About Alzheimer’s Disease International (ADI)

- Established 1984
- The umbrella organisation of Alzheimer associations around the world
- 78 member associations

Aims to help establish and strengthen Alzheimer associations throughout the world, and to raise global awareness about Alzheimer’s disease and all other causes of dementia
Member countries 2012-13
ADI Annual International Conference

- Multidisciplinary event
- Opportunity to share and gather new information about dementia and dementia care
- Welcomes healthcare professionals, people with dementia, carers and Alzheimer association staff and volunteers

www.alz.co.uk/ADI-conference

2013: Taipei
2014: San Juan, Puerto Rico
Involvement of People with Dementia

- Involved in conference, Alzheimer University and advocacy work
- Personal stories featured in every *Global Perspective* newsletter
- Specific position for person with dementia on Elected Board
- *I Can! I Will!* ideas library available online

www.alz.co.uk/icaniwill
World Alzheimer’s Month

• 2012 first World Alzheimer’s Month
• 2012 *Dementia: living together*
• 70 countries participated
• Huge variety of activities worldwide
• World Alzheimer Report widely used by members

September is World Alzheimer’s Month
21 September is World Alzheimer’s Day

www.alz.co.uk/world-alzheimers-month
A report developed jointly by

World Health Organization

and

Alzheimer's Disease International
Why dementia is a public health issue?

1. The world's population is ageing

The number of older persons has more than tripled since 1950; it will almost triple again by 2050
Dementia: a public health issue

2. High burden and daunting costs: A major cause of disability in later life – accounting for 11.9% of years lived with disability

3. Extreme impact on caregivers, families, and societies

4. Lack of awareness and understanding of dementia at some level by all – often considered normal part of ageing
WHO/ADI report – *Dementia: a public health priority*

- **Purpose of the report**: to raise awareness of dementia as a public health priority; to articulate a public health approach and to advocate for action at international and national levels.

- **Methodology**: information from three sources and more than 100 experts
  1. Reports from four working groups
  2. Online survey of 30 countries
  3. Information from the stakeholder meeting
Key Messages
1. Dementia: a global epidemic

- 35.6 million people were estimated to be living with dementia in 2010.
- There are 7.7 million new cases of dementia each year, implying that there is a new case of dementia somewhere in the world every four seconds.
- The accelerating rates of dementia are cause for immediate action, especially in LMIC where resources are few.
Increase in numbers of people with dementia, by income group

And by region

- Asia (46%)
- Europe (31%)
- Americas (16%)
- Africa (7%)
2. High economic costs

- $604 billion
- 1% of GDP; equivalent to world’s 18th largest economy
- Further increases
  - Numbers of people with dementia
  - Shift from informal to formal sector
  - Increase in direct medical cost
National/sub-national response by countries

• Eight countries with national dementia policy/plan/strategy
• Few countries with sub-national dementia policy/plan/strategy
• Some other countries currently developing national approaches
3. Country preparedness for dementia required

• Countries must include dementia on their public health agendas.

• Sustained action and coordination is required across multiple levels and with all stakeholders – at international, national, regional and local levels.
Priority areas of action within the national dementia policy/plan

- Raising awareness
- Timely diagnosis
- Commitment to good quality continuing care and services
- Caregiver support
- Workforce training
- Social and financial support
- Recognition of rights of people with dementia and protective and promotive legislation
- Prevention and research

People with dementia and their caregivers often have unique insights to their condition and life. They should be involved in formulating the policies, plans, laws and services that relate to them.
4. Health and social systems development

People live for many years after the onset of symptoms of dementia. With appropriate support, many can and should be enabled to continue to engage and contribute within society and have a good quality of life.

Care and services for people with dementia to include
- Early diagnosis
- Provision of support in the community
- Integrated health and social care pathways
- Take into account the needs of specific or minority populations
5. Support for informal care and caregivers

- Dementia is overwhelming for the caregivers – physically, emotionally and economically.

- Home-based support for caregivers is feasible, acceptable and leads to significant improvements in caregiver and person's with dementia outcomes.

- Support to dementia caregivers includes information to aid understanding, skills to assist in caring, respite to enable engagement in other activities, and financial support.
Launch of the report on 11 April 2012
Launch of the report on 11 April 2012
Dementia: call for action

Dr Margaret Chan, Director-General, WHO in the report's foreword:

• I call upon all stakeholders to make health and social care systems informed and responsive to this impending threat.
Wide coverage by media

• Landmark report released by WHO.....
• Diagnosing and caring for dementia is still an international problem, even in higher income countries.
• WHO report serves as a wake up call......
Follow up actions

- Translations and dissemination
- Enhanced technical assistance to countries
- Enhanced collaboration with NGOs
- Online support to carers
- Training material for health care providers
- Periodic follow up reports
How ADI can help

• Influence global agendas (WHO, OECD)
• Help translate Facts and Figures for each country (template country report)
• Website tracking national plans
• Template manifesto
• Alzheimer University
• Support from ADI staff who have experience in advocacy
Further information

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