Free On-line Conference for Family Caregivers
Saturday, Oct. 15
2022
9 am - Noon (EST)

**Keynote**
9:10-10:10 am

*Finding Balance: Confidence & Wellness in Caregiving*

**Rosanne DiZazzo-Miller, PhD, OTRL, CDP, FMiOT**
Associate Professor & Director, Division of Health Sciences Mentoring Program, Wayne State University

Far too many caregivers of people with dementia are sent home with a diagnosis and little to no training on the progression of the disease. This presentation will provide an overview of the daily challenges faced by most caregivers followed by a discussion on the critical role of confidence and wellness in caregiver well-being.

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**10:15-11:15 am**

*“What’s your style?” How Your Caregiving Style Impacts the Care You Provide & Your Own Well-being*

**Amanda Leggett, PhD, FGSA, Assistant Professor, Institute of Gerontology & Department of Psychology, Wayne State University**

Each caregiver tends to have their own style of providing care. Dr. Leggett will present research on the different cognitive and behavioral approaches caregivers use to help persons living with dementia. Once you know your style, you’re better positioned to communicate needs, resolve conflict and appreciate other approaches. She will also discuss how caregiving style can impact well-being and stress.

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**11:15-11:50 am**

*Tech Advances in Virtual Care Bring the Doctor to You*

**Joel Whitbeck Director of Virtual Primary Care, Henry Ford Health System**

Caregivers of relatives or friends with special needs know how difficult it can be to make visits to the doctor. With the help of TytoCare, an Henry Ford Virtual Exam kit, doctors can provide expert care to homebound patients during a virtual care visit.

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Contact the Henry Ford C.A.R.E. Program℠
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Support groups and classes are being offered virtually with the option to join by phone, tablet, iPad, or computer.

Contact us by:
henryford.com/familycaregivers
Toll free number: 866.574.7530
Email: CaregiverResources@hfhs.org

Join our Facebook group, “Henry Ford Health Family Caregivers,” and become part of an online community of caregivers.
A Meaningful Life with Alzheimer’s Disease

This conference brings together healthcare professionals, caregivers and those living with Alzheimer’s into a shared conversation.

ANNUAL ONE-OF-A-KIND CONFERENCE | 3.5 CREDITS

SAVE THE DATE
Nov. 11, 2022

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.

How to Assess Pain within Cognitively Declining Individuals
Linda Keilman, DNP, RN, GNP-BC, FAANP

Cognitive Decline in time of COVID and Social Isolation
Irving Vega, PhD

Caregiver: Walking in My Shoes
Jim Mangi, Alzheimer’s Caregiver

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- Look down throat
- Listen to abdominal sounds

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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.edu
Join us at the Michigan Alzheimer’s Disease Center

The Michigan Alzheimer’s Disease Center at the University of Michigan is committed to memory and aging research, clinical care, education, and wellness.

The Center collaborates with other research institutions across the state including Wayne State University and Michigan State University, as well as local outreach organizations including the Alzheimer’s Association to enhance groundbreaking research efforts and community education. The Center is also one of 31 other National Institutes of Health-funded Alzheimer’s Disease Research Centers across the country.

Interested in getting involved in research studies?
Please call Kate Hanson at 734-936-8332 or visit alzheimers.med.umich.edu/research for a list of currently enrolling studies.

Interested in learning about upcoming educational events?
To stay informed of upcoming events, please email Erin Fox at eefox@med.umich.edu to subscribe to our monthly e-newsletters.

Interested in learning about our brain donation program?
Please call Matthew Perkins at 734-764-7648 or visit 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.

Interested in learning about our Lewy body dementia programs?
Please contact Renee Gadwa at 734-764-5137 or visit alzheimers.med.umich.edu/lbd.

alzheimers.med.umich.edu 734-936-8803 UM-Ask-MADC@med.umich.edu @umichalzheimers

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At the Center, our company values are more than words; they serve as guides in our everyday actions. Everything we do is about our clients and our team, with values leading the way.

