal is to optimize treatment of these neuropsychiatric symptoms.

Her research addresses this goal by determining the underlying neurobiology of neuropsychiatric symptoms, examining predictors of treatment response, using novel pharmacological agents and carefully considering adverse drug events. Dr. Lanctôt's early focus was on the neurobiology of behavioural disorders associated with dementia. The goal of this research was to determine if behavioural subtypes can be linked to underlying neurochemical or neuropathologic dysfunction. A variety of tools including neuroimaging, serum biomarkers and pharmacologic challenges are used in combination with pharmacotherapeutic trials. Her group also identifies and assesses novel pharmacologic, exercise and dietary interventions for neuropsychiatric symptoms.

This research will contribute to our understanding of the link between dysfunction in various neurotransmitters, proteins, lipids and metabolites and neuropsychiatric symptoms. As such, it may provide the background for novel therapies and allow Dr. Lanctôt's team to predict response to interventions based on neurobiological subtypes.

A second focus of her research evaluates the impact of pharmacologic treatments at a population level, which includes measuring relevant health outcomes and quality of life, and modelling cost-benefit, cost-effectiveness and cost-utility of pharmacotherapies.

# Cannabis for agitation in dementia: clearing the smoke

Krista L. Lanctôt, PhD  
 Director, Neuropsychopharmacology;  
 Senior Scientist, Sunnybrook Research Institute;  
 Professor of Psychiatry and Pharmacology,  
 Vice-Chair, Basic and Clinical Science,  
 University of Toronto



Issues in Aging Conference, April 19, 2021

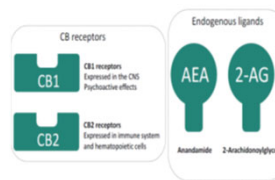
## THE ENDOCANNABINOID SYSTEM (ECS)

CPFC Col Templates: Slide 1

## Faculty/Presenter Disclosure

- Relationships with commercial interests:
  - Grants/Research Support: Cerevel (paid to institution)
  - Speakers Bureau/Honoraria: none to declare
  - Consulting Fees: BioXcel Therapeutics, Inc., Cerevel Therapeutics, Praxis Precision Medicines, Kondor, ICG Pharma
  - Other: none to declare
- Not related to content of presentation

## Endocannabinoid system (ECS)

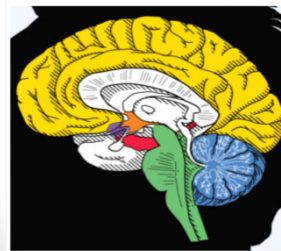


- widespread neuromodulatory system in the CNS
- comprised of cannabinoid receptors, endogenous cannabinoids (endocannabinoids)
- identification triggered exponential growth of studies exploring ECS as a possible therapeutic target

## Learning objectives

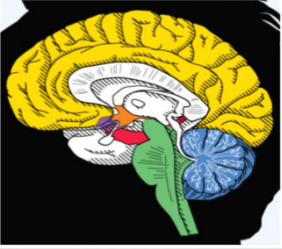
- At the end of this presentation learners will:
  - list the major cannabinoid receptors and their functions
  - summarize the evidence supporting use of cannabinoids in Alzheimer's disease
  - describe new results on efficacy and safety of nabilone for treatment of agitation in dementia

## Stimulation of the ECS has psychotropic effects



- Launch poll 1


## Stimulation of the ECS has psychotropic effects



- Cerebral cortex**
  - Altered consciousness, perceptual distortions, memory impairment, delusions & hallucinations
- Hypothalamus**
  - ↑ appetite
- Brain stem**
  - Antinausea, ↑ HR, ↓ BP, drowsiness, ↓ pain
- Hippocampus**
  - Memory impairment
- Cerebellum**
  - ↓ spasticity, impaired coordination
- Amygdala**
  - Anxiety +/-, ↓ hostility

## Available cannabinoids

Cannabinoid	MOA	Indication
dronabinol (Marinol®)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>synthetic THC</li> <li>CB1/CB2 partial agonist</li> </ul>	Antiemetic Appetite and weight loss (AIDS)
nabilone (Cesamet®)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>THC derivative</li> <li>CB1/CB2 partial agonist</li> </ul>	Antiemetic
THC and cannabidiol (Sativex®)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cannabis extract</li> <li>CB1/CB2 agonist + CB1 antagonist</li> </ul>	Neuropathic pain in multiple sclerosis
THC (Namisol®)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>pure natural THC (&gt;98%)</li> </ul>	n/a
Cannabidiol (Epidiolex®)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CB modulator</li> </ul>	Lennox-Gastaut syndrome and Dravet syndrome



## Cannabis

- 2 major neuroactive components in cannabis
  - Δ9-tetrahydro-cannabinol (THC) psychoactive
  - cannabidiol (CBD) non-psychoactive
    - non-psychoactive indicates lack of a 'high'
- Different strains have different ratios
  - C. sativa* usually has higher THC:CBD ratios than *C. indica*
  - Sativa* strains often have more psychotropic effects, and are more stimulating
  - Indica* strains are typically more sedating
- THC activates the endocannabinoid system
- CBD enhances endocannabinoid signaling
  - interacts with many non-endocannabinoid signaling systems: It is a "multi-target" drug

Devinsky et al 2014

## CANNABINOIDS FOR AGITATION IN ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE (AD)

## CBD and THC

- CBD may potentiate some of THC's effects
  - reduces THC's psychoactivity to enhance its tolerability and widen its therapeutic window
  - counteract some functional consequences of CB1 activation in the brain, possibly by indirect enhancement of adenosine A1 receptors activity
- preparations with high CBD:THC ratios are less likely to cause psychotic symptoms compared to low CBD:THC ratios

Devinsky et al 2014

## CB1 and CB2 activation in Alzheimer's disease (AD): possible benefits

<b>Clinically</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mild sedation</li> <li>Anti-anxiety</li> <li>Increase appetite</li> <li>Decrease pain</li> <li>Improve agitation?</li> </ul>	<b>Pathological processes</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Endocannabinoid signaling modulates numerous AD pathological processes [Aso &amp; Ferrer 2014]               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>neuroinflammation</li> <li>excitotoxicity</li> <li>mitochondrial dysfunction</li> <li>oxidative stress</li> </ul> </li> <li>Loss of endogenous cannabinoids in AD leads to loss of protection from excitotoxicity</li> </ul>
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Reviewed by Liu et al, 2016

What is the prevalence of agitation in persons with Alzheimer's?

**LAUNCH POLL 2**

### Agitation—impact

- Caregivers**
  - caregiver burden [Rabins et al 1982, Nygaard 1988, Keene 1999]
  - institutionalization [Steele et al 1990, Cohen 1993, Okura 2011]
  - principal management problem in nursing homes [Cohen-Mansfield 1986]
- Patients**
  - physical restraints [Evans 1988]
  - health problems (falls & weight loss) [Merriam et al 1988, Marx 1990]
  - functional decline [Lopez et al 1999]
  - risk of death [Walsh et al 1990, Allen et al 2005]

### Agitation as a treatment target: Prevalence

- Meta-analysis of 48 studies in AD
- Agitation/aggression is common in AD – 40% (95% CI 33-46%)

Symptom	Prevalence (%)
APATHY	49%
DEPRESSION	42%
AGGRESSION	40%
ANXIETY	39%
SLEEP	39%
IRRITABILITY	36%
APPETITE	34%
MOTOR	32%
DELUSIONS	31%
DISINHIBITION	17%
HALLUCINATIONS	16%
EUPHORIA	7%

*Zhao et al., 2016*

### Agitation is well-defined in AD

- Diagnostic criteria for agitation in cognitive disorders:
  - in patients with cognitive impairment or dementia
  - behavior consistent with emotional distress
  - manifesting excessive motor activity, verbal aggression, or physical aggression
  - cause excess disability and are not solely attributable to another disorder (psychiatric, medical, or substance-related)

**Agitation in cognitive disorders: International Psychogeriatric Association provisional consensus clinical and research definition**

Jeffrey Cummings,<sup>1</sup> Jacopo Mintzer,<sup>2</sup> Henry Brodaty,<sup>3</sup> Mary Sano,<sup>4</sup> Sudee Banerjee,<sup>5</sup> D.J. Swenson,<sup>6</sup> Sergio Gauthier,<sup>7</sup> Robert Isaacson,<sup>8</sup> Kristin Jacobi,<sup>9</sup> Constantine C. Lukanov,<sup>10</sup> Elaine Parkkinen,<sup>11</sup> Antoni P. Porcino,<sup>12</sup> Edgardo Reich,<sup>13</sup> Cristina Sambrano,<sup>14</sup> David Saffers,<sup>15</sup> Marc Wortmann<sup>16</sup> and Kite Zhang<sup>17</sup>

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Cummings et al., 2015

### Agitation is common in AD

- 10% in people with mild cognitive impairment [Ryu et al 2011]
- 15% in people with dementia presenting to memory clinics [Brodaty et al 2015]
- 30% in those living in the community [Borsje et al 2015, Lyketsos et al 2002]
- 20%–50% of those with moderate-to-severe AD experience agitation [Lyketsos et al 2002, McKeith & Cummings 2004, Pitalka et al 2004]

### The unmet need

- Nonpharmacologic interventions
  - First line therapy for agitation
  - Nonresponders
  - Limited efficacy for severe agitation
- Pharmacotherapy
  - No medications that are both safe and efficacious



## Cannabinoids trials in AD

### THC—2 negative trials

- N=22 dementia and NPS, double-blind, repeated cross-over, 2 wks, no change NPS (van Den Elsen 2015a)
- N=24 dementia and NPS, double-blind 6 wk RCT, no change NPS (Van den Elsen 2015b)

### Dronabinol (synthetic THC)—positive trials, few study participants/short duration

- 11 anorexic + AD, cross over 2.5 mg/d for 6 weeks, ↓ CMAI agitation 2\*, tolerability issues (Volicer et al 1996)
- 24 AD + agitation, 2.5 mg/d for 2 weeks (n=7), ↓ nocturnal motor activity, tolerated (Mahlberg et al, 2007)
- 2 AD + nighttime agitation, cross-over 2.5 mg/d for 2 weeks, ↓ nocturnal motor activity, tolerance (Walther et al., 2011)

### Nabilone (THC analogue)—no trials

- Case study (N=1), AD + NPS, 0.5 mg BID x 6 wks, ↓ agitation, well tolerated (Passmore, 2008)

## Nabilone trial



- Double blind, placebo-controlled, cross-over trial in 38 patients with agitation and AD
- efficacy and safety of nabilone (1-2 mg/d) versus placebo (6 weeks each)



## CBD trials in AD

### Efficacy

- No trials
- in Parkinson's disease, 400 mg/day of CBD was shown to decrease psychotic symptoms over 4 weeks (Zuardi 2009), improve sleep disturbances (Chagas 2014) and improve quality of life (Chagas 2014)

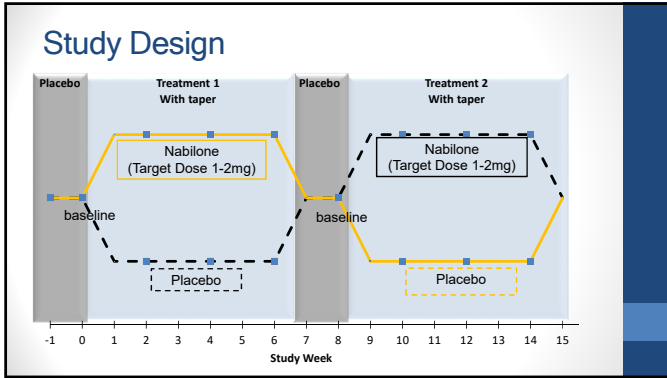
## Intervention

- nabilone
  - synthetic derivative of THC
  - CB1 and CB2 partial agonist
  - high oral bioavailability
  - duration of action 8-12 hours, given b.i.d.
  - marketed for nausea and vomiting associated with chemotherapy
- target dose 1-2 mg/d
  - Week -1: placebo run-in
  - Week 0: 0.25 mg qhs x 3 nights, then 0.25 mg BID for four days
  - Week 1: 0.5 mg once daily
  - Week 2: 0.5 mg BID (1 mg/d)
  - Weeks 3-4: increased to a maximum of 1 mg BID (2 mg/d total) or decreased based on tolerability
  - that dose maintained until down-titration

## THE NABILONE TRIAL FOR AGITATION IN AD

## Study Participants (n=39)

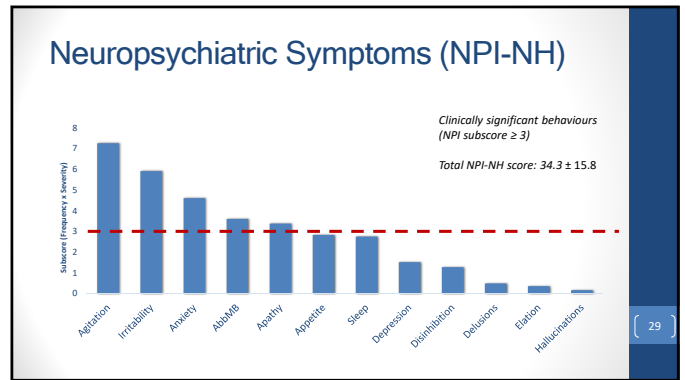
Inclusion	Exclusion
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ≥55 years of age</li> <li>• Diagnosis of AD or mixed AD (major NCD)</li> <li>• Moderate-to-severe stage dementia (sMMSE ≤24)</li> <li>• Clinically significant agitation (NPI A/A ≥4)</li> <li>• Stable dose of cognitive enhancer (≥ 3 months)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Change in psychotropic medications (≤1 month)</li> <li>• Contraindications to nabilone (history of hypersensitivity to cannabinoid)</li> <li>• Delusions or hallucinations</li> <li>• Current significant cardiovascular disease</li> <li>• Other psychiatric/neurological conditions, previous or current abuse of/dependence on marijuana</li> </ul>



