

factsheet

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HOPE for Alzheimer's Act

As many as half of the estimated 5.2 million Americans with Alzheimer's have never received a formal diagnosis.

- Physicians with experience diagnosing Alzheimer's disease can correctly diagnose it up to 90 percent of the time.
- However, as many as half of individuals meeting specific diagnostic criteria for dementia have never received a diagnosis.

An early and documented diagnosis and access to care planning services lead to better outcomes for individuals with Alzheimer's and their caregivers.

- An early diagnosis provides the opportunity for individuals and their caregivers to consider the medical and non-medical treatments and support services that are available – including participation in clinical trials.
- It also allows individuals with the disease and their caregivers to better manage medications, receive counseling, engage in financial and long-term care planning, and assess driving and safety issues in advance.
- Documentation in an individual's medical record is critical for care coordination and is necessary for health care providers to address complications in the management of other health conditions, such as heart disease and diabetes.



1 in 9 Seniors Has Alzheimer's Disease



Half Do Not Know It

Consistent with the recommendations of the *National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease, the Health Outcomes, Planning, and Education (HOPE) for Alzheimer's Act (S. 709 / H.R. 1507)* would:

- Provide Medicare coverage for a package of services, including:
 - clinical diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease
 - care planning to provide newly-diagnosed individuals and their caregivers information about medical and non-medical options for treatment and support
- Require documentation of the diagnostic evaluation and any care planning provided in an individual's medical record.