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AARP recommends using WSU Institute of Gerontology Financial Vulnerability Survey as a first step to safeguard your identity, finances and personal data. Take a survey today! Visit: www.OlderAdultnestEgg.com/for-older-adults/

Use the FVS Today
VISIT: www.OlderAdultNestEgg.com/for-older-adults/financial-vulnerability-survey/
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 vrorai@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

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

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- 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

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People of all faiths and beliefs are welcome
Far too many caregivers of people with dementia are sent home with a diagnosis and little to no training on the progression of the disease. This presentation will provide an overview of the daily challenges faced by most caregivers followed by a discussion on the critical role of confidence and wellness in caregiver well-being.
Overview
• Research findings and limited caregiver resources and training
• The role of confidence in caregiving
• The importance of wellness amid caregiving
• Wellness practices
• Research opportunities
• Mindfulness meditation
Quiz Scoring

Your Score
0-10 You are probably managing well. Remember that it’s still important to think about ways of preventing stress from building up.
11-15 You may need to seek out some additional support. Try to identify the things that are causing you stress — you may not be able to change all of them, but there may be areas where you can ask for help or make changes to relieve some of your stress.
16-19 You may be experiencing caregiver distress and your responsibilities may already be taking a toll on your physical and emotional well-being. It is important that you talk to your doctor or healthcare professional, a family member, friend, or join a support group to help reduce your level of distress.
20+ You may be experiencing caregiver burnout. To protect your physical and mental health, it is important that you talk to your family doctor or healthcare professional today about your stress. You may also want to talk to family or friends or join a support group.

Research Findings

• The statistics are staggering – we all know them
• Different types of programs
• Activities of daily living (ADLs)
• Findings
  • Knowledge
  • Quality of life
  • Confidence…

Research Findings

• ADL Knowledge
• Confidence
• Quality of Life – Physical Health
Confidence
• Both the control and intervention improved
• Both returned to pretest scores 3 months post
• Why?
• Impact on performance

Caregivers of Aging with Chronic Conditions

Seven Areas of Caregiver Wellness
1. Physical wellness
2. Emotional wellness
3. Spiritual wellness
4. Social wellness
5. Vocational wellness
6. Intellectual wellness
7. Environmental wellness
Physical Wellness
1. Exercise regularly
2. Eat a well-balanced diet and healthy weight
3. Sleep
4. Recognize signs of illness

More on Walking...
1. Maintains weight and loses body fat
2. Prevents/manages conditions
3. Improves cardiovascular fitness
4. Strengthens your bones and muscles
5. Improves muscle endurance
6. Increases energy levels
7. Improves mood, cognition, memory and sleep!
8. Improves balance, coordination
9. Strengthens immune system
10. Reduces stress and tension

More on Sleep...
1. Be consistent, even on weekends
2. Keep a quiet, dark, cool bedroom
3. Remove electronic devices
4. Limit exposure to bright lights
5. Avoid large meals, caffeine and alcohol before bedtime
6. Exercise during the day
Emotional Wellness
1. Stress management
2. Power of positive
3. Feelin' emotions
4. Balancing act
5. Find your bliss

Spiritual Wellness
1. Spend time alone (meditation & mindfulness)
2. Be present
3. Find meaning in life events
4. Live your beliefs

Social Wellness
1. Nurture and strengthen friendships
2. Expand social network
3. Meet new people, offer your friendship to others
**Vocational Wellness**
1. Engage in goal-oriented activities and work that bring satisfaction
2. Contribute your unique skills and talents
3. Remain active and productive
4. Find a supportive employer

**Intellectual Wellness**
1. Learn a new skill/take a class
2. Read
3. Play brain games
4. Listen to music or learn how to play an instrument
5. Spend time with people who challenge your intellect

**Environmental Wellness**
1. Sounds a little cheesy but...become one with the Earth :)
2. Recycle, plant, garden
3. Enjoy the outdoors, fresh air, sunshine and rain
4. Feel grounded
Vision
We envision a world where caregivers of dementia and patients with varying conditions will have the advocacy, skills, and knowledge to confidently and respectfully manage care regardless of circumstance.

Diaphragmatic Breathing & Mindfulness Meditation

1. Sit comfortably, with your back straight. You can be down if you wish.
2. Tuck your hands in your laps.
3. Breathe slowly and calmly. Breathe fully with a normal breath. For each breath, inhale deeply and hold it for 5 seconds, then exhale for 10 seconds and hold it for 3 seconds. Maintain this breathing pattern for 10 minutes.
4. Breathe slowly in a controlled way. To do this, inhale slowly and hold the breath for 2 seconds before exhalting. Repeat for 10 minutes.
5. Work to maintain calmness and the pace of the breath.
6. Practice this for about 10 minutes.
7. This can help you practice the technique by the time you are done with this protocol and each day.

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Thank You!

