
Sharing Expertise to Improve Care

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The CADCs have been leaders on policy issues, and have played a critical role in state-wide and local health care policy by partnering with state and local organizations and providing specialized knowledge to help solve problems facing individuals living with Alzheimer's disease and those who care for them.

The Centers' expertise has helped guide committees and task forces on issues of concern for individuals with Alzheimer's disease and their families; and the specialized knowledge of CADC staff have been instrumental in developing and implementing policy initiatives which have helped improved the lives of those with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias.

- **Guidelines of Alzheimer's Disease Management**

These guidelines describe the standard of primary care for patients with progressive dementia. The Centers expertise was invaluable to the initial development and update of the "[Guidelines of Alzheimer's Disease Management](#)." [1] The CADCs have aggressively disseminated these guidelines through their many educational activities. [Learn more](#) [2]

- **The California Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Advisory Committee**

Since the Advisory Committee's inception in 1998, specialists from the CADCs have served on the committee providing expert opinion and counsel to the Administration and Legislature on Alzheimer's disease-related issues and public policies. This committee will be taking an important leading role in the development of the "California State Plan for Alzheimer's Disease."

- **Alzheimer's State Plan Task Force**

Staff from the Centers, as members of this task force, will be contributing their expertise in the development of a seminal 10 year policy blueprint for Alzheimer's disease and related disorders that will address many of the problems that will confront the State, stemming from the burgeoning aging population. [Learn more about the State Plan](#) [3]

- **Informed Consent Legislation**

The CADCs collaborative efforts and expertise introduced and facilitated the passage of informed consent legislation that enables research with the more severely impaired individuals, including targeted therapies that can improve the quality of life in the later stages of the disease.

- **Successful Advocacy Resulted in Thousands of Medi-Cal Individuals Having Access to an Important Dementia Treatment**

In 2001 the Centers worked closely with Medi-Cal, providing important expertise and knowledge, to bring about the removal of a class of anti-dementia drugs from the treatment authorization request (TAR) process. The TAR process limited access to this helpful anti-dementia medication to thousands of people because the criteria used was biased towards individuals who are older, more poorly educated, and of minority background. [Learn more](#) [2]

Next: [Working Together to Improve Care](#) [2]

Source URL: <http://cadc.ucsf.edu/cadc/expertise>

Links:

[1] <http://caalz.org/learn/guidelines/>

[2] <http://cadc.ucsf.edu/cadc/expertise/care>

[3] <http://www.caalz.org/stateplan.htm>