### Patient characteristics (n=38)

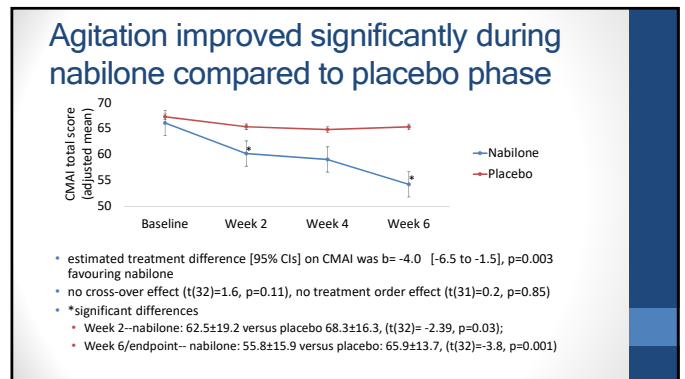
Baseline Characteristics	
CMAI	67.9±17.6
Met IPA criteria for agitation	97%
NPI-NH total	34.3±15.8
NPI-NH agitation/aggression	7.1±3.3
NPI-NH total caregiver distress score	12.7±7.9
MMSE	6.5±6.8
CGI severity	
Moderately ill	50%
Markedly ill	29%
Severely ill	18%
Extremely ill	3%

<b>Primary Outcome</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agitation (CMAI)</li> </ul>
<b>Secondary Outcomes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Behaviour (NPI-NH)</li> <li>NPI-NH aggression/agitation</li> <li>Cognition (sMMSE, ADAS-cog or SIB)</li> <li>Global Change (CGIC)</li> <li>Caregiver distress (NPI-NH)</li> <li>Safety (TEAE and drop-outs)</li> </ul>
<b>Exploratory Outcomes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pain (PAIN-AD)</li> <li>Nutritional Status (Mini-Nutritional Assessment-SF)</li> </ul>



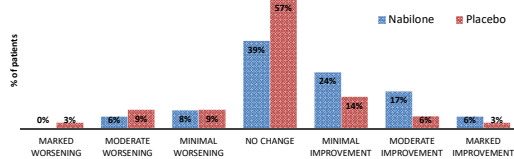
### Patient demographics (n=38)

Baseline Demographics	
Age	87±10
Sex (%M)	77%
% inpatient	72%
No. concomitant psychotropic medications	1.8±0.7
antidepressant	87 %
cholinesterase inhibitor	53%
atypical antipsychotic	45%
memantine	29%
benzodiazepine	5%



## CGIC during nabilone versus placebo phases

- CGIC “minimal” to “marked” improvement (McNemar’s test,  $p=0.09$ )
  - 47% improved during nabilone
  - 23% improved during placebo



## Tolerability

- mean nabilone dose  $1.6 \pm 0.5$  mg/day
  - 53% 2 mg/day, 13% 1.5 mg/day, and 34% 1 mg/day
- more sedation during nabilone (17 vs. 6 McNemar’s test,  $p=0.02$ )
  - no differences in treatment-limiting sedation (5 vs. 1 McNemar’s test,  $p=0.22$ )
  - did not contribute significantly to response
- no difference in
  - falls (8 vs. 7 McNemar’s test,  $p=1.0$ )
  - SAEs (5 vs. 4 McNemar’s test,  $p=0.69$ )
  - study discontinuations (3 vs. 2 McNemar’s test,  $p=0.08$ )
  - deaths (1 vs. 1)

## Agitation—secondary outcomes

- NPI-NH total significantly lower ( $b= -4.6$  [-7.5 to -1.6],  $p=0.004$ ) during nabilone
- NPI-agitation/aggression was significantly lower ( $b=-1.5$  [-2.3 to -0.62],  $p=0.001$ ) during nabilone
- NPI-NH total caregiver distress scores were significantly lower ( $b= -1.7$  [-3.4 to =0.7],  $p=0.041$ ), during nabilone
- CMAI IPA subdomain scores (physical aggression + physical nonaggression + verbal aggression) treatment difference also favoured nabilone over placebo ( $b= -3.8$  [-5.8 to -1.7],  $p=0.001$ )

## Weight loss and pain

### Weight loss

- common in AD
  - About 1/3 of patients with AD, with risk increasing as the disease progresses
- consequences
  - loss of muscle mass and strength, greater risk of falls, more functional dependence and lower quality of life
- associated with agitation

### Pain

- common in AD [Pickering et al 2000] but difficult to identify [Herr 2001]
- may be undertreated [Pickering 2000, Herr 2001]
- associated with agitation [Husebo et al 2011, 2013]

## Cognition

- significant difference in cognition (MMSE) ( $b= 1.1$  [0.1 to 2.0],  $p=0.026$ ) that favoured nabilone
- MMSE  $\leq 15$  ( $n=25$ ), there was a significant difference in SIB score ( $b= -4.6$  [-7.3 to -1.8],  $p=0.003$ ), that favoured placebo
- ADAS-Cog scores ( $n=3$ ) not analyzed

## Results: PAIN-AD

- PAINAD: The total score ranges from 0-10 points
  - 1-3=mild pain; 4-6=moderate pain; 7-10=severe pain
  - ranges based on a standard 0-10 scale of pain, but have not been substantiated in the literature for this tool
- Baseline average  $2.6 \pm 1.4$
- There were no treatment differences on the PAINAD scale ( $b= 0.03$  [-0.22 to 0.27],  $p=0.82$ )

## Results: MNA-SF

- MNA-SF: Max 14 points.
  - 0-7 malnourished; **8-11 at risk of malnutrition**; 12-14 normal
- Baseline average 8.7±2.9
- There were significant treatment phase differences on the MNA-SF score (b= 0.2 [0.02 to 0.4], p=0.03), favouring nabilone
- Average baseline weight: 67.9±14.1 kg
- No significant difference in weight change (kg) (b=0.01 [-0.69 to 0.71], p=0.97)

## Responder Analysis: NPI

	CGI Responder (n = 17)	CGI Non-responder (n = 19)	T or $\chi^2$	df	P-value
Delusions	0.6 ± 1.1	0.5 ± 1.1	-0.306	34	0.762
Hallucinations	0.2 ± 0.8	0.2 ± 0.5	-0.367	34	0.716
Agitation	6.7 ± 3.0	8.2 ± 3.1	1.538	34	0.133
Depression	2.4 ± 3.3	0.7 ± 1.4	-2.062	34	0.047
Anxiety	6.8 ± 4.5	2.9 ± 3.8	-2.798	34	0.008
Elation	0.8 ± 2.1	0 ± 0	-1.618	16	0.125
Apathy	4.7 ± 3.2	2.4 ± 3.4	-2.052	34	0.048
Disinhibition	0.9 ± 1.8	1.4 ± 2.7	0.697	34	0.491
Irritability	6.5 ± 3.1	5.7 ± 4.3	-0.580	34	0.566
Aberrant Motor Behaviour	4.4 ± 4.5	3.1 ± 3.7	-0.913	34	0.368
Sleep	2.6 ± 4.3	3.2 ± 3.5	0.477	34	0.636
Appetite	3.3 ± 4.3	2.2 ± 3.4	-0.929	34	0.359
<b>Total</b>	<b>39.8 ± 16.4</b>	<b>30.5 ± 14.6</b>	<b>-1.809</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>0.079</b>

## Responder Analysis: demographics and vitals

	CGI Responder (n = 17)	CGI Non-responder (n = 19)	T or $\chi^2$	df	P-value
Male	11 (64.7%)	16 (84.2%)	1.820	1	0.255
Age	83.0 ± 12.3	90.2 ± 7.2	2.098	25.3	0.046
Weight in kg	70.7 ± 13.7	65.1 ± 15.0	-1.169	34	0.250
Height in cm	167.5 ± 8.8	164.2 ± 12.3	-0.904	34	0.373
BMI	25.2 ± 4.4	23.9 ± 3.7	-0.967	34	0.341

## Biomarkers of nabilone response

- Oxidative stress and neuroinflammation
  - mechanistically relevant for ECS
  - cytokines previously associated with agitation [Ruthirakuhan et al 2018]
  - lower baseline TNF- $\alpha$  associated with decreases in agitation in the nabilone phase only (b=1.14, p=.045)
- 24-S-hydroxycholesterol (cerebrocholesterol (Cchol))
  - elevated brain cholesterol (reduced serum Cchol), associated with reduced membrane fluidity, preventing ligand binding to CB1
  - reduction in the production of Cchol due to neuronal cell death
  - Cchol associated with baseline agitation (CMAI IPA) (F(1,36)=4.95, p=.03)
  - did not predict response to nabilone

Ruthirakuhan et al 2019b, b

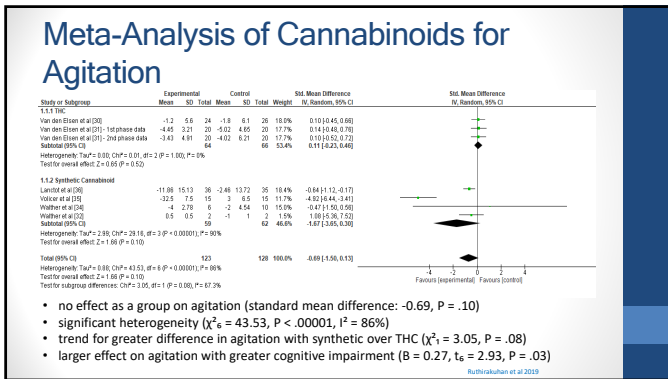
## Responder Analysis: Baseline scales

	CGI Responder (n = 17)	CGI Non-responder (n = 19)	T or $\chi^2$	df	P-value
sMMSE	8.7 ± 7.8	4.6 ± 5.4	-1.785	32	0.084
CMAI Total	74.4 ± 17.0	63.8 ± 16.9	-1.866	34	0.071
Physical Aggressive	21.9 ± 11.2	22.4 ± 11.6	0.112	34	0.911
Physical Non-aggressive	25.7 ± 8.2	22.7 ± 8.1	-1.106	34	0.277
Verbal Aggressive	8.1 ± 3.8	8.1 ± 3.7	-0.005	34	0.996
Verbal Non-aggressive	18.7 ± 6.8	10.7 ± 4.7	-4.146	34	<0.0005
MNA-SF	8.4 ± 3.0	9.1 ± 2.8	0.717	34	0.479
PAIN-AD	3.3 ± 1.3	2.2 ± 1.4	-2.561	34	0.015

## Study summary

- placebo controlled double-blind cross-over trial
  - no significant carry-over or treatment order effects detected
  - nonpharmacological interventions before trial, placebo run-in and washout, variable dose
- nabilone treatment was associated with a significant reduction in agitation over 6 weeks
- tolerability good
  - increased sedation warranting cautious dosing
  - questions remain regarding cognitive effects
- pilot study with a relatively small sample size
- signal and feasibility support future studies

Lancini et al 2019



### Survey of elderly cannabis users

Subject characteristics at intake visit	
Sample size	9,766
% Female	60%
Age (mean (SD))	73.2 y (6.8)
Prior cannabis use (n=7,230)	15.5%
<b>Disorder system – Pain</b>	
-- Oncological	10.1%
-- Psychiatric	7.9%
-- Neurological	7.0%
-- Others	7.3%

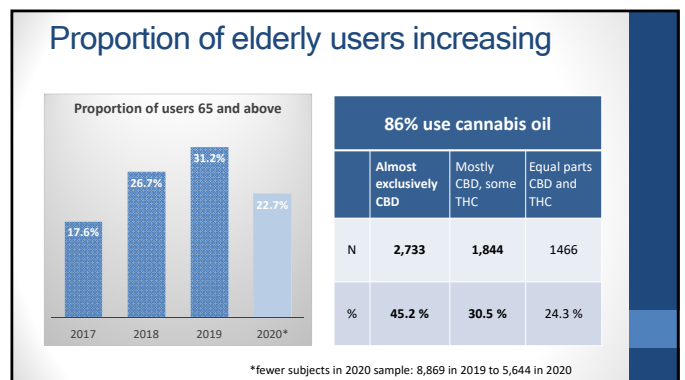
- Data from commercial medical cannabis provider based in Canada Oct 2014 to Oct 2020
- 9766 older users (23.1% of sample)
- Most (67.7%) referred for chronic pain. Neurological and psychiatric disorders in 14.9%
  - 44.5% OTC analgesics
  - 21.4% on antidepressants
  - 12.3% benzodiazepines

Tumati et al 2021

### Nabilone for Agitation Blinded Intervention Trial

- Treating agitation in patients with Alzheimer's disease
- Multi-centre, randomized, parallel-group placebo-controlled study (n=108)
- 1-2mg of nabilone over 8 weeks
- Investigators
  - K Lancôt (PI), N Herrmann (co-PI), G Marrota (QI), SE Black, A Burhan, D Gallagher, Z Ismail, D Seitz, B Pollock, T Rajji
- 5 sites: Toronto (3), Whitby, Calgary
  - CCNA Team 11 LTC Facilities

Launch Q1 2021



What do you think is the major reason for using medical marijuana among elderly?

