

From Research to Practice: Assessing Caregivers of Persons with Alzheimer's Disease

Support Period: Principal Investigator: Co-Investigators: Funded by: Amount: 2003-2006 J. Keefe, PhD N. Guberman, MSW, P. Fancey, MA, L. Barylak, MSW Alzheimer's Association (US) \$239,074.00 (\$US)

This research project will build on previous research undertaken by the researchers which involved the development and testing of a screening tool and a comprehensive Caregiver Assessment Tool (CARE) to be used by home care programs. This project will address the research question: what impact does the implementation of the CARE in publicly funded home care programs have on caregivers of persons with and without Alzheimer's disease (AD) and service organization?

The specific objectives are:

- 1. To evaluate the differential impact of using the Caregiver Assessment Tool on the change in risk to those who provide caregiving to persons, with and without AD
- 2. To evaluate the impact of the assessment process using the CARE on practitioner's knowledge and attitudes toward caregiving, which includes family caregivers and home care recipients, with and without AD
- 3. To evaluate the impact of the assessment process using the CARE on practices and/or responses to caregivers of persons with or without AD
- 4. To evaluate the feasibility of integrating the CARE into the regular practice of home care professionals.

Publicly-funded home care programs in Atlantic Canada, Quebec and Alberta will serve as the test sites for this research.