

Société Alzheimer Society

NOVA SCOTIA



Fill in ONE or BOTH boxes below.

1. Please refer the following friend/family caregiver to the ASNS First Link® Program

Friend/family caregiver:

Name: _____ (the person we will call)

Relationship to PWD: _____

Daytime phone number: _____ May we leave a message? **Y N**

Initials of caregiver: _____ Date: _____

AND/OR

2. Please refer the following patient to the ASNS First Link® Program.

(Do NOT complete this section if you are referring caregiver only.)

Patient:

Patient Name: _____ (the person we will call)

Patient Daytime Phone number: _____ May we leave a message? **Y N**

Consent for First Link® to contact the patient:

Signature of patient or substitute decision maker: _____

Date: _____

Comments/ Contact Preferences/Special Instructions:

Referred by (please print): _____

Mailing address: _____

Phone number: _____

Date: _____

**Forward referral information by
fax: (902) 422-7971**

We attempt to call clients within
3 weeks of referral.
Contact sooner? **Y N**

Request confirmation that
referral was received? **Y N**

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First Link[®] Referral

After receiving a diagnosis of dementia, many people don't know what to expect or where to go for help and support. Research indicates that when families receive education and support in a timely manner, they have an increased sense of well-being, improved quality of life, experience less crisis-driven decision-making, and even may delay long term care placement (Mittelman et al, 2006). Referring patients to the Alzheimer Society for this education and support has been endorsed through the 4th Canadian Consensus Conference on Diagnosis and Treatment of Dementia (CCCDTD, Gauthier et al, 2012).

Sometimes persons with dementia and/or their families are overwhelmed and reluctant to make that first call. Through the First Link[®] Program, the physician, specialist or other health care professional refers the family directly to Alzheimer Society of Nova Scotia (ASNS). The family then receives a call from Society staff, who can provide them with information, answer questions, discuss concerns and direct them to additional resources in the community. We have the skills, knowledge and time to work with families and provide them with tools and strategies that can make their lives easier. The Society continues to provide clients with ongoing phone contact throughout their journey, offering new information and services and ongoing support as long as the client requires.

If you wish to refer a person or family to the First Link[®] Program, fill out the referral form and fax to the number given. We will call the contact person you have indicated within about two weeks.

We accept referrals for persons affected by any disease or condition causing dementia.

If you have any questions, comments or concerns please do not hesitate to contact us as 422-7961 ext 244.

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