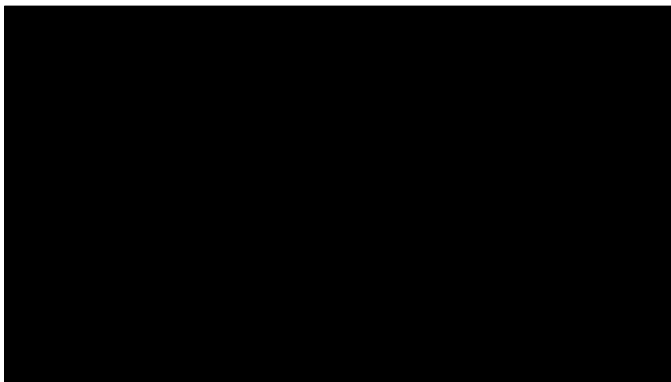
### LAUNCH POLL 3

### Cannabidiol (CBD)

- CNS effects**
  - neuroprotective [reviewed in Watt & Karl, 2017]
  - anxiolytic [reviewed in Margallo-Lana et al., 2001]
  - analgesic [reviewed in Boychuk, Goddard, Mauro, & Orellana, 2015]
  - anticonvulsive, sedative, antipsychotic, antiinflammatory and neuroprotective properties [Scuderi et al 2009]
- Safety**
  - CBD is metabolized by cytochrome P450 enzymes 3A4 and 2C19 [Alsherbiny 2018]
  - in vitro* and *in vivo* data suggest that CBD can inhibit CYP1A2, CYP2C19 and CYP3A4, which may result in drug-drug interactions [Alsherbiny 2018, Qian 2019]
  - clinical relevance yet to be established

## Summary

- increasing interest in the use of cannabinoids as a therapeutic intervention in dementia, particularly for agitation
- pharmacologic rationale exists for use of cannabinoids
- limited studies assessing the efficacy of THC and related compounds for agitation
- recent trial of a nabilone for agitation shows promise
  - efficacy, but concerns around sedation
- ongoing trials



## The WALLET Study: A Study of Memory Change and Money Management

The IOG study – WALLET (Wealth Accumulations & Later-life Losses in Early cognitive Transitions) – is recruiting men and women age 60 and older who manage their own household finances, but feel like their memory is slipping. All screenings done remotely. To learn more, [CLICK HERE](#) Questions? Contact Vanessa at 313-664-2604 or [vrarai@wayne.edu](mailto:vrarai@wayne.edu)

Participants will be **compensated**

- All financial records will be de-identified and information kept **confidential**
- Interviews will take place **over the telephone**



**Peter Lichtenberg, PhD**  
Principle Investigator  
and Director of the  
Institute of Gerontology  
Wayne State University



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### Interested in learning about our brain donation program?

Please call Matthew Perkins at 734-764-7648 or visit [brainbank.umich.edu](http://brainbank.umich.edu).

### Interested in learning more about our wellness programs?

Please call Ashley Miller at 734-615-8293 or visit [alzheimers.med.umich.edu/wellness](http://alzheimers.med.umich.edu/wellness).

### Interested in learning about our Lewy body dementia programs?

Please contact Renee Gadwa at 734-764-5137 or visit [alzheimers.med.umich.edu/lbd](http://alzheimers.med.umich.edu/lbd).

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[UM-Ask-MADC@med.umich.edu](mailto:UM-Ask-MADC@med.umich.edu)

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# Caregiving in Diverse Populations



**Sheria G. Robinson-Lane, PhD, RN**

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[grices@med.umich.edu](mailto:grices@med.umich.edu)

## Interests:

- Gerontology
- Health disparities
- Informal caregiving for dementia
- Adaptation and coping
- Mixed-methods

Dr. Sheria Robinson-Lane is a gerontologist with expertise in palliative care, long-term care, and nursing administration. She has focused her career on the care and support of older adults with cognitive and/or functional disabilities. Dr. Robinson-Lane is interested in the ways that older adults adapt to changes in health, and particularly how adaptive coping strategies effect health outcomes. Her research is focused on reducing health disparities for minority older adults with cognitive impairments and their informal caregivers. Prior to coming to the University of Michigan School of Nursing, Dr. Robinson-Lane completed an NIH-funded advanced research rehabilitation training program in community living and participation with the University of Michigan Medical School.

# Caregiving in Diverse Populations

Sheria Robinson-Lane, PhD, RN, MHA  
Assistant Professor

Department of Systems, Populations, and Leadership  
University of Michigan School of Nursing



## Funding

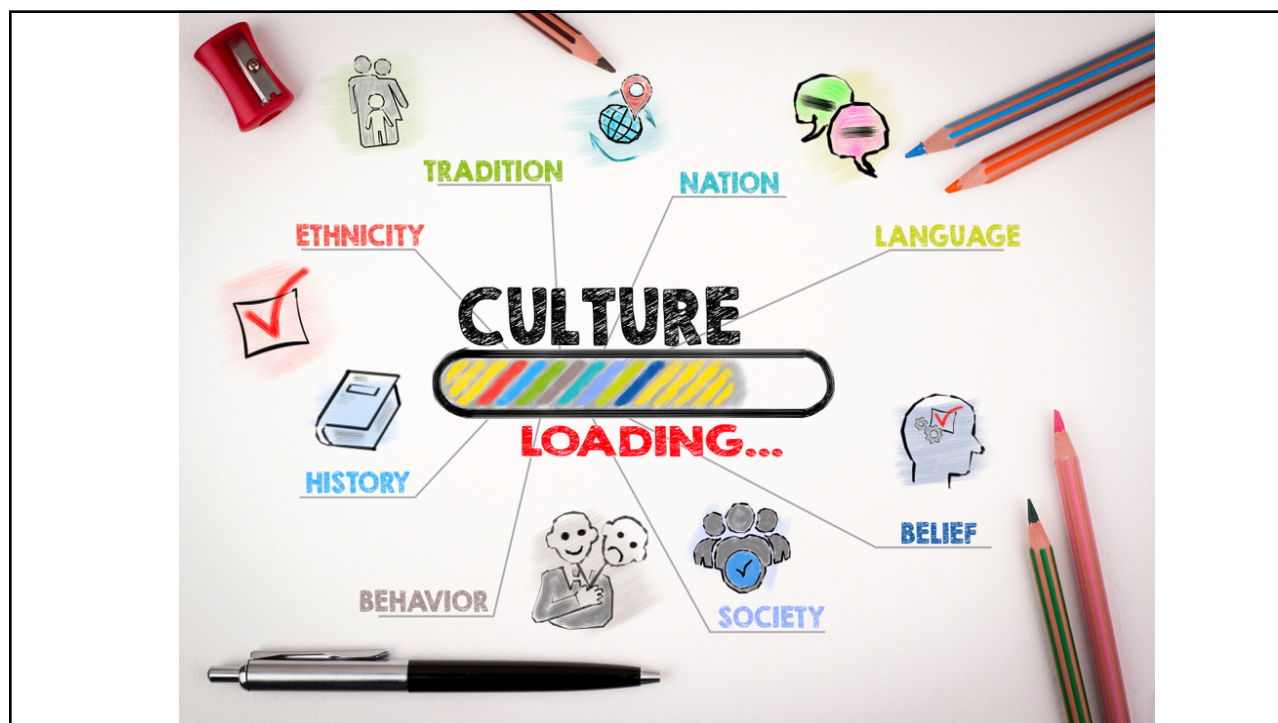
- Michigan Center for Urban African American Aging Research (P30AG015281)
- UMSN Center for Complexity and Self-Management of Chronic Disease (P20NR015331)
- Michigan Alzheimer's Disease Research Center/ Claude D. Pepper Older American Independence Center (P30AG053760/ P30AG024824)
- National Institute on Aging (K01AG06542001A1)

## Objectives

- 🎯 Discuss national trends in caregiving
- 🎯 Identify dementia specific concerns related to caregiving
- 🎯 Describe clinical implications and research directions

### Describing Diverse Populations: Race and Ethnicity





*“ ...if you look back in slavery days...all we had was each other to keep each other going. From young to old, we took care of everyone. I think that’s what we had to do. We were there for the sick. We were there for the babies. We were there for the White people’s babies...I think it’s just the caring nature that’s just in us, that just passed from generation to generation. ”*

The Meanings African American Caregivers Ascribe to Dementia-Related Changes: The Paradox of Hanging on to Loss 📄

Allison Lindauer, PhD, APRN 📧, Theresa A. Harvath, PhD, RN, FAAN,  
Patricia H. Berry, PhD, RN, ACHPN, FPCN, FAAN, Peggy Wros, PhD, RN Author Notes

# 16 Million Caregivers

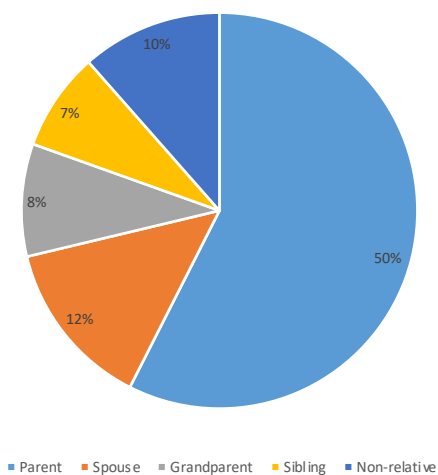
## Age and Caregiving

	Caregiver Age			
	18-49 (n=552)	50-64 (n=546)	65-74 (n=217)	75+ (n=237)
Recipient age 50-74	56%	23%	38%	21%
Recipient age 75+	25%	65%	53%	74%

Caregiving in the US 2020

## Caregiving Relationships

Caregiver Relationship to Care Recipient



Caregiving in the US 2020

**4.5  
Years**

## Types of Assistance Provided

### Instrumental Activities of Daily Living

- Telephone Use
- Shopping
- Transportation
- Paying Bills
- Preparing Meals
- Laundry
- Housework
- Taking Medications

### Activities of Daily Living

- Getting in and out of bed and chairs
- Getting dressed
- Using the toilet
- Bathing or showering
- Feeding
- Dealing with incontinence

Dementia family caregiving is associated with the **most** negative health outcomes

## Health Disparities

Preventable differences in disease burden, injury, violence, or opportunities to achieve optimal health:

- Disease risk
- Diagnosis
- Disease progression
- Treatment response
- Caregiving
- Access to care
- Quality of life
- Education
- Socioeconomic status
- Lifetime and lifestyle differences

## Black Dementia Family Caregivers

- High intensity care
- Long care trajectories
- Increased likelihood of:
  - poor health
  - lower income
  - future dementia diagnosis
  - premature death





## Black Dementia Family Caregivers

- Increased risk for Alzheimer's disease and other cognitive impairments
- Dementia related diagnoses late stage
- Income variances that affect care options
- Lower Education
- Lower Income
- Increased co-morbidities and overall disease burden

## Black Dementia Family Caregivers

- Poor Utilization of Support Services
  - geographical constraints
  - health system membership requirements
  - disease state specific
  - not culturally responsive in design



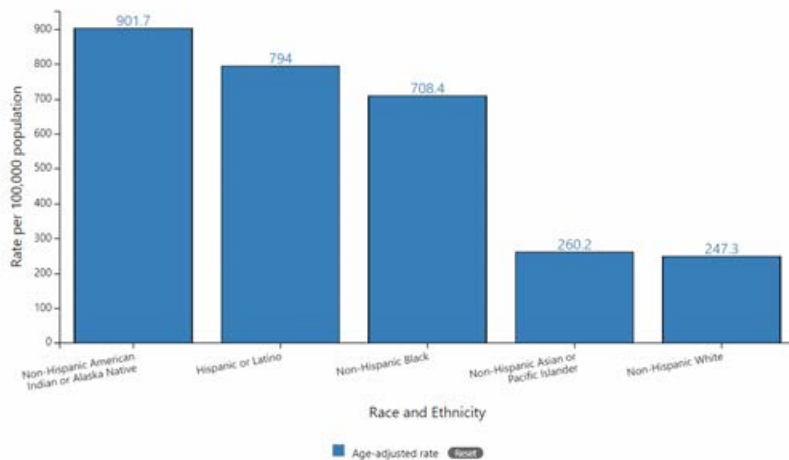
## Dementia Family Caregiving Concerns

- Hypertension
- Obesity
- Diabetes
- Depression
- Worsening overall health



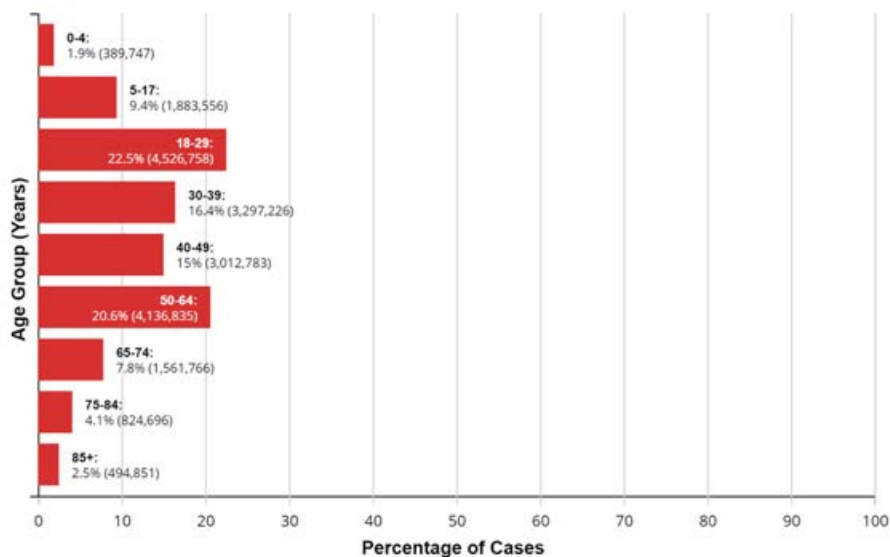
## COVID-19 Hospitalizations

Age-adjusted COVID-19-associated hospitalization rates by race and ethnicity — COVID-NET, March 1, 2020–January 30, 2021



[cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://cdc.gov/coronavirus)

