



HHS Issues 2014 Update to the National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease

May 5, 2014

On April 29, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) released the 2014 update to the National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease. The Plan is the product of the *National Alzheimer's Project Act* (NAPA), which requires the Secretary of HHS to develop of a national plan to address Alzheimer's disease and related dementias (ADRD) to be updated annually to reflect progress made and shifting priorities. The Plan was developed with input from a public-private Advisory Council on Alzheimer's Research, Care and Services, also established by NAPA. The Council makes recommendations to HHS for priority actions designed to expand, coordinate, and condense programs in order to improve the health outcomes of people with ADRD and reduce the financial burden of these conditions on those with the diseases, their families, and society. The Advisory Council's most recent meeting occurred on April 29.

The first National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease was released on May 15, 2012. Like the original plan, the 2014 update includes recommendation for priority actions. The activities outlined in the plan vary in scope and impact. They include immediate actions for the federal government, near term actions that can be initiated by the federal government, and longer-range activities that require numerous actions to achieve. It is emphasized that this is a "national plan" and not a "federal plan," as active participation of public and private sector stakeholders are needed to achieve its goals.

Five goals form the foundation of the National Plan: (1) Prevent and Effectively Treat Alzheimer's Disease by 2025; (2) Enhance Care Quality and Efficiency; (3) Expand Supports for People with Alzheimer's Disease and Their Families; (4) Enhance Public Awareness and Engagement; and (5) Track Progress and Drive Improvement.

The 2014 update requires HHS to convene a second international Alzheimer's Disease Research Summit, which will occur in February 2015. HHS along with its federal partners will use the input received during the summit and the input received from a 2012 Request for Information to inform implementation of the National Plan. Another new action added to the plan requires the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to develop short, medium, and long-term milestones needed to achieve progress toward preventing or effectively treating dementias related to Alzheimer's disease.

In 2016, the National Institute of Neurological Disease and Stroke (NINDS) at NIH will convene a second Alzheimer's Disease-Related Dementias Research Summit to review progress on ADRDs, report process

on the ADRD 2013 milestones, and revise the research recommendations as appropriate. NINDS will release a report summarizing the recommendations following the 2016 Summit.

More information on the National Plan along with the 2014 update is available [here](#).