Rosanne's contact information:
email: ar7975@wayne.edu   phone: 313-993-3970
Each caregiver tends to have their own style of providing care. Dr. Leggett will present research on the different cognitive and behavioral approaches caregivers use to help persons living with dementia. Once you know your style, you’re better positioned to communicate needs, resolve conflict and appreciate other approaches. She will also discuss how caregiving style can impact well-being and stress.
“WHAT’S YOUR STYLE?”
HOW CAREGIVING STYLE IMPACTS THE CARE YOU PROVIDE & YOUR OWN WELL-BEING

Amanda Leggett, PhD, FGSA
Assistant Professor
Institute of Gerontology and Department of Psychology
Wayne State University

Acknowledgments

• National Institute on Aging
  K01AG056557, 3K01AG056557-04S1, P30AG053760

• Mentors:
  • Helen Kales, UC Davis
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  • Mike Elliott, UM Biostatistics
  • Nancy Hodgson, UPenn
  • Daphne Watkins, UM Social Work

• Research assistants:
  • Benjamin Bugajski
  • Brianna Broderick
  • Breanna Webster
  • Elaina Baker
  • Hannah Lee

Frank, an 86-year old living with dementia, insists that his grandson Kevin is stealing from him and gets combative when Kevin comes to visit, throwing a pillow across the room.

Which of the following best reflects how you would manage this care situation?
You go pick up the pillow and take it back to Frank. You’ve taken all of Frank’s care on your shoulders and seem to take care of things without getting too emotionally involved. You tell Frank that Kevin didn’t steal anything from him and start a separate conversation with Kevin.

You remember this happening last month and that trying to reason with Frank didn’t work. Instead you try to dissipate the situation by telling Frank that you and Kevin are going to the kitchen to make a snack and use the snack as a diversion for Frank. In the kitchen you suggest to Kevin that it might be better to prevent this from happening in the future by visiting Kevin at his house, rather than him coming to you. You’re not worried and know you’ll be able to figure out a solution if this strategy doesn’t work.

You are frustrated when Frank again accuses Kevin. Kevin is a wonderful grandson and you just don’t understand why Frank keeps reacting this way. You tell Frank that Kevin would never steal from him and that he needs to stop lying and go pick up the pillow. You feel your blood pressure going up and are not sure how much more of this behavior you can take.
You exclaim, “What! What did he steal from you?” and immediately feel guilty for your reaction as you realize the dementia is impacting his beliefs. But when Frank can’t give you a response for what was stolen, you feel helpless and don’t know what to do. You try to trial and error some solutions but keep getting stuck and wish you had some support for how to handle the situation.

You go to comfort Frank and rub his back to help him calm down. You think about how stressed you would be if you thought someone was stealing from you and try your best to empathize with Frank. You tell him that you remember seeing the “stolen” item and suggest that you look for it together, including Kevin in the search.
A Simple Model of Caregiving Stress

Caregiving and the Stress Process

- **Pearlin’s Stress Process Model** (Pearlin, Mullan, Semple, & Skaff, 1990)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Primary Stressors</th>
<th>Secondary Stressors: Role strains</th>
<th>Resources</th>
<th>Outcomes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Objective Stressors</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cognitive problems</td>
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<tr>
<td>Help with daily tasks</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Behavior problems</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Subjective Stressors</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Stress Appraisal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Overload</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Loss of relationship</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Family conflict
Job-care conflict
Financial problems
Loss of identity
Health
Mental health
Yielding of role
Coping
Social support

(Zarit, Reever, & Bach-Peterson, 1980)
Understudied is the process of how families actually provide care.

Caregiving Styles

- Baumrind’s (1978) seminal work on parenting styles
- Do family CGs for PWDs have care management styles?

Identify caregivers at risk → Personalized medicine
Methods

- Participants (N=100)
  - Held primary responsibility of care
  - Unpaid
  - Within 60 miles of Ann Arbor
  - PWD not living in a nursing home or assisted living facility
  - PWD life expectancy > 6 months

- Baseline interviews conducted in 2018
  - lasted an hour and a half
  - at homes or a public place (e.g. coffee shop)

### Sample Characteristics

#### Demographics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Mean (SD)</th>
<th>Proportion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age (Range: 20-90)</td>
<td>63.7 (16.1)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Race</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refused</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than college</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-graduate</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Care Context

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Mean (SD)</th>
<th>Proportion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Months of care provision (Range: 4 – 220)</td>
<td>55.3 (43.1)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hours of weekly care (Range: 1 – 98)</td>
<td>54.3 (37.2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relation to PWD</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spouse</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult child</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CG and PWD live together</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PWD Diagnosis</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alzheimer’s</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NOS</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LBD/Parkinson’s</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CAREGIVING STYLES

Qualitative Approach

Qualitative Interview

- Can you tell me about a care related challenge you’ve had recently?
- Why was this challenging?
- Can you walk me through how you handled or responded to that challenge?
- What values or beliefs do you hold that play into care decisions that you make?