## COVID-19 Mortality by Age



## Social Isolation and Loneliness Risk

Behavioural Science Section / Mini-Review

### Loneliness and Health in Older Adults: A Mini-Review and Synthesis

Ong A.D.<sup>1</sup>, Uchino B.N.<sup>1</sup>, Wethington E.<sup>1,2</sup>

Author affiliations

Corresponding Author

Keywords: [Mortality](#) [Loneliness](#) [Social isolation](#) [Older adults](#) [Health](#) [Morbidity](#)

Gerontology 2016;62:443-449

- Single Women
- Few social contacts
- Worsening Health
- Limited Education
- Low Income

## Social Isolation Effects on Health

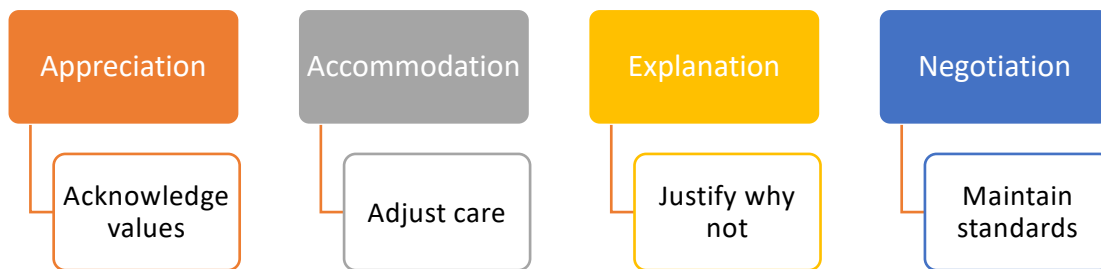
- Decreased Gait Speed
- Poorer Cognition
- Depression
- Worsening Health
- Impaired day-time functioning
- Poor Sleep Quality
- Increased Death



## A Closer Look at Risk: Health Disparities



## Culturally Congruent Care



(Schim & Doorenbos, 2010)

## Culturally Responsive Protocols

1. Engage focus groups prior to study implementation
2. Consider population “facts” and evaluate for bias
3. Implement targeted recruitment strategies
4. Managing hard-to-reach populations



## Connect to the Right Support

- Available support services vary by county
- Families often unaware of available programs
- Key resources:
  - Area Agencies on Aging
  - Senior Centers
  - Houses of worship
- Use low level tech to stay connected
- Complete advance directives

Recognize Assist Include  
Support and Engage  
(RAISE) Family Caregivers  
Act of 2018

Family Caregiver Advisory Council



- Promote person/family centered care
- Engage person/family in assessments and service planning
- Improve dementia education
- Expand respite options
- Reduce financial insecurity

National Alliance for Caregiving 2021

## Next Steps

- Investigate relationships between health and adaptive coping strategies
- Leverage technology as a tool to provide education, connect caregivers with one another, and identify resources
- Develop community informed interventions

## Thanks to the TEAM

### **Project Manger**

Kayla DeMarco

### **Research Assistant**

Nicholas Mazzara

### **UROP Students**

Jada Jackson

Jessica Lipchin

Rachel Zhang

### **Doctoral Student**

Florence Johnson

### **Mentors**

Bruno Giordani, PhD

Marita Titler, PhD, RN, FAAN

Ivo Dinov, PhD

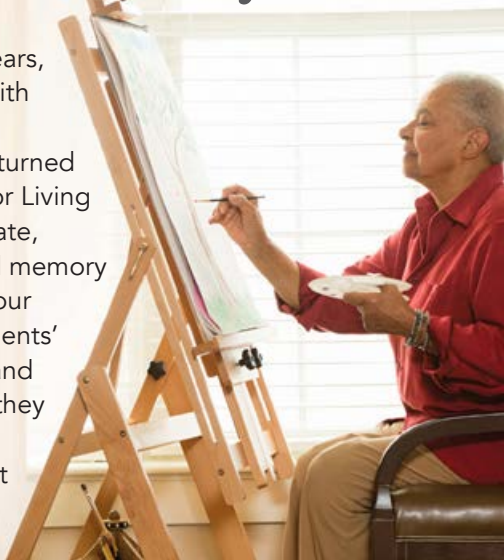
Email: [Grices@umich.edu](mailto:Grices@umich.edu)

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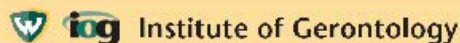
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## Aging in Place: Key to Good Life



**Susan Stark, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA**

Associate Professor of Occupational Therapy,  
Neurology and Social Work  
Washington University, St. Louis

Phone: (314) 273-4114

Fax: (314) 286-1601

sstark@wustl.edu

### **Clinical Interests:**

Home modification interventions to support aging in place, implementation of evidence-based interventions

### **Research Interests:**

Community dwelling older adults with chronic health conditions face functional decline that impacts their ability to live independently. They are more likely to require assistance performing their daily activities and are at a substantially greater risk of falling. Compensating for impairments with environmental support and self-management strategies can lessen the impact of functional decline, reduce the risk of falling and reduce the demand on health systems and caregivers. Dr. Stark's clinical translational research seeks to develop and test the efficacy and effectiveness of compensatory interventions aimed at improving an older adults ability to age at home safely, elucidate their mechanism of action and implement programs to improve health outcomes.

Wayne State  
Institute of Gerontology  
Issues in Aging

MONDAY • APRIL 19, 2021

Aging in Place: Key to Good Life  
Susy Stark, PhD

## Disclosures

No Stocks or business interests

No Speakers bureaus

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90DPCP0001-01-00

NIH, NICHD, R01 1R01AG057680-01A1

National Alzheimer's Collaborating Center 2017-  
01

I practiced as a **home care therapist**  
before becoming a clinical translational  
scientist

My lens: how the **environment can  
influence behavior.**

I began my career developing evidence  
to support **home modifications** for  
people with disabilities (adults and  
older adults).

I grew up in Alma, Michigan!

Susy Stark, 2021

## Overview for today

Falls and function  
Home modifications to improve function  
Home Hazard Removal to prevent falls

Susy Stark, 2021

## “aging in place”

The vast majority of older adults want to age in place, so they can continue to live in their own homes or communities.

## Where do older adults live?

4% live in institutions  
(nursing homes)

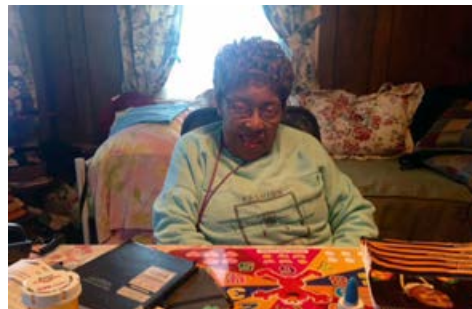


2.4% live in situations with  
supportive services



## Most live “at home”

90% of older adults live in  
single-family homes and  
apartments; 80% own them

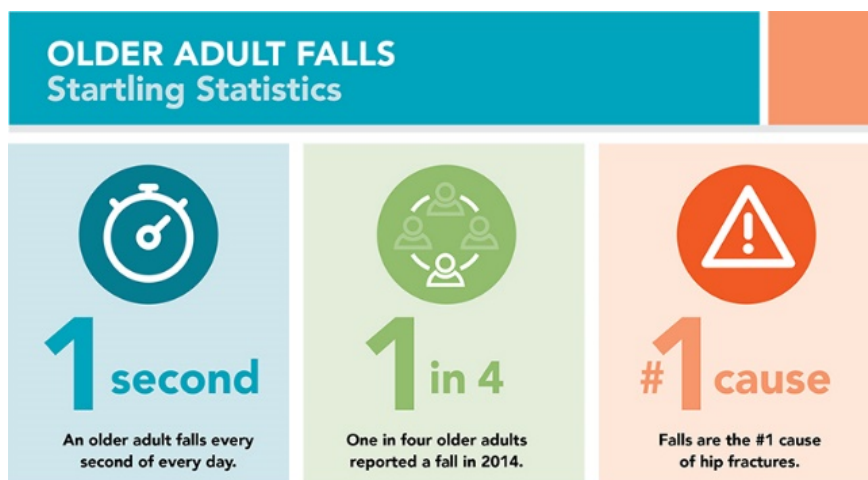


50% of older adults have  
lived in current home for 25+  
years



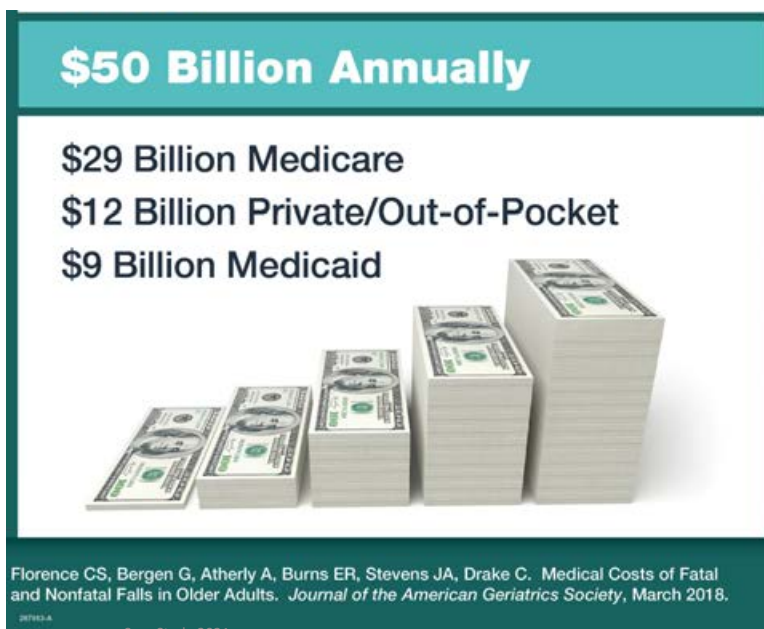
One third live alone

## Falls are prevalent and debilitating

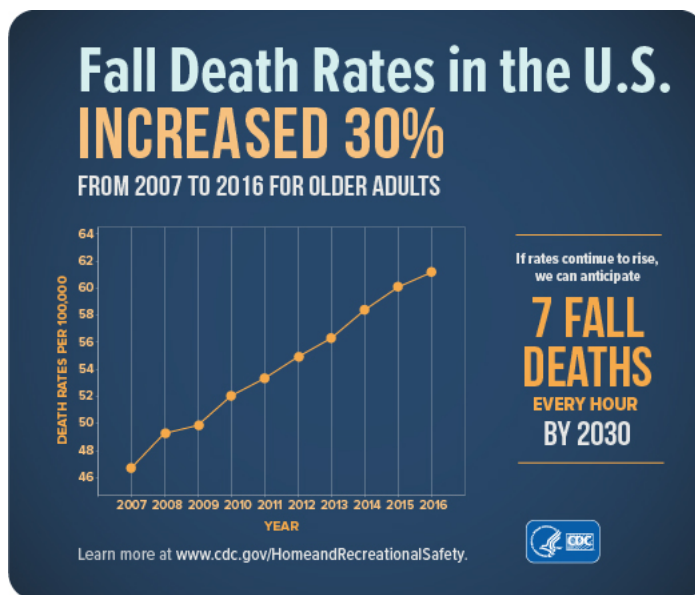


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## Falls are costly

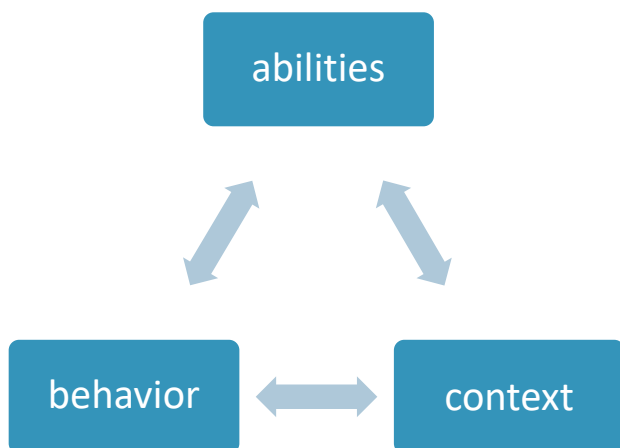


## Falls are deadly



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## Factors contributing to falls



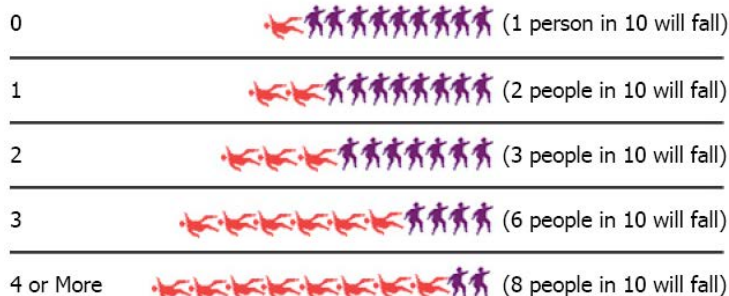
5/11/16 Huff Post

Susy Stark, 2021

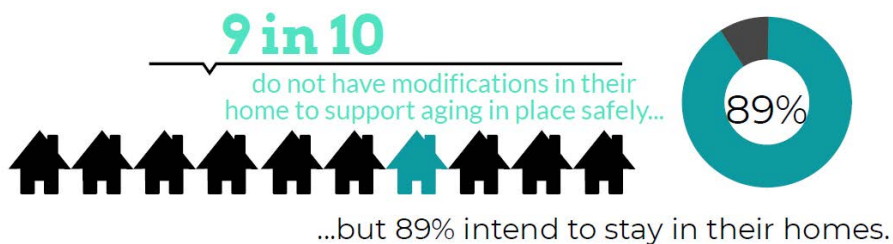
## Number of risk factors predicts fall risk

If your number of health problems is:

Your chance of falling is:



