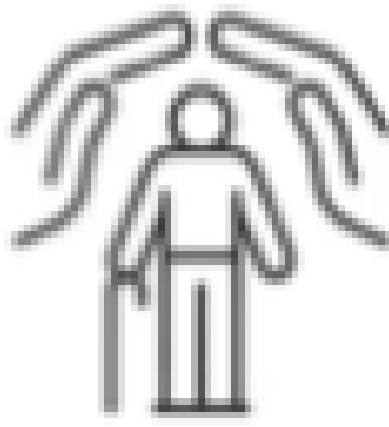


Caregiving Through Transitions: Advocating, Safeguarding, and Supporting People Living with Dementia from the Hospital to a SNF

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KEY TAKEAWAY: Caregivers of people living with dementia function as multi-role agents during hospital-to-SNF transitions, engaging in safeguarding, advancing, navigating, and advocating/interpreting roles that are dynamic and overlapping.

INTRODUCTION		RESULTS		CONCLUSIONS
- Caregivers play a central role in supporting people with dementia during the transition from hospital to a skilled nursing facility (SNF) - However, caregiver roles – the responsibilities and actions caregivers take to support patient care and well-being – remain underexplored Objective: To define caregiver roles during the transition from acute care hospitalization to SNF and throughout the SNF stay		Caregiver Roles in the Care of People with Dementia  NAVIGATING Directing care coordination and supporting decision making <i>I had to call back and follow-up continuously to figure that out myself...I didn't know the exact date of discharge</i>  SAFEGUARDING Protecting patients from physical and/or mental harm <i>We were there for breakfast, lunch, and dinner...to help feed her, make sure she was getting fed, and to check on her</i>		- Caregiving is a continuous, adaptive process, shifting in response to patient needs and system-level challenges, rather fixed tasks. System fragmentation drives expanded caregiver responsibilities, requiring caregivers to bridge gaps across care settings. Findings highlight the need for further support to people with dementia and their caregivers that acknowledge multi-faceted roles and responsibilities.
METHODS				FUNDING & CONTACT
- Conducted semi-structured interviews with 20 caregivers of adults with dementia admitted to an urban SNF after hospitalization. - Explored caregiver roles during hospital-to-SNF transitions and perceptions of the care needs of people with dementia during SNF stay. - Interviews analyzed using thematic analysis.		 ADVANCING Encouraging improvement in patient health state and well-being <i>We had to assure him that it was only temporary...this is good for him, so he can pretty much learn how to walk again</i>  ADVOCATING Advocating; interpreting, and contextualizing actions and behaviors <i>I think they look at her and say she's old and she's got dementia...but she is fully functioning person...when she's well.</i>		- This work is supported by the NIA (K24 AG054415, K01AG073533, P30AG044281) - Contact: Blair Golden (bpgolden@wisc.edu)  ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION AAIC >26