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Home Care Assistance Waterloo Wellington Hosts Educational Event for Primary Care Practitioners on Dementia Management

Home Care Assistance to host event at Schlegel Villages on Thursday, August 18th, 2016 in partnership with Your Neighbourhood Credit Union, Alzheimer Society Waterloo Wellington, Murray Alzheimer Research and Education Program in Aging

(Kitchener, ON – August 17, 2016) [Home Care Assistance Waterloo Wellington](#), the leading provider of non-medical senior care, today announced that it is hosting an educational event on dementia management for general practitioners, including general physicians, nurse practitioners and geriatric care managers. The event will be held on Thursday, August 18th from 6-8:30pm at the Schlegel Villages, which are located at The Village at the University Gates, 250 Laurelwood Drive in Waterloo, Ontario. Speakers will include: Dr. George Heckman, Schlegel Research Chair in Geriatric Medicine, Associate Professor, Department of Health Studies and Gerontology, University of Waterloo, Dr. Linda Lee, Schlegel Chair in Primary Care for Elders, Director, Centre for Family Medicine Memory Clinic, Dr. Shiv Khosla, Internal Medicine St. Mary's Hospital, Kitchener.

“We are excited to bring important stakeholders together who can help people living with dementia and their caregivers. We have physicians, nurse practitioners, geriatric specialists, patient support groups such as Alzheimer Society and MAREP under one roof, literally,” said Angie Kunnath, Home Care Assistance Waterloo Wellington Co-Owner and COO.

In 2010, there were 505,351 Canadians affected by Alzheimer's disease and related dementias. This number is projected to grow to 1,042,113 in 2035. This translates to a new case every 5 minutes in 2008 and one every 2 minutes in 2038. All patients must have non-pharmacological interventions tailored to their individual care needs for routine implementation.

Does a dementia diagnosis automatically mean the car keys should be taken away? There are guidelines and tools to help family doctors and general practitioners assess their senior patients' ability to drive,

including their cognitive abilities. A recent study published by Queen's University study predicts Ontario drivers with dementia will more than double to 100,000 in 2028. How to support seniors once they can no longer drive is the dilemma. People have to move into nursing homes or seek Live-In caregivers. Dr. Linda Lee will be speaking on this important subject.

"When primary care physicians connect people living with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias and their families to support and information early in the disease it helps them develop competency and resiliency in facing their journey with dementia. The Alzheimer Society helps with planning, support and information, education, and provides access to support services and dementia-specific expertise," said Bethany Galbraith, MSW, RSW, Interim Director of Programs and Services, Alzheimer Society of Waterloo Wellington.

Dementia is often viewed as an isolated condition, however patients with dementia suffer from high prevalence of comorbid medical conditions which frequently remain undiagnosed, and in many cases preventable. People with dementia are also less likely to receive the same help to manage and treat their comorbidities than people without dementia. As a result of this difference, these individuals experience a faster decline in Activities of Daily Living (ADL) and a reduced Quality of Life (QoL) than those who have same morbidities, but do not have dementia. Dr. George Heckman will touch upon dementia and co-morbidities.

"Based on extensive research conducted by MAREP, people living with dementia and their families seek out information about their condition primarily from physicians. Knowing this, it is essential for organization, such as MAREP, who produce relevant, research-based resources in partnership with those affected by dementia, to work closely with Family Health Teams, Family Physicians, Geriatricians and other diagnosing professionals in order to ensure persons with dementia and their family partners in care have access to the information/knowledge when they need it," said Lisa Loiselle, Associate Director of Research, Murray Alzheimer Research and Education Program and Program Manager, Network for Aging Research.

For more information about Home Care Assistance of Waterloo Wellington, please visit www.homecareassistancewaterloo.ca or call [519-954-2111](tel:519-954-2111).

ABOUT HOME CARE ASSISTANCE

[Home Care Assistance](http://www.homecareassistance.com) is the leading provider of home care for seniors across the United States, Canada and Australia. Our mission is to change the way the world ages. We provide older adults with quality care that enables them to live happier, healthier lives at home. Our services are distinguished by the caliber of our caregivers, the responsiveness of our staff and our expertise in daily care. We embrace a positive, balanced approach to aging centered on the evolving needs of older adults. A 2016 Franchise500®, Inc. 5000 Company and one of the [50 fastest](#) growing women-owned companies worldwide in 2016, the company was recognized as a [2016 Endorsed National Provider](#) by the home care industry's leading research firm, Home Care Pulse. Home Care Assistance CEO Lily Sarafan was also named Health Care Executives' [2016 Woman of the Year](#). For more information about Home Care Assistance, visit <http://www.homecareassistance.com>.