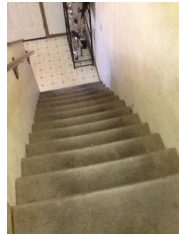
<http://www.yalescientific.org/2010/04/the-genius-behind-fall-prevention/>



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## Barriers in the home



narrow doorways,  
thresholds,  
mats/rugs, objects  
reducing space



Lack of  
railings,  
low  
contrast



## Home modifications



Pink cane for  
increased  
contrast and  
improved  
adherence



Bidet for  
independent  
toileting

## Before



## After



Getting in and out of bed

- Arthritis (no functional mobility)
- Stand-pivot transfers or uses a walker



Going up and down  
the stairs

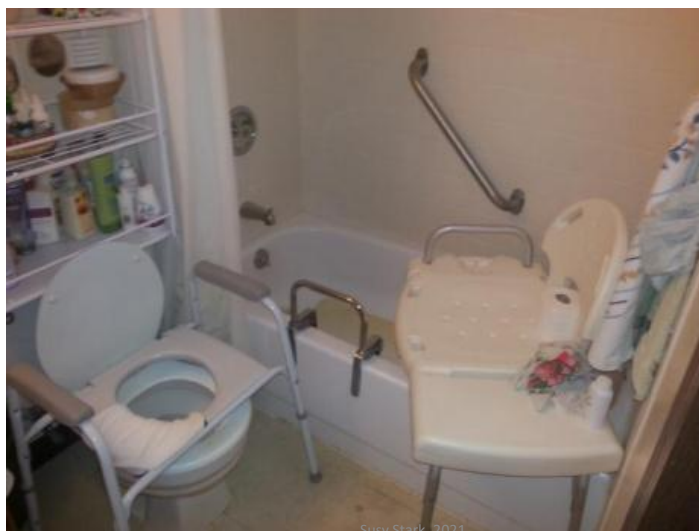
- Cataracts
- R side Hemiparesis

## Accessible units sometimes pose barriers



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## People report having modifications, but they could be risky



## Assessment needs to be in the home



## Sometimes barriers are family made!



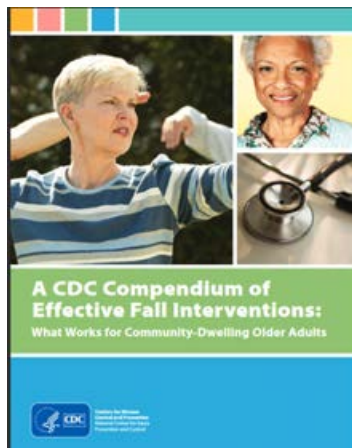
Before



After

Copyright Susan Stark 2012

## Does removing home hazards reduce falls?



YES

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## What works?

Effectiveness of Home Modification Interventions on the Participation of Community-Dwelling Adults and Older Adults: A Systematic Review

Susan Stark, Marian Keglovits, Marian Arbesman, Deborah Lieberman

Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews

**Environmental interventions for preventing falls in older people living in the community**

Cochrane Systematic Review - Intervention - Protocol | Version published: 06 February 2019  
<https://doi.org/10.1002/14651858.CD013258.07>

 [View article information](#)

Lindy Clemson | Susan Stark | Alison C Pighilla | David J Torgerson | Catherine Sherrington | Sarah E Lamb  
 View authors' declarations of interest

Environmental Interventions to Prevent Falls in Community-Dwelling Older People  
 A Meta-Analysis of Randomized Trials

Lindy Clemson, PhD  
 Lynette Mackenzie, PhD  
 University of Sydney  
 Claire Ballinger, PhD  
 Georgia Calceleanu University  
 Jacqueline C. T. Close, MD  
 University of New South Wales, Sydney  
 Robert G. Cumming, PhD  
 University of Sydney

- ✓ **assessment** of an individual's **abilities**, the home **environment** and performance goals
- ✓ **intervention plan** to remediate barriers
- ✓ **implementation** or supporting the implementation of the plan
- ✓ **training** the client or caregiver to complete their daily activities using the environmental support

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### A Randomized Controlled Feasibility Trial of Tailored Home Modifications to Improve Activities of Daily Living and to Prevent Falls

Emily Somerville, MSOT, OTR/L  
 Marian Keglovits, OTD, MSCI  
 Danielle Cobbs, OTD  
 Jane Conte, Med

Hu, Yi-Ling, MSOT,  
 Carpenter, Christopher, MD, MSc,  
 Hollingsworth, Holly, PhD,  
 Yan, Yan, MD, PhD.

Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Grant #MOLHH0196-09 and the Barnes Jewish Hospital Foundation

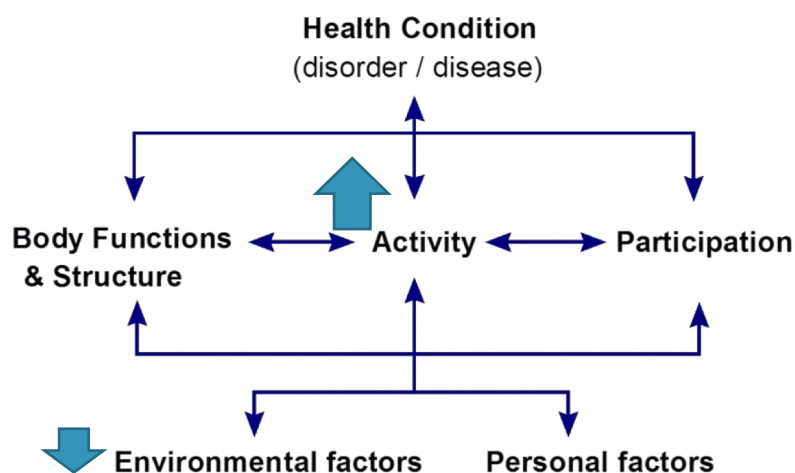
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## Home modifications to reduce falls?

- One-half of falls occur in the home (each room of the house); Environmental factors are implicated in up to 53% of falls among community-dwelling older adults
- Diminished ADL ability is closely associated with falls; ADL status diminishes after a fall
- ADL performance is modifiable
- One highly effective intervention to improve ADL performance and prevent falls is providing environmental supports such as home modifications

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## Enablement theory: ICF



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## Purpose

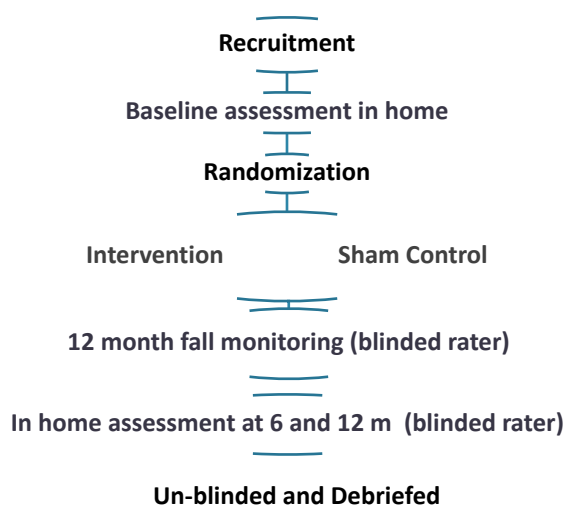
Focus on environment's role in the relationship between falls and ADL function

Examine the efficacy of a home modification intervention targeting ADLs on the outcome of

- Risk (and rate) of falls (prospectively collected)
- Fear of falling
- ADL

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## Double blind, Sham control trial design



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# Participants

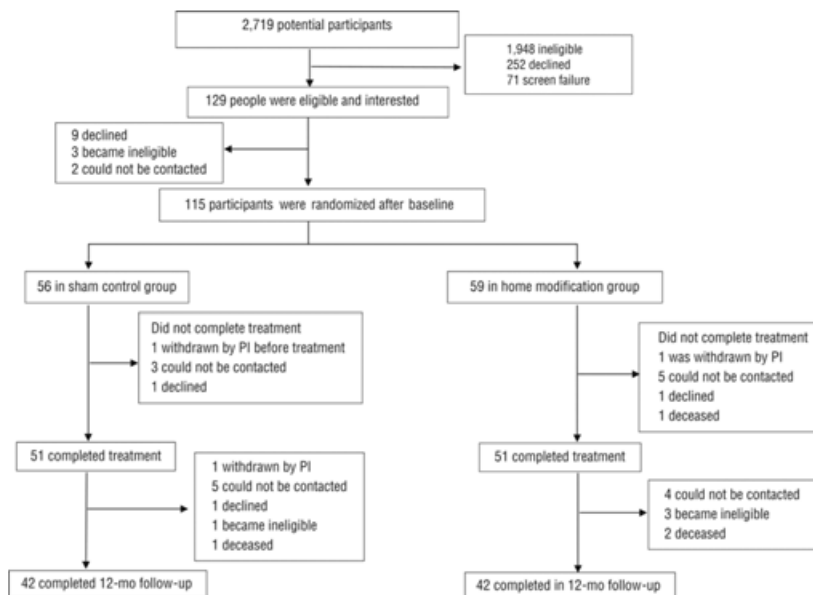
## Inclusion

- Fall within 1 year
- 65 years of age or older
- Community dwelling (45 mile radius)
- 1 or more ADL/IADL difficulty
- Mobility impairment

## Exclusion

- Chronic substance abuse (Short Michigan Alcoholism Screening Test)
- Significant cognitive impairment (Short Blessed Test >10)
- Reside in assisted living facility
- New onset neurological condition (PD, Stroke)
- Full time WC dependent

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Participants (n=115)	Control	THM
Age, mean $\pm$ SD	78.0 $\pm$ 7.5	78.4 $\pm$ 7.4
Female, n (%)	35 (76)	35 (76)
White race, n (%)	34 (74)	32 (70)
Married, n (%)	11 (24)	17 (37)
Years education, mean $\pm$ SD	13.0 $\pm$ 2.3	14.3 $\pm$ 3.4
Live alone, n (%)	18 (39)	20 (44)
Total number of previous falls, mean $\pm$ SD	3.0 $\pm$ 3.0	3.6 $\pm$ 3.5
Use assistive mobility device, n (%)	38 (83)	39 (85)
Cognition, mean $\pm$ SD	3.4 $\pm$ 3.5	2.6 $\pm$ 3.2
Number of daily medications, mean $\pm$ SD	8.7 $\pm$ 3.3	9.1 $\pm$ 3.0

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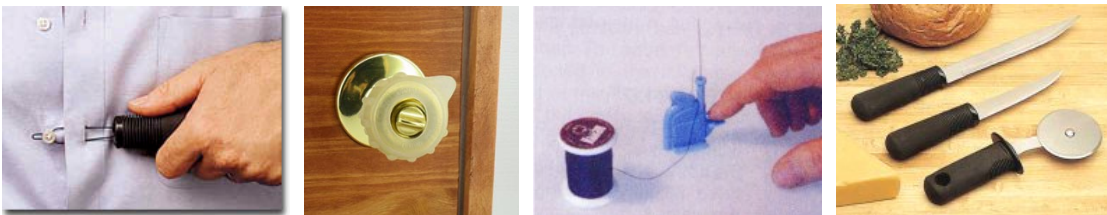
## Sham control

(6) 90-minute sessions/ 8 weeks

2 pieces of ADL equipment and training to use

OT naive to outcome of interest

Scripted protocol



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## Home Modification Intervention

Intervention	Target	Essential Ingredients <i>Active Ingredients</i>	Mechanism of Action
Home modifications	Daily activity performance	Home Modification and Training  <i>Tailoring</i> <i>Client-centered</i>	Reducing press improves outcome behavior

Manualized; visit x visit grid; standardized tailoring

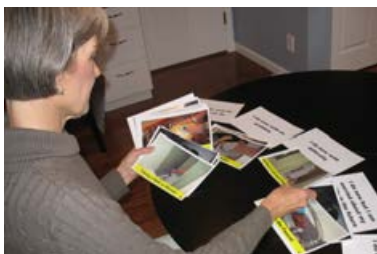
(6) 90-minute sessions with trained OT interventionist

5-8 problem activities

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## OT Tools

In Home Occupational Performance Evaluation



Clinical Reasoning Guideline

Conditions	Strategy	Clinical example
<b>Clinical course of disease</b>		
Chronic: static disease process	Personal abilities matched with environmental support but consider future needs and ability to age in place. Ramp	Person with amputation receives a just right fit of environmental support such as grab bars to successfully complete daily activities as well as additional tracking in the walls for future grab bar installation.
Chronic: progressive disease process	Anticipate future home modification needs by providing more environmental support	Person with Muscular Dystrophy receives more environmental support than currently needed to anticipate future functional issues.
Temporary health condition or aggressively progressing, terminal disease (e.g. ALS)	Personal abilities matched with environmental support	Person with hip fracture repair receives temporary adaptive equipment such as raised toilet seat to use during healing process.