- Rigorous and accelerated data reduction technique (RADaR) (Watkins, 2017)

Most commonly reported care challenges

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Care Challenge</th>
<th>Primary Frequency (% of Total)</th>
<th>Secondary Frequency (% of Total)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BPSD</td>
<td>51 (45%)</td>
<td>16 (21%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agitation</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delusions</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cognitive decline</td>
<td>21 (18%)</td>
<td>26 (33%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive dysfunction</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memory</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADLs (ex. eating)</td>
<td>17 (15%)</td>
<td>16 (21%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IADLs (ex. shopping)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6 (8%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Care coordination</td>
<td>11 (10%)</td>
<td>5 (6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical care (ex. fall)</td>
<td>7 (6%)</td>
<td>5 (6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Struggle with decline/autonomy</td>
<td>6 (5%)</td>
<td>4 (5%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No challenge</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total care challenges</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note. BPSD = behavioral and psychological symptoms of dementia; ADL = activities of daily living; IADL = instrumental activities of daily living
The Externalizer (N=14)
“‘I’ll say, ‘if you think you’re punishing me, you’re only punishing yourself’” (ID 172)

- Superficial understanding of dementia
- Rigid, inflexible approach to care
- Focuses on stress to self rather than impact to CR
- Helpless, frustrated
- Respond with anger
- Attempts to pull the CR back into the CGs lived experience

“Sometimes if I say no, no that didn’t happen – everybody’s told me ‘don’t argue’, … [but] I just don’t like letting it go… we get home and I don’t know if she tries to lie about it or what… she’ll act like that never even happened.” (ID 107)
The Individualist (N=15)
"You just live through it, you just do it" (ID 164)

Direct, linear approach to care
Emotionally removed in their discussion of care challenges
"just do it"
Uses preventative actions to manage care
Managing well without many challenges

“Go there and do it. Remember when I told you, that is part of my responsibility? That’s what you have to do.”

Interviewer: Have you figured out any strategies that have made it easier for you over time? Have you changed your approach?

“No, just go there and do it.”

The Learner (N=35)
“So as you go along, you stumble on a few things – but stumble it is” (ID 124)

Trying to address care challenges and learning as they go but often getting stuck
On a spectrum between maladaptive and adaptive care strategies and practices
Recognized a need to change their approach

Use trial and error to find a solution to care challenges
Emotional range: tempering, guilt, empathy, helplessness
“I’ll just have to tell her “there’s something wrong, look at your feet…Take a deep breath. [laughs] and just, okay “she’s not doing this on purpose”.

The Adapter (N=17)
“Always expect the unexpected” (ID 142)

“A lot of it is just hiding a lot of her hair care stuff. We hide her bobby pins, hide her hair brushes, combs – somehow she still finds them – and just kind of, trying to remind her that it’s in a couple days, not now. Or pretending that we did her hair, that works really well too – just like blowing some like hot air on her hair, she falls for that one almost all the time”
The Nurturer (N=15)  
"I value making the most of what is present rather than what is lost" (ID 170)  
- Focuses on impact on CR more than stress to self  
- Positive affect toward care and the disease  
- Enters into CR's lived experience to address challenge  
- Comforts CR, teamwork  
- Understanding of dementia, mastery, natural adaptability

"I value her as a person, I value her life, ...I try to make her life still be useful to her and fulfilling, I've got her painting pictures... they aren't masterpieces but she seems to be enjoying it and we'll put on music, she likes Barbara Streisand... because I think she wants to be alive and she wants to be present so I'm trying to do what I can to help her there."

ID 109

Externalizer  Individualist  Learner  Adapter  Nurturer

31

32

33
100% Caucasian American
Significantly older
Most Spouses
CR’s have the most BPSD
Significantly greater cortisol output
(AUC) than Nurturers
Greatest burden
Greatest BPSD distress
Lowest PLWD quality of life

33% report difficulty paying for their living expenses
Providing care for the least amount of time (44 months on average)
Greatest upset about assisting with ADL/IADLs
Least CG burden
Lowest PWD quality of life

81% were Female
40% were taking an anti-depressant or anti-anxiety medication
PWDs had the lowest DSRS severity
Had the least BPSD distress
Provided care on average for 7 years
65% had a post-graduate degree
70% used formal care services
31% non-White
Had PWDs with the greatest DSRS severity
In the middle on outcomes

60% were employed
Significantly lower cortisol output (AUC)
Significantly lower distress related to BPSD and ADL/IADLs
Significantly higher PWD quality of life [than Externalizers]

MODIFYING OUR APPROACH BY CAREGIVING STYLE
Externalizers

**Strengths:**
- Trying really hard to meet the needs of CRs with difficult behaviors.
- Good at expressing the challenges they face.

