

## New guide to help prepare people on what to expect when someone they know is dying

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A new guide which prepares people on what to expect when someone is dying has today (25th March, 2015) been published by the National Council for Palliative Care.

The guide is intended to help address serious concerns raised by friends, family members and carers of dying people as well as health and social care professionals about the current inconsistent provision of information about the dying process.

Alzheimer's Society comment:

Gavin Terry, Head of Policy and Public Affairs at Alzheimer's Society said:

'Many people do not associate dementia as a terminal illness when in fact it is the leading cause of death amongst women in the UK. For too long, death and dying has been a taboo and there is a lack of support for carers and families when it comes to preparing for these final days and hours. This guidance is invaluable in demystifying death and providing information and support.

'Because of the nature of dementia where, in the later stages, people with the condition often lack capacity to make informed decisions it is important that discussions about end of life are had early so that families are aware of their wishes.'

- Ends -

Notes to editors:

225,000 will develop dementia this year, that's one every three minutes

Alzheimer's Society research shows that 850,000 people in the UK have a form of dementia. In less than ten years a million people will be living with dementia. This will soar to two million people by 2051

Dementia costs the UK economy over £26 Billion per year. This is the equivalent of more than £30,000 per person with dementia.

Alzheimer's Society champions the rights of people living with dementia and the millions of people who care for them

Alzheimer's Society works in England, Wales and Northern Ireland

Alzheimer's Society supports people to live well with dementia today and funds research to find a cure for tomorrow. We rely on voluntary donations to continue our vital work. You can donate now by calling 0845 306 0898 or visiting [alzheimers.org.uk](http://alzheimers.org.uk)

Alzheimer's Society provides a National Dementia Helpline, the number is 0300 222 11 22 or visit [alzheimers.org.uk](http://alzheimers.org.uk)

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