Clinical Decision Analysis

Clinical Decision Analysis Form

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Clinical Reasoning Guideline: Factors expert OT’s consider during the home modification clinical reasoning process

**Intrinsic (6)**

- Clinical Course of disease
- Personal Assistance Preferences
- Ability to Maintain Modifications
- Compliance
- Literacy Level
- Readiness for Change

**Extrinsic (9)**




- Financial Resources
- Social Support
- Physical Assistance Available
- Lives with Others
- Condition of Home
- Available Space
- Rules and Regulations
- Weather conditions
- Portability of Intervention

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Conditions	Strategy	Clinical example
<b>Clinical course of disease</b>		
Chronic- static disease process	Personal abilities matched with environmental support but consider future needs and ability to age in place. Ramp	Person with amputation receives a just right fit of environmental support such as grab bars to successfully complete daily activities as well as additional backing in the walls for future grab bar installation.
Chronic- progressive disease process	Anticipate future home modification needs by providing more environmental support	Person with Muscular Dystrophy receives more environmental support than currently needed to anticipate future functional losses.
Temporary health condition or aggressively progressing, terminal disease (e.g. ALS)	Personal abilities matched with environmental support	Person with hip fracture repair receives temporary adaptive equipment such as raised toilet seat to use during healing process

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## Clinical Decision Analysis Form

<p><b>Solution I</b> Tub transfer bench with Super Pole</p> 	<p><b>Expected outcome</b> Ct. will be able to get in and out of the shower independently</p>	<p><b>Strengths and limitations</b> + will not have to stand for transfer + solution is cost effective + Superpole will give support to both shower tx and stepping up onto ledge where tub is located +portable/removable - will have to take a shower</p>
<p><b>Solution II</b> Shower board with lower seat with Super Pole</p> 	<p><b>Expected outcome</b> Ct. will be able to get in and out of the bath independently</p>	<p><b>Strengths and limitations</b> + can transfer while seated + can still take a bath + is removable + Superpole will give support to both shower tx, lowering onto other seat, and stepping up onto ledge where tub is located -might not be low enough for full submersion</p>
<p><b>Solution III</b> Tub lift chair with Super Pole</p> 	<p><b>Expected outcome</b> Ct. will be able to transfer in and out of the bath and be able to take a bath independently</p>	<p><b>Strengths and limitations</b> + Ct. will be able to take a bath + Superpole will give support to both shower tx and stepping up onto ledge where tub is located +portable/removable --costly</p>

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## Why tailoring matters Jane Bergen

81 years old Left BKA s/p CA tx  
Strong and healthy  
Lives in own home  
OT home modifications post surgery  
Experienced a fall in the home 6 months later



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Dressing height of shelving, width of door, lack of seating



Use front  
bedroom as  
closet



Remove door from closet  
Trim bottom portion of door  
frame  
Lower shelves

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Moving around the home /width of door



Remove door from door  
frame



offset hinges & modified  
door knob to make sure it  
still opened all the way

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## Intervention

- 90% delivered;
- 84.39 minutes/ session x6
- 13 weeks
- No major protocol deviations
- 931\$/6.7 activities
- 91% still used at 12 months



^ Before: toilet too low, unable to rise from toilet; dependent for toileting hygiene



^ After: bidet and toilet riser; fold down grab bar; independent and safe toileting hygiene



^ Before: no handrails to enter living area

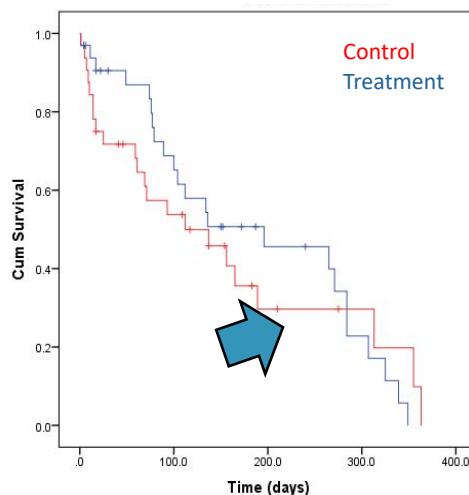


B. After: new handrails; independent in entering living area

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## Fall outcomes

- 222 falls over 365 days
- 67 fallers (of 100 participants) (range 1-24)
- No difference in fall rates over 365 days between groups



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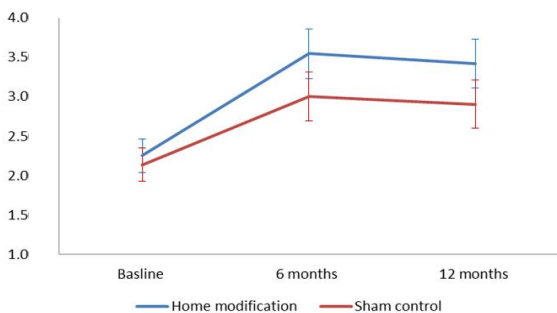
## Hazard ratios for falls by time and location of fall

	All falls			Indoor Falls		
	Prob	HR	CI	Prob	HR	CI
<b>365 days</b>	p=.001			p=.012		
Member of control	0.49	1.21	0.71-2.05	0.25	1.46	0.76-2.81
Age	0.08	1.04	0.99-1.07	0.01	1.06	1.02-1.12
Barriers	0.19	0.99	0.98-1.00	0.43	0.99	0.98-1.01
Marital Status	0.19	0.89	0.74-1.07	0.07	0.81	0.65-1.01
Previous falls	0.00	1.17	1.09-1.27	0.01	1.16	1.05-1.28
<b>260 Days</b>	p=.001			p=.003		
Member of control	0.12	1.59	0.88-2.85	0.04	2.20	1.05-4.63
Group * time	0.04	0.25	0.07-0.94	0.03	0.18	0.04-0.83
Age	0.07	1.04	0.99-1.08	0.01	1.07	1.02-1.12
Barriers	0.16	0.99	0.98-1.00	0.37	0.99	0.98-1.01
Marital Status	0.20	0.89	0.74-1.07	0.07	0.81	0.65-1.02
Previous falls	0.00	1.18	1.09-1.28	0.001	1.18	1.07-1.30

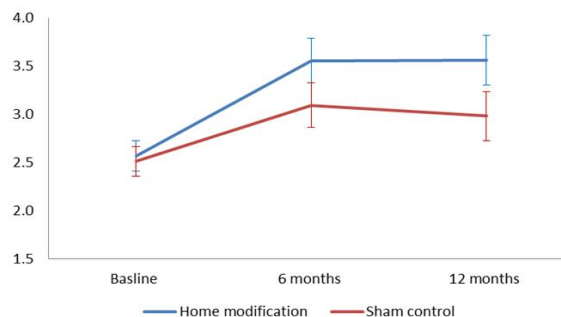
Note: n= 97

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### Self Rated Performance

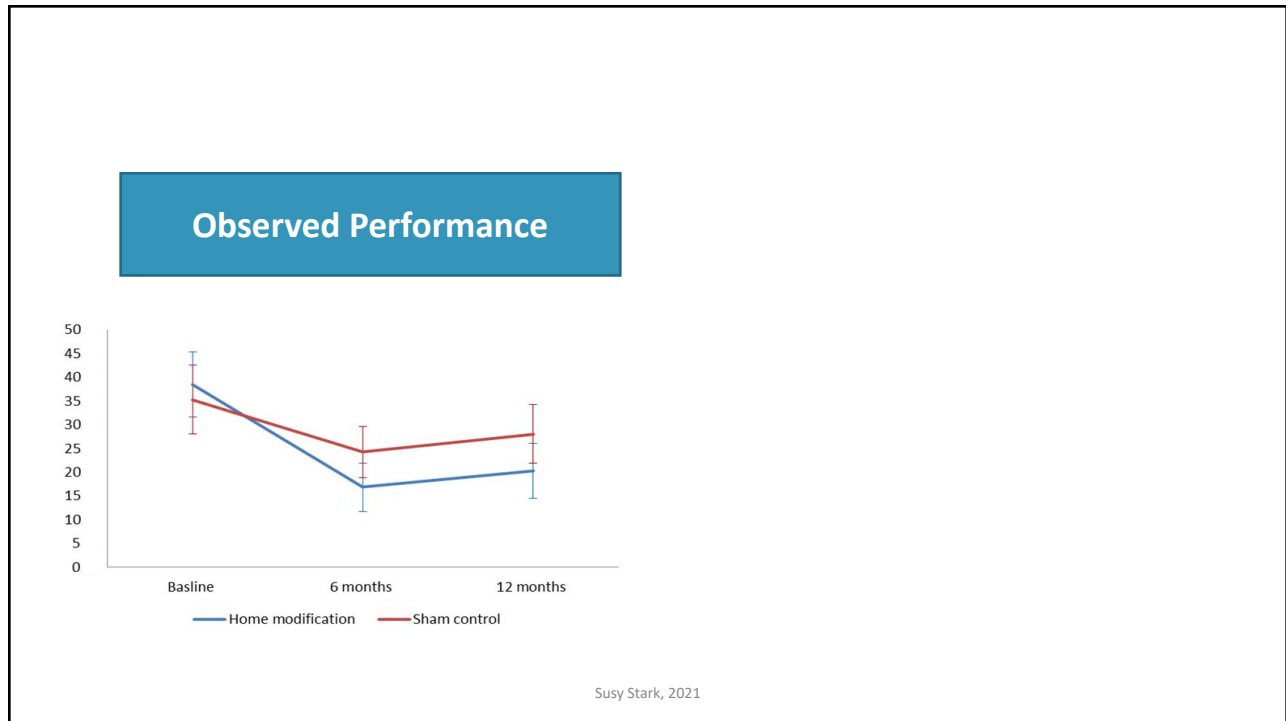


### Self Rated Satisfaction with Performance



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Daily Activity Performance Scores of Study Groups

Assessment	Sham Control, <i>M (SD)</i>	Home Modification, <i>M (SD)</i>	Interaction Effect
Self-rated performance <sup>a</sup> ( <i>n</i> = 81)			
Baseline	2.5 (0.6)	2.6 (0.4)	<i>F</i> = 5.57; <i>p</i> = .005
6 mo	3.1 (0.8)	3.6 (0.7)	
12 mo	3.0 (0.9)	3.6 (0.7)	
Self-rated satisfaction with performance <sup>a</sup> ( <i>n</i> = 81)			
Baseline	2.1 (0.7)	2.3 (0.7)	<i>F</i> = 3.15; <i>p</i> = .046
6 mo	3.0 (1.1)	3.5 (0.9)	
12 mo	2.9 (1.1)	3.4 (0.9)	
Objective activity performance score <sup>b</sup> ( <i>n</i> = 68)			
Baseline	35.3 (3.6)	38.4 (3.4)	<i>F</i> = 4.13 <sup>c</sup> ; <i>p</i> = .024
6 mo	24.2 (2.7)	16.8 (2.6)	
12 mo	28.0 (3.1)	20.3 (2.9)	

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## Conclusions

- Home modifications to reduce ADL is not effective in reducing falls
- The tailored home-modification program is feasible.
- Reduces the risk of falls at 6 months
- Positive effect on daily activity performance that was maintained at 12 months.
- May require booster session and fall-hazard awareness training during intervention

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## A Hybrid Randomized Controlled Trial/Process Evaluation of a Home Hazard Removal Program delivered in an Area Agency on Aging

Emily Somerville, MSOT, OTR/L  
 Marian Keglovits, OTD, MSCI  
 Jane Conte, MEd  
 Melody Li, MSOT, OTR/L  
 Hu, Yi-Ling, MSOT, Yan, Yan, MD, PhD.



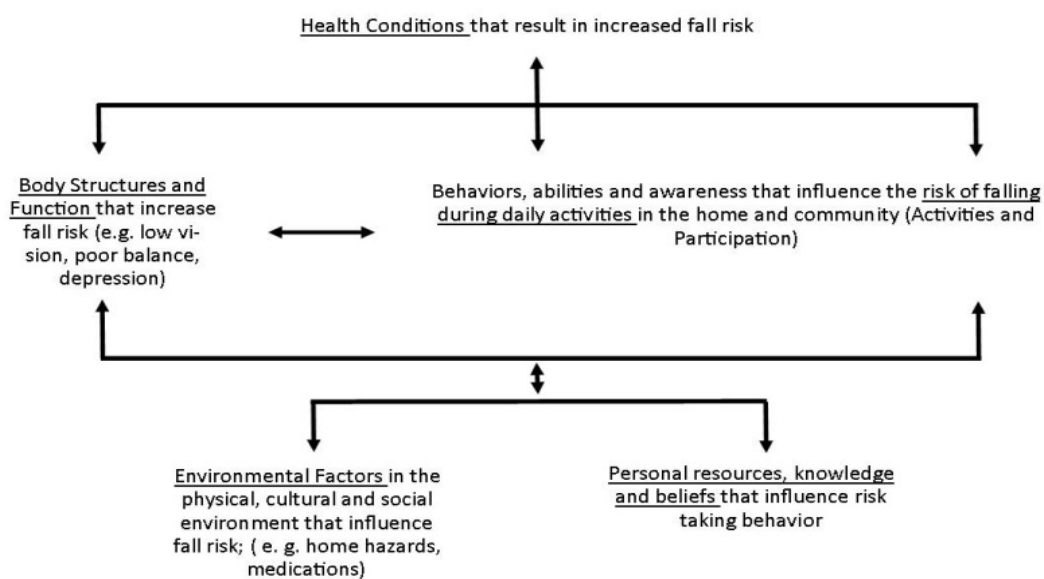
Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Grant # MOHUU0024  
 Susy Stark, 2021

## Purpose

- Examine the feasibility of delivering HARP in an Area Agency on Aging
- Examine the efficacy of a HARP intervention targeting home hazard removal and self-management on the outcome of rate of falls over 1 year

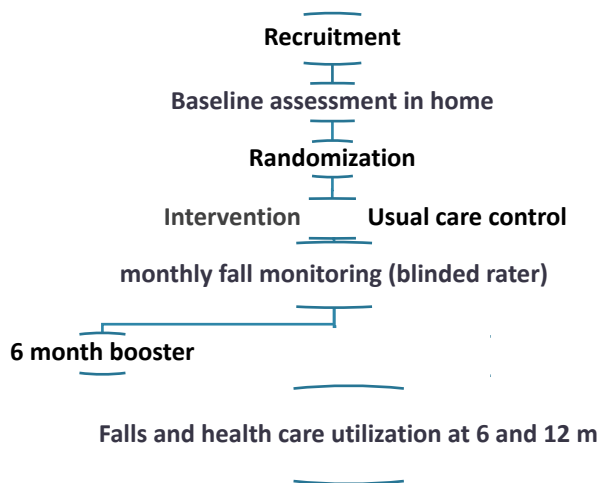
Susy Stark, 2021

## Enablement Theory: ICF



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## Randomized controlled trial design



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## Participants identified from Area Agency on Aging

- Are you 65 years of age or older?
- Are you someone who has fallen in the past 12 months or are worried about falling in the future?



