Alzheimer's Disease in South Carolina: A Preview from the Alzheimer's Disease Registry

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South Carolina Alzheimer's Disease Registry

- Studies Alzheimer's Disease and related disorders (ADRD)
- One of only three population-based state AD registries in the nation
- Founded in 1988
Registry Legislation

- Authorized/established by state law in 1990
- Grants permission for Registry to contact cases and caregivers
- Addresses use and protection of confidential data
Data Sources

SC Inpatient Hospitalizations
Long-term Care Evaluations
Medicaid
Mental Health Records
Home Health
Algorithm to Remove Duplicates
South Carolina Alzheimer’s Disease Registry

SC Emergency Departments
State Health Plan
Vital Records
CMHC/MHRC
Private Practice
PACE

*Duplicates occur because individuals often use more than one name, social security number, or other identifying information when using health or social services.
What’s in the Registry?

- Diagnosis (current dementia diagnosis and other medical diagnoses)
- Sociodemographic data (gender, race, age)
- Location of case (for follow-up)
Prevalence of Living Persons with a Diagnosis of Alzheimer’s disease or Related Disorder, by County

Age 65 and Over

Age 85 and Over
Yearly SC AD Registry Totals

![Graph showing the number of people with ADRD over years from 2002 to 2012. The number increases steadily over the years.](image)
Registry Research Strengths

- Statewide population-based registry, with large number of cases (n= 90,040)
- Multiple data sources with a history of validity checks
- Diagnosis by physicians of all specialties
- Possibility of integrating registry data with other state datasets (SC Data Warehouse)
- Ability to examine prevalence for different demographic groups
Registry Research and Other Activities

- Evaluation of GHS – Reach intervention (caregivers of ADRD persons) - Greenville Health Systems
- Alcohol Abuse and Dementia in SC
- Health and Social Resiliency of Flood-affected Older Adults living in the Community (Dept. Health Promotion, Education, Behavior)
- Behavioral Disturbances and Nursing Home Placement
- Alzheimer’s Disease in Latinos Study (Consortium for Latino Studies)
- Routine Data Requests
  - Grants
  - Policy Planning
  - Advocacy Groups (e.g. Alzheimer’s Association)
- Annual Report (since 1990)
**OSA Programs**

- Dementia Dialogues
- Home Care +
- VAGAL Program
- Placemat Strength Training Program
- Move for Life
- Annual reports available from:

USC Scholar Commons (Office for the Study of Aging):
[http://scholarcommons.sc.edu/osa_alzheimers_registry](http://scholarcommons.sc.edu/osa_alzheimers_registry)
OSA Opportunities for Students, Researchers and Community Partners

- Research
  - Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Disorders
  - Long Term Care Policies and Organizations
  - Healthy Aging
  - Epidemiology of Aging
  - Caregivers
- Interventions & Programs
- Program Evaluation
- Research for policy decision makers and advocacy organizations
- Graduate Assistants and Internships opportunities
Thank you