

Warning Signs of Dementia: What's wrong with Grams?

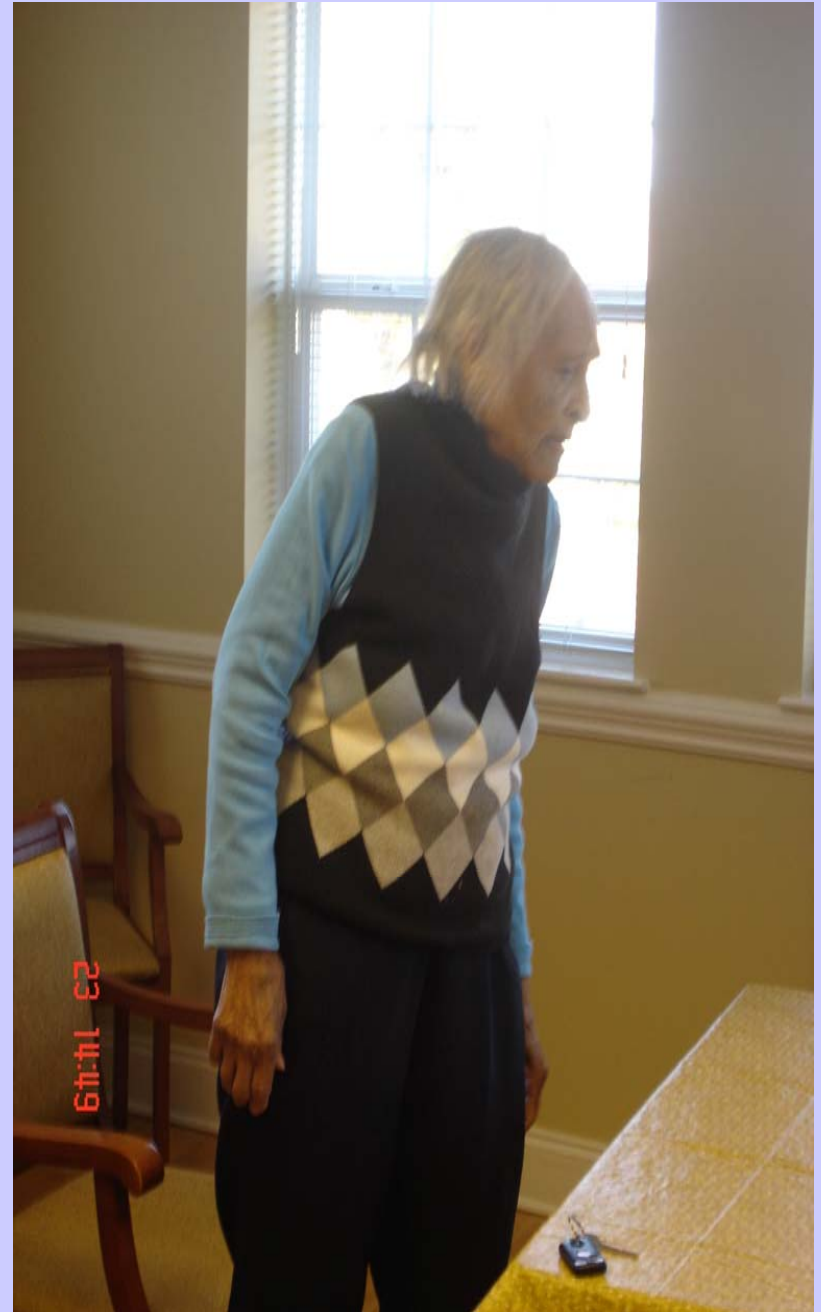
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“Has anyone seen my keys?”





“I know they are
around here
somewhere.....”

Mom: What's going on?

Son: Gram misplaced her keys again.

Mom: She seems to be forgetting more and more lately.



NEXT DAY...

Daughter: Have you finished knitting my scarf yet Gram?

Gram: No honey, I'm sorry I haven't been knitting at all lately.

Daughter: But you love knitting.

Gram: I know but lately I have been down in the dumps and haven't felt like doing anything.



Gram: What are you doing? It's five o'clock and you haven't even begun making dinner.

Dad: Mom, I told you this morning we were going out for dinner tonight.





Gram: You did nothing of the sort; I would remember that!

Dad: Mom, I've been reading up on it and you are exhibiting symptoms of the early stages of Dementia. I think you should see a doctor.

Gram: I don't know what I'm doing here, my family really wanted me to come, I think I'm fine.

Doctor: After running some tests, it appears that you are exhibiting early signs of Dementia.



“Dementia! That’s horrible, I love my family and my life. I don’t want to forget it, or them!”



“Unfortunately, there is no cure for Dementia. However, there are treatments that can slow and control the progress of the disease. Since we caught the symptoms early, you are likely to have many enjoyable years with your family.”



A FEW MONTHS LATER...

Gram: I'm happy you had me go to the doctor's office so I could get some help before it was too late

Dad: Me too Mom, me too.



References:

Aricept. (2006) Eisai Inc. and Pfizer Inc.

<http://www.aricept.com/index.aspx>. Retrieved on February 18, 2007.

Consent for “Grams” was given by her Power of Attorney.