

Memory Loss

Although we all are forgetful from time to time, persistent and increasing memory problems are not a normal condition of old age.

Chronic memory loss is an indication of a serious problem that requires professional medical attention. It can be potentially life threatening, as in the case when the memory impaired individual becomes frightened and disoriented while driving or when he wanders outside on a cold winter night or she forgets to take important medications.

Even when memory loss is not yet this serious, the demands placed on the family to care for their loved one can be a burden. The care giver becomes emotionally exhausted and disheartened.

Fortunately, help can be obtained for the memory impaired - from careful medical evaluation and treatment, and for the care giver - from counseling and involvement in groups such as the Alzheimer's Association.

How to Find Us

Take I-74 (north/west from Peoria or south/east from Q-cities) to 34 west. Take 34 to Seminary Street south. When you reach Carl Sandburg Drive - the first stop sign - turn left. Take Carl Sandburg Drive to veterans Drive - turn right. Almost immediately you'll come to Windish Drive on the right. You'll see Bridgeway on your left - with a green & gold **BRIDGEWAY** sign in front.

Sources of Information

Alzheimer's Disease & Related Disorders Association, Inc.
919 North Michigan Ave.
Chicago, IL 60611-1676
Phone 1-800-272-3900
TDD (312) 335-8882

Alzheimer's Association
Central Illinois Chapter
2524 W. Farrelly Ave., Avanti Square
Peoria, IL 61615
Phone (309) 681-1100
Fax (309) 681-1101

Southern Illinois University
School of Medicine
Center for Alzheimer's Disease
and Related Disorders
P.O. Box 19320
Springfield, IL 62794-9230
Phone (217) 782-8249
or 1-800-342-5748

*Has a loved one
recently shown signs of
disorientation, confusion,
& unusual forgetfulness?*

Bridgeway Memory Clinic

Located in the Hawthornè Center

Bridgeway, Inc
2323 Windish Drive
Galesburg, IL 61401
(309) 344-2323

Coordinator: Connie Severns, RN

In association with:

Marc S. Katchen, MD Neurologist
Medical Director

and the

Southern Illinois University - Springfield
School of Medicine
Regional Alzheimer's Disease Assistance Center
1-800-342-5748

The Causes of Memory Loss

There are numerous potential causes of memory impairment. They range from disease and head injury to psychological conditions like anxiety and depression.

Alzheimer's disease is the most common cause of chronic memory loss in elderly persons. Other causes are vascular dementia (strokes), nutritional/metabolic disorders, and seizure disorder. Medication side effects can also sometimes cause memory problems.

Unfortunately, many causes of memory loss, like Alzheimer's disease and vascular dementia (strokes), are permanent.

However, others are not permanent and memory can improve with proper treatment. When emotional, nutritional, and medication problems are resolved memory often returns to normal.

Dementia

Dementia is the medical label for progressive intellectual decline; it includes decline in memory, language, motor skills, and perception. Impaired ability to engage in self-care and to carry out daily activities that were previously performed by the individual are other problems that occur in dementia.

Evaluation

The Bridgeway Memory Clinic assessment process involves a series of four visits during an approximately five to eight week period.

1. During the first visit a registered nurse interviews the family to determine the current difficulties, history of concerns, coping strategies, and resources needed.
2. A psychologist completes neuropsychological testing to examine short- and long-term memory functions. Psychiatric assessment may occur if needed.
3. In the third visit a neurologist conducts a neurological examination. Laboratory tests such as electro-encephalogram and magnetic resonance imaging may be requested.
4. Follow up sessions are scheduled as needed.

Resources for Coping

The Bridgeway Memory Clinic Provides:

- ~ Psychological Assessment
- ~ Medical Evaluation
- ~ Referrals to Community Resources
- ~ Counseling
- ~ Education & Training
- ~ Support to Caregivers

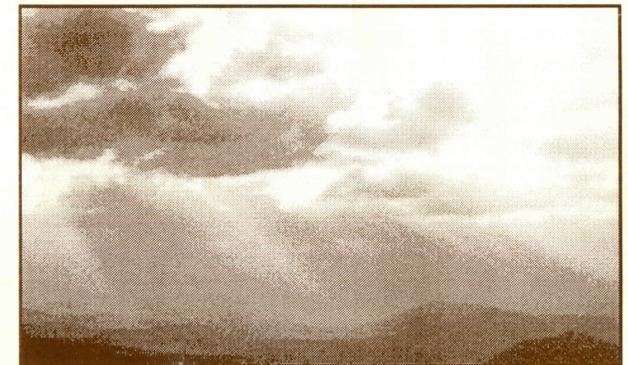
Cost

Fees vary, depending on the needs of the individual patient. For elderly clients Medicare pays 80% of the costs; depending upon insurance most of the remaining 20% may also be covered.

It is suggested that you check with your insurance agent prior to the evaluation.

Our financial office will help answer questions about fees.

How to Get Started



Call the Bridgeway Memory Clinic at (309) 344-1350. A receptionist will take preliminary information over the phone. Then one of our nurses will contact you to gather further information and arrange for the first appointment.

Referrals are accepted from individual patients, family members, clergy, physicians, and other health/social service organizations.