

PRESENTATION 46: Saturday 18th October, 2008
15.00 – 15.10 h.

ONE SLIDE / FIVE MINUTES

TITLE: Caregivers of Patients Suffering from Alzheimer Disease in Primary Care: Difficulties and Needs; Consequences for the General Practitioner.

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Background:

850000 patients are currently suffering from Alzheimer disease in France. Familial caregivers are mostly in charge of daily care; their burden is highly demonstrated. The general practitioner (GP) has to take care of both Alzheimer patient and caregiver, especially in long term follow-up. A specific way of taking into account this burden and its consequences on their health seems to be needed. Specific practice is required to preserve the balance of care receiver and caregiver.

Objectives:

To identify caregivers and general practitioners difficulties and needs.
To establish the specific role of GP in caregivers healthcare.
To take advantage of various health systems proposals in France, United States and Canada

Method:

This study will be run in three parts. Firstly a qualitative research including semi directive interviews of caregivers and focus groups of general practitioners. This first process will lead to questionnaire design for each one. Secondly a quantitative process; we will collect data from the questionnaires, sent to GPs and caregivers. Eventually, we will compare results from American, Canadian and French participants.

Expected Results:

This study will help GPs to identify and to deal with specific health needs of caregivers, in order to improve their daily practices and caregiver's health. Ways and solutions of dealing with caregiver's problems could be tested.

Discussion:

What kind of difficulties while building up the questionnaire?

Points for discussion:

Difficult comparison of several care systems
Adhesion to qualitative research