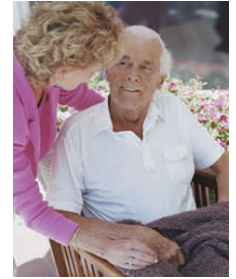




Alzheimer's Drug Therapy Initiative



RESEARCH OVERVIEW FOR INDIVIDUALS AND CAREGIVERS

At PharmaCare, deciding whether to cover a drug is based on evidence of how safe it is and how well it works. For Alzheimer's medications, not enough clinical evidence was available, even though physicians, patients and caregivers reported that these medications were helping. The Ministry of Health Services got together a group of internationally-renowned experts, researchers, educators, physicians and patient advocates to find a solution.

As a result, the Alzheimer's Drug Therapy Initiative was created to provide PharmaCare coverage of medications for the treatment of mild to moderate cognitive impairment. These medications include donepezil (Aricept®), rivastigmine (Exelon®), and galantamine (Reminyl®).

Information gathered at 6-month reassessment appointments provides researchers with anonymous clinical data on how well these medications work. If you or someone you care for is being treated with one of these medications, you can help by participating in one of the associated research studies being conducted by the University of Victoria's Centre on Aging.

Program of Research Investigators:

Neena Chappell
Malcolm Maclure



Lynn Beattie
Robin Hsiung
Kiran Rabheru
Claudia Jacova
Philip Lee



The Alzheimer's Drug Therapy Initiative is the result of collaboration between the Ministry of Health Services, the Alzheimer Society of B.C., the University of British Columbia, the University of Victoria, drug manufacturers, clinical experts, researchers and practising physicians.

Caregiver Study:

As a caregiver, what are the advantages and disadvantages you find with this treatment for your family member and yourself?

The Caregiver Study is talking to people who provide day-to-day support to a family member who is receiving treatment for Alzheimer's disease, or who has taken these medications over the past year. Caregiver participation only.

Seniors' Medication Study (SMS):

When people don't appear to respond to treatment in the first 12 months, doctors, patients and caregivers face a dilemma. Should they continue treatment, stop or switch to another drug?

This study examines the impact of continuing, switching or stopping the medication. Patient & physician participation required.

To learn how you can participate in these important research studies, please call
1 866 511-2594
(ALZH)

Protecting Your Privacy — Using Information for Research Purposes

Procedures for collecting, moving and storing information were reviewed and approved by the Ethics Committees of the University of British Columbia and the University of Victoria. Information shared with the Ministry of Health Services is governed by the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* and is overseen by the Ministry's Office for eHealth Privacy, Security & Legislation.

Voluntary Participation

The Seniors' Medication and Caregiver studies involve interviews with patients and/or caregivers and require their written consent.

Using Anonymous Information

Personal Health Numbers and Medical Services Plan numbers are replaced with codes designed to ensure anonymity.