

DEMENTIA CAL MEDICCONNECT PROJECT: CALIFORNIA'S DUALS PILOT

CARE NEEDS ASSESSMENT TOOL

“Caring for someone with Alzheimer’s disease or a related dementia can sometimes be challenging. I am going to ask you some questions to help better plan for care. Some of the questions I ask may be personal, but will help me understand your needs. I’d like to know if you have experienced any of these challenges in the past month, and if so, how much they bothered or upset you when they happened.”

*How much does this bother the caregiver?
 0 = not at all
 1 = a little
 2 = somewhat
 3 = very much
 4 = extremely
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Challenging Behaviors & ADLs and Functional Needs	Has it happened in the past month?		How much does this bother the caregiver?
CHALLENGING BEHAVIORS			
Sleep disturbances (waking you or other family members up at night)	NO	YES →	
Repetition (doing or saying things over and over)	NO	YES →	
Sadness and/or depression (feeling blue)	NO	YES →	
Combativeness (anger, hitting, pushing, fighting, etc.)	NO	YES →	
Hallucinations (seeing or hearing things that are not there)	NO	YES →	
Sundowning (more confusion/restlessness in late afternoon/evening)	NO	YES →	
Suspiciousness/paranoia (accusing/blaming)	NO	YES →	
Screaming and making noises	NO	YES →	
Disinhibition (unwanted sexual behaviors or inappropriate behaviors)	NO	YES →	
ACTIVITIES OF DAILY LIVING AND FUNCTIONAL NEEDS			
Resists bathing or showering	NO	YES →	
Difficulty with dressing and grooming (brushing hair/teeth, shaving, etc.)	NO	YES →	
Difficulty with eating (including chewing, swallowing, dental concerns)	NO	YES →	
Difficulty using the toilet/incontinence (wetting, accidents)	NO	YES →	

Safety & Caregiver Needs	Has the caregiver experienced this?	
SAFETY		
Home safety concerns (falls, guns, knives, stove, leaving the person alone)	NO	YES
Insists on driving	NO	YES
Takes medicine the wrong way	NO	YES
Wanders/gets lost	NO	YES
CAREGIVER NEEDS		
Depression/stress (feeling blue and/or overwhelmed)	NO	YES
Difficulty providing care because of your health	NO	YES
Lacks understanding of dementia	NO	YES
Legal and financial planning (paying the bills, power of attorney, etc.)	NO	YES
Long-term care planning	NO	YES
End-of-life planning	NO	YES

*Care managers should use clinical judgment to gauge caregiver’s capacity to provide care, level of burden to caregiver, and identified unmet needs. This information will determine which standardized care plans are needed.

Other needs identified: _____