If you answered **YES** to these questions, you may be eligible to participate in a home hazard removal research study!

Participants will receive a \$5 grocery gift card each month for 12 months and may be eligible for free home modifications.

Susan Stark, in cooperation with the St. Louis Area Agency on Aging (SLAAA) and the Mid East Area Agency on Aging (MEAAA), is seeking participants for a study to determine the effectiveness of a home hazard removal program to reduce falls in older adults.

Please contact Jane at (314) 932-1011 for more information.

Washington University in St. Louis  
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Susy Stark, 2021

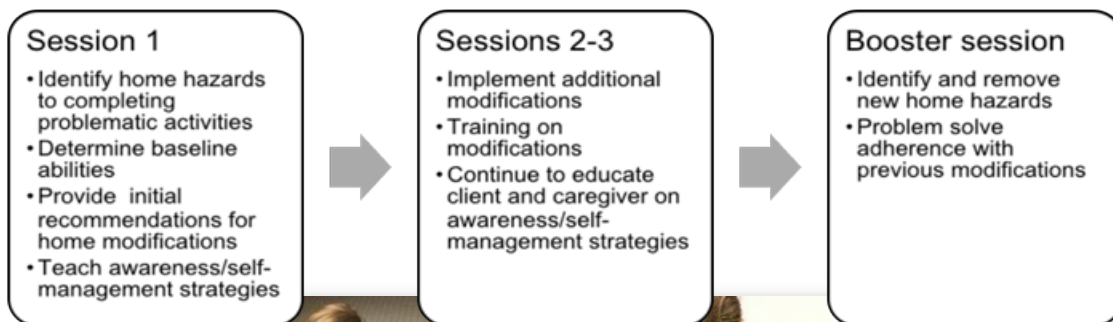
Previous fall or worried about falling  
Receiving Area Agency on Aging service  
65 years of age or older  
Community dwelling

# Home Hazard Removal Program (HARP)

Intervention	Target	Essential Ingredients <i>Active Ingredients</i>	Mechanism of Action
Home Hazard Removal Program	Behavior; Removing home hazards	Home Hazard Removal & Self Management <i>Tailoring</i> <i>Client-centered</i>	Reducing press improves outcome behavior

- Manualized; visit x visit grid; standardized testing
- (1-2) 60 minute sessions with trained OT interventionist
- 1 booster sessions (60 minutes) at 3 months

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### Session 1

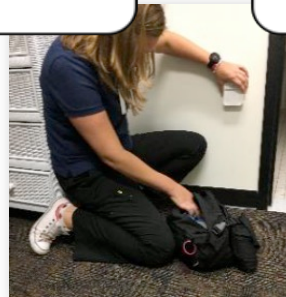
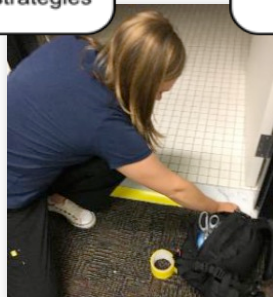
- Identify home hazards to completing problematic activities
- Determine baseline abilities
- Provide initial recommendations for home modifications
- Teach awareness/self-management strategies

### Sessions 2-3

- Implement additional modifications
- Training on modifications
- Continue to educate client and caregiver on awareness/self-management strategies

### Booster session

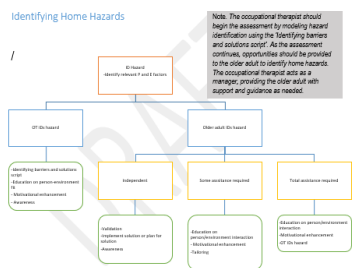
- Identify and remove new home hazards
- Problem solve adherence with previous modifications



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# Therapist's tools

## Identifying Home Hazards



"The next item on the list is the steps. Do you see anything about the steps that might cause you to fall? (allow older adult to respond) or What makes walking up and down the steps difficult or dangerous for you?"

Yes, I think it might be hard to see the steps well with the low light. Can you think of any ways to make it easier to see the steps? ..... "Replacing the light bulb is a great idea to improve the lighting. Some other ideas to help with the low light are to put contrasting tape on the edge of the steps or using motion sensing lights on the stairway. What ideas do you think will work the best for you?"

Table 5. How to interact to promote self-management

What works in the context of HARP	What does not work
<b>Assess</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Standardized assessments of personal and environmental factors and fall risk behavior with feedback to the older adult</li> <li>Assessment of progress and identification of behaviors that influence fall risk and goal attainment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Intervention implementation without assessment or baseline information</li> <li>Assuming the older adult has the same values and goals as the clinician</li> </ul>
<b>Advise</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Feedback based on the person-environment factors of the individual and the effect these factors have on fall risks</li> <li>Client identification of priority activities and shared decision making between the client and clinician</li> <li>Tailor recommendations to the person and environment (i.e. factors and)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information overload</li> <li>Clinician-imposed interaction style</li> <li>Standardized recommendations</li> <li>Lecturing on behaviors or decisions made by the client</li> </ul>

**Objectives**

- Identify home hazards to competing problematic activities
- Determine baseline abilities
- Identify critical recommendations for home modifications
- Determine the P & E factors to consider in developing the prescription / Use the P&E Factors Worksheet and the initial assessment results to develop a draft set of tailored strategies/interventions.
- Teach Awareness Fall Management

**Pre-Visit**

- Review demographic/ personal abilities information from the consent and AH.

**Home Visit**

- Introduce the study
- Build rapport
- Begin the session by having a discussion of personal and environmental factors that are relevant to the prescription. Here are some examples of what you might say:
  - "How long have you lived here? Do you see yourself staying here for your whole life?"
  - "What else lived with you?"
  - "Do you have help or you need it? How often?"
- Personal abilities
- Complete Worksheet and take photos.

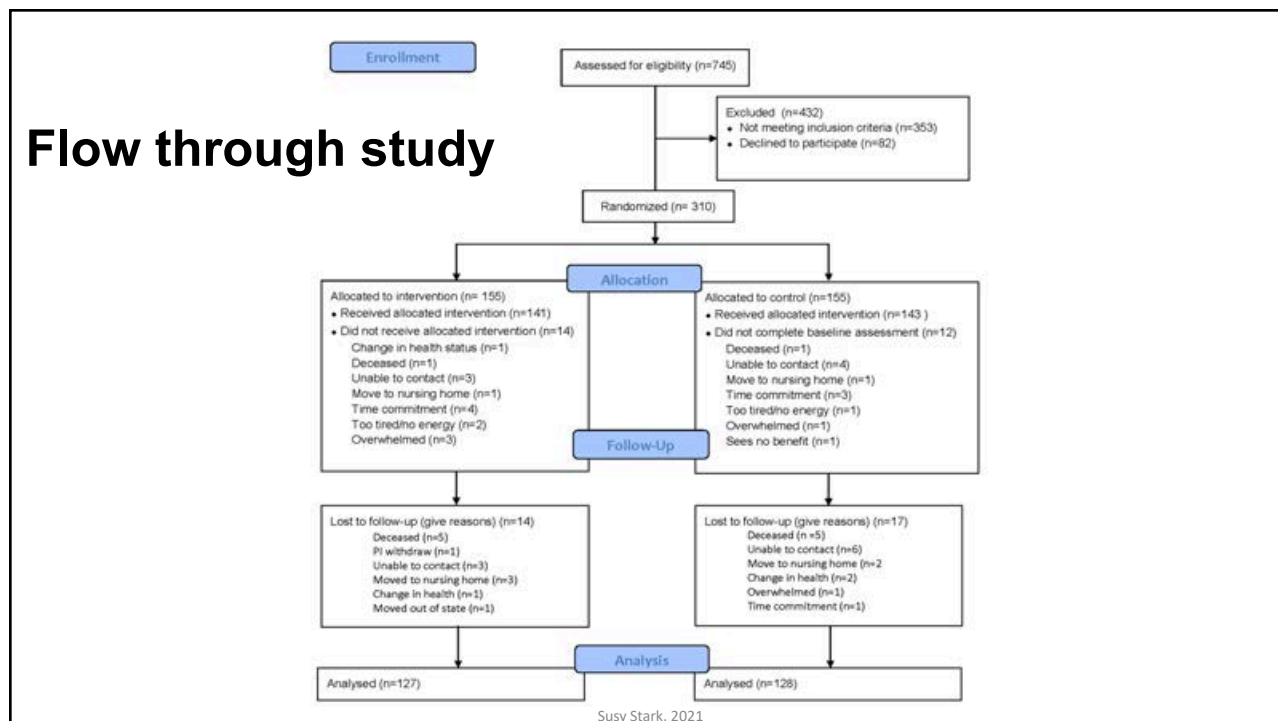
\*Home visit will be done before the home visit with recommendations about falls

Manualized  
Training and certification program.  
Susy Stark, 2021

# Characteristics of sample

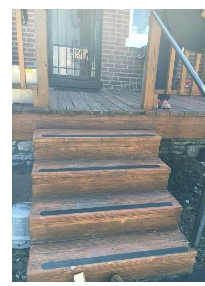
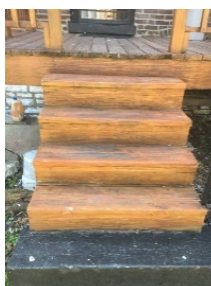
Participants	Control (n=155)	HARP (n=155)
Age, mean	74.7	75.1
Female, n (%)	118 (79)	111 (79)
African American race, n (%)	83 (55)	78 (56)
Widowed, n (%)	53 (36)	60 (44)
Years education, mean ± SD	13.5	13.6
Live with someone, n (%)	115 (78)	111 (79)
Total number of previous falls, mean± SD	1.8	1.5

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## Intervention

- 91% baseline visits delivered; 93% booster visits delivered
- 99% of program elements provided, average of 130 minutes for the baseline visits and 73 minutes for the booster visit
- No major protocol deviations
- ~ 259\$ in equipment
- 92.1% still used at 12 months



Susy Stark, 2021

## Case study: Ms. F

69 year old African American woman  
Undergoing breast cancer treatment  
Lives in town home alone  
Good family support

High fall risk  
Incontinence  
Muscle weakness  
Fatigue

Susy Stark, 2021

### Hazards

- Distance to bathroom
- Lack of hand support near bedside



### Hazard removal

- Add commode near bed
- Add bed cane to side of bed
- Training with OT on equipment use



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**Hazards**

- High edge of tub
- Lack of back on shower chair
- Lack of hand support near toilet



**Hazard removal**

- Replace chair with tub transfer bench with back
- Add toilet safety rails
- Training with OT on using equipment



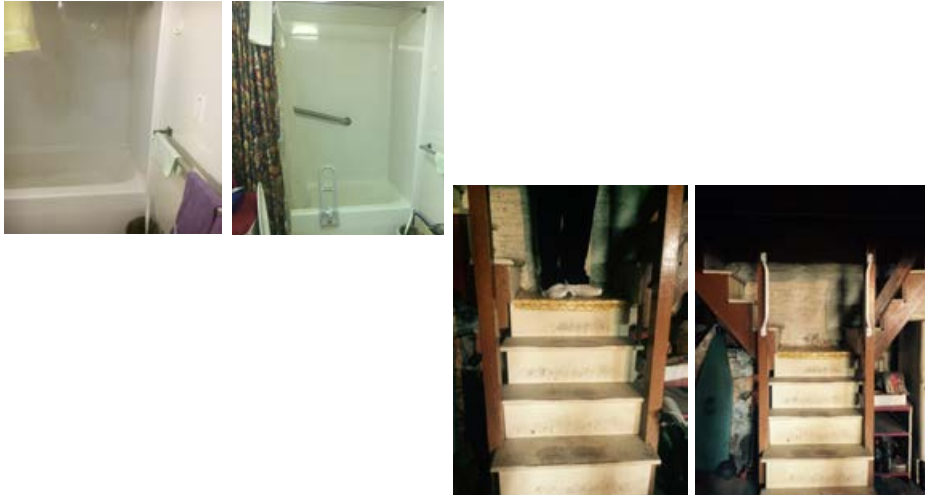
Susy Stark, 2021

## Most frequent modifications

Type of mod	#
grab bar	95
secured rug	44
bath seating	40
raised toilet seat	33
kitchen seating	32
Reacher	24
non-skid treads	21
bed rail	21
toilet safety rail	18
night lights	17
railing	16
cushion	16
rollator/walker	14
step stool	13
contrasting tape	12

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## # 1: Grab bars



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## #2: Securing rugs



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### #3: Bath/shower seating



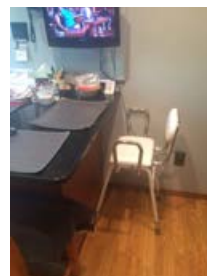
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### #4: Raised toilet seats



