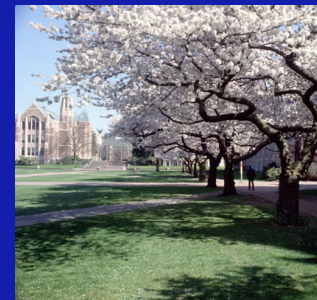


# The Effect of Primary Care Service Location on Seniors with Dementia

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# Acknowledgements

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# Problem

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- Prevalence: 35 million seniors; 4.5 million with dementia; expected to exceed 16 million by 2050 (Novartis, 2003)
- Problem: 64%-83% incidence rate of adverse behavior among seniors w/dementia (Clifford et al., 2005)
- Impact: Medicare costs expected to exceed \$160 billion by 2010 (Alzheimer's Association, 2006)
- Personal meaning: Impending explosive growth/ costs

# Research Purpose

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- Determine if institutionalized seniors with moderate to severe dementia experience behavioral changes when receiving primary care services in an outpatient setting
- Determine if behaviors differ when receiving on-site services in the customary environment

# Methods

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- Method: Retrospective record review
- Sample: 43 records from residential care facility specializing in dementia care
- Records reviewed for frequency/type of observed behaviors for 7 days before and 7 days after any 2005 provider visit (including the day of the visit)
- 15-page data collection tool developed

# Results

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- Total of 203 visits: 152 in-house by a nurse practitioner, 44 to ER, and 7 to outpatient primary care/specialty providers
- One incident of adverse behavior on one day in 152 in-house visits
- All 7 outpatient visits associated with adverse behaviors for multiple days following each visit
- Increase in frequency of adverse behaviors associated with outpatient provider visits

# Educational/Professional Insights

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- Preponderance of research on types of adverse behaviors is limited with regard to how population might be negatively affected by outpatient primary care visits
- Sometimes innovative changes are a product of necessity rather than research
- Community standards of practice may encourage research that then drives evidenced-based practice

# Conclusions and Implications

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- Conclusion: “It just isn’t worth it to send them out. They come back anxious and agitated.”
- Further prospective research needed for statistically significant evidence to validate above
- Given anticipated, continued growth of this population and associated fiscal implications, we have a responsibility to find additional methods to prevent adverse behaviors

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*Thank you!*