

## Saturday

### **Financial Behaviors and Experiences of Financial Loss in those with Alzheimer's disease and Frontotemporal Dementia: Preliminary findings from a survey.**

Colin Stein, Claudine Narayan, Jeannie Ake, Edward Huey, Jill Goldman, Stephanie Cosentino, Preeti Sunderaraman

**State of the Art:** Nationwide costs of financial exploitation are estimated to be at least \$2.9 billion per year, however, little information exists about the prevalence and costs of financial exploitation in those with neurodegenerative conditions. The current study aims to fill the gap by collecting data about financial exploitation among patients with neurodegenerative disease.

**Methodology:** Qualitative/descriptive data was collected from knowledgeable informants. The sample was recruited from the community of caregiver/informant support groups at Columbia University Medical Center and consisted of information on 10 older adult patients with a confirmed diagnosis of either Alzheimer's Disease (AD; n=5) or Frontotemporal Dementia (FTD; n=5).

**Results:** Six participants were reported to experience financial loss [AD=3; FTD=3]. AD group (range = \$10-\$10,000) lost less money than the FTD group (range = \$5000-\$50,000), with 60% of individuals with FTD engaging in repetitive spending compared to none from the AD group. None of the FTD patients were reported to have any concern about their current ability to handle financial matters, while, in contrast, 60% of AD patients were reported as having concerns about their ability. Caregivers of FTD patients reported financial loss as more burdensome than in the AD group (AD, mean = 2.6, SD = 3.05; FTD, mean = 5.8, SD = 4.55).

**Conclusion:** Pilot data suggests differing patterns of concerns and financial behavior across neurodegenerative diagnoses. This study will provide critical information to identify high risk behaviors that may cause financial loss so that early interventions can be facilitated.

### **Conflicts of interest**

N/A