

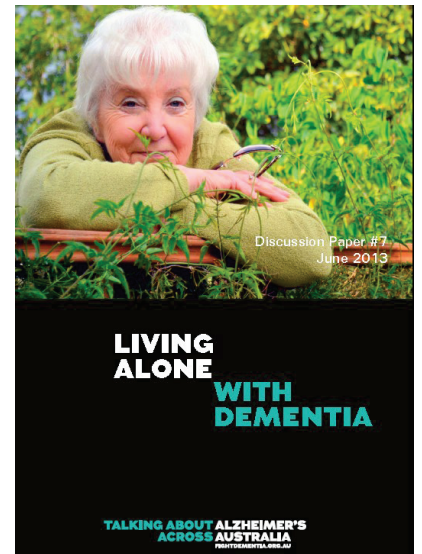
Dissemination Activities

The discussion paper and the research to practice guide are publicly available on the Alzheimer's Australia NSW [website](#).

Copies of discussion paper were sent to relevant NSW and Australian Government ministers. Members of the Alzheimer's Australia National Policy Network have also been provided with copies of the research to promote within their States or at a national level in its policy advocacy with the Australian Government.

There was significant media interest for launches of both the discussion paper and the research to practice guide. Media coverage extended to four forms – print, radio, online and TV – throughout Australia.

Papers were presented at the NSW Community Options Conference (17 September 2013) and the Australian Social Policy Conference (18 September 2013).



Impact on Policy and Practice

As a measure of success, it is too early to say whether the policy and practice changes recommended will be incorporated into community-based service provision. Positive feedback from interested stakeholders since the release of the discussion paper and research to practice guide are a measure of success. It is also felt that this is an indicator of their potential to inform and change policy and programs further down the track.

There has been considerable public interest in the topic and the two publications since the discussion paper and research to practice guide were both launched. Alterations to policy settings can take time, so we will need to wait and see if the recommendations are adopted by the three levels of Government. It is too early to say whether the practice changes recommended will be incorporated into community-based service provision. The primary outcome from a policy perspective has been to highlight how the current settings actively disadvantage an already vulnerable population.

A research to practice guide has been produced to translate the research findings into practice advice for service providers. The target audience for the guide is primarily community care staff although it will also be a useful resource for other service providers and for family members and friends of people living alone with dementia. The guide is written in plain English to enable busy staff to quickly read. It is structured simply and identifies 6 key issues that staff may come across in their dealings with people living alone with dementia. An outline of each issue is provided as well as some helpful strategies. Readers are referred to sources of information if they want to know more about particular services and programs. The guide is deliberately not too prescriptive given the changing context of aged care. The guide can also be used as a team training resource.

Alzheimer's Australia NSW will continue to explore other options for promoting this knowledge and its uptake within community-based services. Alzheimer's Australia NSW is committed to advocating for people living alone with dementia. We will ensure that the services and programs we deliver reach people living alone with dementia and make a difference to their lives. We will continue to provide counseling, education and support services that address the needs of people living alone with dementia.

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