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## #5: Kitchen seating



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## #6: Reachers



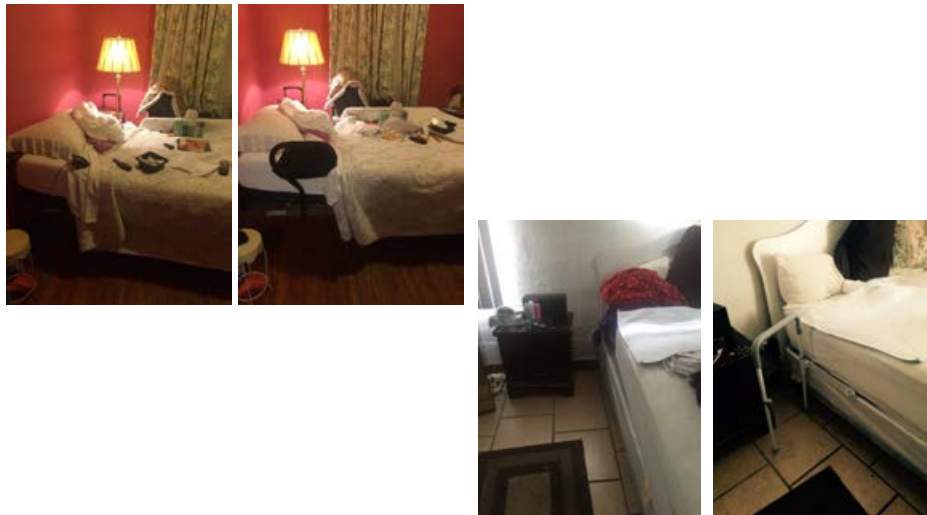
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## #7: Non-skid treads



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## #8: Bed rails



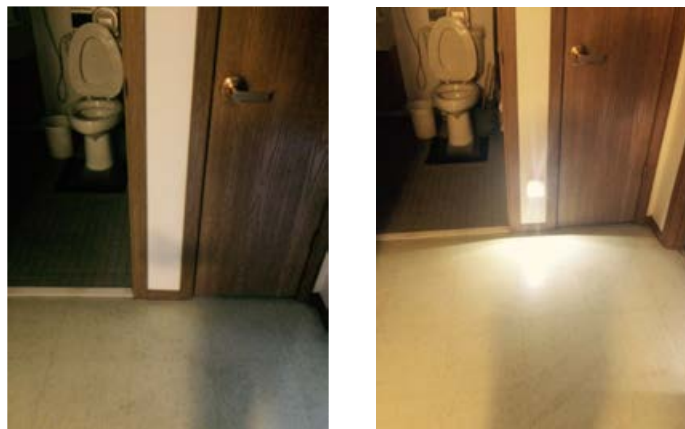
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## #9: Toilet safety rails



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## #10: Automatic lights



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## Falls in two groups at 6 and 12 months

Falls	Control	HARP	Relative Risk (95% CI)
Total Sample	n= 136	n=131	
Falls at 6 m	1.1	0.7	.62 (.39-.98)
Falls at 12 m	2.3 (6.6)	1.5 (3.5)	.62 (.40-.95)

Fall injury rates calculated as total number of events; Incidence rate ratio calculated for comparing the rate of falls in the HARP v control groups: 6 months unadjusted, 12 months adjusted for fall risk

Susy Stark, 2021

## RCT: Home Hazard Removal Program



Older adults at risk of falling Area Agencies on Aging, St. Louis Missouri



Randomized (n=310)

**Intervention:**  
Home hazard removal +  
self-management skill  
training  
n=155



**Usual Care:**  
annual assessment  
and phone referral  
n=155

SO....

- The outcome you target is important. Just addressing function does not reduce falls (can we do both?)
- Occupational therapists have important tools that can permit them to make a significant impact by addressing barriers in the home.
- Tailoring matters!

Susy Stark, 2021

Thanks! You can find me at:  
[sstark@wustl.edu](mailto:sstark@wustl.edu)



Susy Stark, 2021



## Seeking Volunteers for Memory Research

Wayne State University is conducting a study to better understand potential biomarkers that may predict cognitive loss and even the earliest signs of Alzheimer's disease.

We are seeking African American participants both male and female, ages 65 and over. Eligible volunteers will undergo:

- Clinical Neurological Assessments
- Memory Testing
- Electro-Encephalogram Testing (EEG) (Recordings of tiny electrical signals from the top of the head.)

Contact the **ELEctra Study** at **(313) 577-1692** or send an email to **voyko@wayne.ed**



## Parents **CHANGING** Spaces

*A Free Senior Living Referral Service*

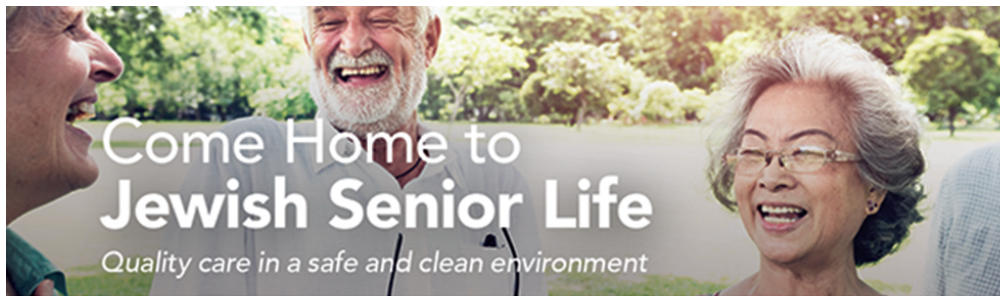
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[www.parentschangingspaces.com](http://www.parentschangingspaces.com)



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*Quality care in a safe and clean environment*

### Eugene & Marcia Applebaum Jewish Community Campus

#### WEST BLOOMFIELD

- Edward I. & Freda Fleischman Residence/ Louis C. & Edith B. Blumberg Plaza
- Dorothy and Peter D. Brown Memory Care Pavilion
- Lillian & Samuel Hechtman Apartments
- Norma Jean & Edward Meer Apartments
- Dorothy and Peter Brown Jewish Community Adult Day Program, West Bloomfield & Southfield

For more information or a tour, contact me,

**Tracey Proghovnick**

248-661-1836 TTY# 711

[tproghovnick@jslmi.org](mailto:tproghovnick@jslmi.org)

or visit [jslmi.org](http://jslmi.org)

### A. Alfred Taubman Jewish Community Campus

#### OAK PARK

- Margot & Warren Coville Assisted Living and Memory Care Community
- Anna & Meyer Prentis Apartments
- Harriett & Ben Teitel Apartments



*People of all faiths and beliefs are welcome*



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Presbyterian Villages of Michigan (PVM) is committed to providing excellent services to the elders we serve, their families and to each other. Our vision of *service excellence* includes four core values: respect, relationships, listening, and accountability. These values serve as a standard against which every action and thought can be measured. The *service excellence standards* show our commitment to make PVM a great place to live and work. To find out more about our locations please call 248-281-2020 or visit our website at [pvm.org](http://pvm.org)



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Our mission is to inspire the people we serve to realize their greatest potential.

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## Financial Vulnerability Survey

*A Free Resource to Empower & Protect Seniors When Needed*



A 17-question survey that can be completed by older adults or administered to them. Results will indicate the older adult's degree of vulnerability to financial exploitation and appropriate next steps to educate and protect them.

The Financial Vulnerability Survey is recommended for attorneys, medical staff, financial screeners, senior housing managers and other professionals working with older adults and wanting to assess their risk of being financially exploited.

To learn about the Financial Vulnerability Survey and other assessments **Visit: OlderAdultNestEgg.com.**

*Watch a brief overview and get started today!*

Peter Lichtenberg, PhD, ABPP  
 Director, Institute of Gerontology, WSU  
 and OlderAdultNestEgg.com creator



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# The Caring of People with Dementia as a Calling



**Michael Verde, MA**  
Founder of MemoryBridge.org  
Bloomington, Indiana

[michael@memorybridge.org](mailto:michael@memorybridge.org)

Michael Verde founded Memory Bridge in 2003. To date, Memory Bridge has connected over 8,000 people with and without dementia to each other in one-to-one relationships. What people with dementia most need from us—is us. Memory Bridge exists to end the emotional isolation of people with dementia. We bridge people with and without dementia to each other in life-changing ways. Our educational programs are hosted on three continents

Michael speaks across the world on the subjects of literature, world religions, and communicating with people with dementia. His clients include Northern Trust Bank; Chevron; St. Christopher's Hospice, England; Alzheimer's Association of Australia; the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, and the Vero Beach Museum.

Michael graduated with honors from the University of Texas's prestigious Plan II Honors program. He earned a M.A. in literary studies from the University of Iowa, and a M.A. in theology from the University of Durham, England, where he graduated at the top of his international class.

Michael taught English for 10 years. At Lamar University where he began his teaching career he was named Teacher of the Year in his third year of teaching.

In 2011, Memory Bridge was awarded Indiana University's Educational Peace Prize to bring the Memory Bridge school initiative to South Africa.

He is currently pursuing a PhD in the area of empathetic education at Indiana University.



Memory Bridge exists to end the emotional isolation of people with dementia. Through human connection, we aspire to turn loneliness into companionship, healing what medicine cannot cure.

Issues in Aging

*The Care of People with Dementia as a Life Calling*

## Person-Centered Care

- The most commonly recognized gold standard of care of persons with dementia in English-speaking countries
- What does it mean?

▶ Dawn Brooker, *Professor of Dementia Studies and Director of the University of Worcester Association for Dementia Studies, UK:*

- “Many of us live with the knowledge that although the words [person-centered care] sound good, the lived experience of care for people with dementia—particularly for those living in long-term care—is anything but good.”
- “In our discussions with practitioners, researchers and people with dementia and their families, it is obvious that the concepts in person-centered care are not easy to understand or articulate in a straightforward manner.”

## Commonplace Descriptions of Person-Centered Care from a National Institute of Health Journal

- Carers described person-centered care as:

'individualized care', 'seeing the person and not the medical condition' and 'tailoring care around the person'.

The term was often presented as a short-hand descriptor of 'good practice' or 'quality care' that staff aspired to deliver.

## Commonplace Descriptions of Person-Centered Care from a National Institute of Health Journal

Those interviewed offered these examples:

- addressing patients by their preferred name,
- being flexible about such care routines as washing and serving breakfast,
- providing a choice of meals, respecting privacy, personalizing bed space (family photographs)
- involving patients in decision-making on treatment and care.

▶ Examples of person-centered care given in a recent prominent article explicating person-centered care

▪ Early

1. Tom has always been a very independent man. Although he was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, he wants to remain as independent as possible. He goes through his day as he always did, although now his wife Joan is always there for support if needed. Joan sometimes has to assist with a task, help with finding the right word, or give a friendly reminder. She also continues to include Tom in decisions, including treatments, future care and finances.

▶ Examples of person-centered care given in a recent prominent article explicating person-centered care

▪ Late

Emily was an avid gardener. Her yard was perfectly kept with many varieties of plants, which she grew from seed. She loved fragrant bushes, especially lavender. One side of her yard was filled with beautiful bushes. Throughout the progression, she stayed involved in gardening. In the later stage of Alzheimer's disease, care providers looked through seed catalogues with her, and talked about different varieties. They kept fragrant cut flowers and plants in her room, especially lavender when available. They kept a small satchel of dried lavender under her pillow, and also used a nice lavender lotion to moisturize her hands and feet.

## Tom Kitwood on Person-Centered Care

- The primary aim of person-centered care is the maintenance and promotion of personhood.
- “Personhood is a standing or status that is bestowed upon one human being, by others, in the context of relationship and social being.”
- Person-Centered dementia care is “a true process of meeting between persons.”

## A Quick Comment by Kitwood

- There is a very sobering fact to take into account, in relation to those who have dementia:

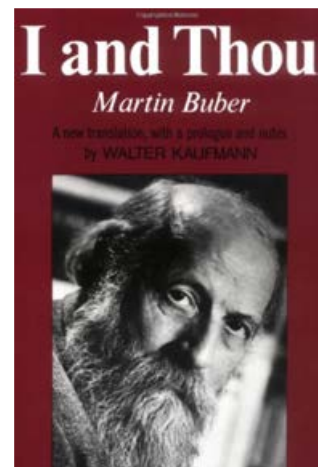
**It is that the most thorough assessment can be carried out, the most efficient ‘care planning’ undertaken, the most comprehensive care provided—totally in the I-It mode, without any of the meeting of which Buber speaks ever having taken place.**



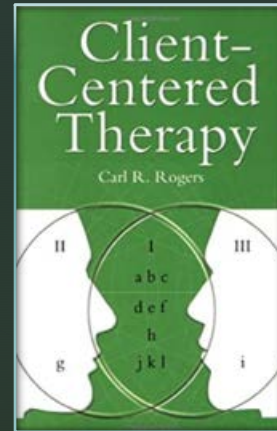
## ▸ The Sources of Kitwood's Conception of Person-Centered Care

- Martin Buber's *I and Thou*
- Carl Roger's client-centered therapy
- George Herbert Mead's symbolic interactionism
- Spiritual traditions, especially Christianity and Buddhism

## Martin Buber's *I and Thou*



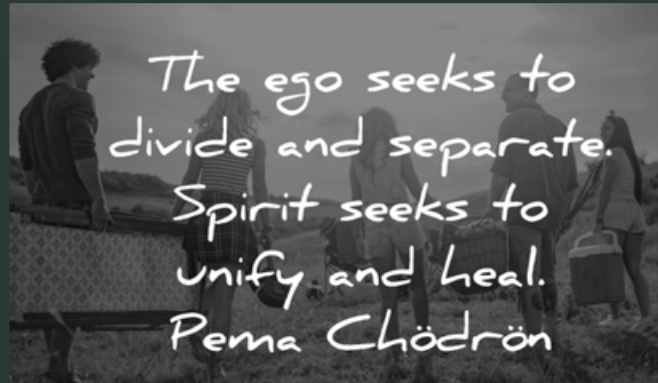
# Carl Roger's Client-Centered Therapy



# George Herbert Mead's "symbolic interactionism"



## ▸ Spiritual Traditions



## ▸ How I Now Imagine Person-Centered Care

- Person-centered care to me is:

When I meet another person and relinquish control, offer profound, accepting attention, and allow the life calling to life between us to presence.

## How I Now Imagine Person-Centered Care

- Letting Go
- Letting In
- Letting Be

## Person-Centered Care in Action

- Naomi and Sallie
- Naomi and Gladys

## Concluding Remarks



Institute of Gerontology



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