**Tips**
- You are not alone- other CGs face similar challenges and can support you.
- Acknowledge that “the pipes are corroding” with dementia- a disease process is taking place.
- **Respite/Adult Day Service**
- Have a plan in place for a crisis- advance planning can decrease some stress in the moment.

Individualists

**Strengths:**
- Observant; keep great records of the CR’s symptoms and behaviors which may be helpful at clinic visits.
- Usually effective at getting things done.

**Tips**
- Don’t “miss the forest for the trees”- consider humanity of the situation and personhood of the CR- not just the tasks to be accomplished.
- **Self care**- don’t put all responsibilities on yourself- share some responsibilities or consider a formal service.
- **Pleasant activities**- working on a puzzle, going for a walk, looking through a photo album.

Learners

**Strengths:**
- Growing in their understanding and approach to dementia
- Willing to accept help and try new ways of managing care

**Tips**
- **Behavioral intervention** such as WeCare that can help identify different ways to manage care challenges.
- **Support Groups** -discover new approaches to care, problem solve, and acknowledge that they are not alone.
- **Trial and error** is part of the learning process.
- Guilt and empathy are common emotions experienced by CGs- talking to a professional or **counselor** may be helpful.
Adapters

Strengths:
• Understand dementia well
• Have acquired many behavioral strategies

Tips
• Don’t miss the joy in care! Look for growth and positive moments
• Humor is helpful medicine. It is ok to express emotion.
• Acknowledge that you’re doing a good job—consider walking alongside another CG who is struggling

Nurturers

Strengths:
• Focus on what is still left— the remaining capabilities of the CR— and on ways they have grown in the care role.

Tips
• Self-care— Don’t forget to care for yourself!
• Respite care— Remember to take breaks.

Thank you!

• Much appreciation to my mentors, research assistants, the NIA, and my research participants

“There are only four kinds of people in the world—those who have been caregivers, those who are caregivers, those who will be caregivers, and those who will need caregivers.”

-Rosalynn Carter
References

Caregivers of relatives or friends with special needs know how difficult it can be to make visits to the doctor. With the help of TytoCare, an Henry Ford Virtual Exam kit, doctors can provide expert care to homebound patients during a virtual care visit. TytoCare is a handheld device that securely connects to the patient’s Henry Ford MyChart electronic medical record. Tools that easily attach to the device allow the doctor to look inside ears, listen to the lungs and heart, take the temperature, look down the throat and more.
Patient Story

The mother of a 30-year-old Henry Ford patient with autism purchased a Tyto device. Shortly after that, the patient became ill with sore throat, ear redness, and congestion. Mother decided to have an On Demand video visit using her Henry Ford Virtual Exam Kit. During the video visit, mother stated the patient became uncooperative and threw a “temper tantrum.” Once the patient calmed down, the visit was completed.

Mother stated, “This is a life changing technology for her and her son as well as the clinic staff.” She explained there are times her son can become aggressive during his tantrum. The ability to have a doctor’s appointment virtually keeps everyone safe.

During our discussion, the mother said she originally purchased the device for her father who has Alzheimer’s. She stated that this device is great for anyone that has children or cares for adults with disabilities or mobility concerns.

What is the Henry Ford Virtual Exam Kit?

- The Henry Ford Virtual Exam kit is a small handheld device that is used from home to enhance a virtual visit with your Henry Ford doctor.
- The device has several attachments that enable your doctor to conduct many exams that previously required an office visit, including:
  - Listen to heart sounds
  - Listen to lungs sounds
  - Observe heart rate
  - View inside of the ear canal
  - Examine throat
  - Skin examination
  - Built-in thermometer
  - Pulse oximeter attachment
Who can use the device?

- Anyone in your home or extended family can use the device. So, one device per household is all you need.
- Henry Ford Health is currently the only Health System in southeastern Michigan that provides virtual care using the Tyto device.
- Henry Ford offers a 24/7, 365 Video Visit On Demand service. This means that in the middle of the night, if you have medical concerns, you can now connect with a Henry Ford doctor and have a comprehensive exam.

How does the Henry Ford Virtual Exam Kit work?

The Henry Ford Virtual Exam Kit securely connects to your Henry Ford Health MyChart account.
- Using a tablet or smartphone login to the patient's MyChart and click the "Tyto Config" icon.
- This will prompt you to download the Tyto App
- Once the App is downloaded you will be able to pair your device and connect.

Live Demo