



Narrative Inquiry in Bioethics

A Journal of Qualitative Research

Call for Stories

Living with Alzheimer Disease: Stories from People Providing Care

Symposium Editors Jessica Mozersky, PhD and Dena S Davis, JD, PhD

Narrative Inquiry in Bioethics will publish a collection of personal stories from people who have cared for a family member or another close person with Alzheimer Disease. There is currently no way to prevent, slow the progress, or treat Alzheimer Disease, making it a highly feared disease. People with Alzheimer Disease often face years of progressive worsening of memory and thinking problems that eventually require help from others to assist with daily activities. An estimated 83% of people caring for older adults in the US are family members, friends or other unpaid caregivers. Nearly two thirds of caregivers are women, especially daughters. People providing care may have significant emotional and physical stress, or financial burdens, especially when caring for someone in the later stages of the disease.

We seek stories from people who are currently or have cared for family members or another close person with Alzheimer Disease about the challenges, struggles, and benefits that they have experienced. We want true, personal stories in a form that is interesting and easy to read. Please share this invitation and guide sheet with appropriate individuals.

In writing your story, please consider these questions:

- What have you found challenging in your role? How has the experience affected you physically, emotionally, or economically?
- Were there any benefits, or joys, to caring for someone with AD?
- What surprised you about the experience of providing care for someone with Alzheimer Disease? Were there things you did not anticipate?
- What would you like to tell someone who is considering playing the role of caregiver?
- What would you like people who develop policies and laws to know about the needs of caregivers?
- Is there anything you wish you had told your family member or the person close to you with AD before their symptoms were severe? If the person with AD is no longer living, is there anything you wish you could tell them now?

You do not need to address each of these questions—write on the issues that you think are most important to share with others. If you are not a writer, tell your story in your own words and our editorial staff will help you.

If you are interested in submitting a story, we ask you first to submit a 300-word proposal—a short description of the story you want to tell. Inquiries or proposals should be sent to the editorial office via email: narrativebioethics@gmail.com. We will give preference to story proposals received by **May 15, 2019**. If your story is invited, we will ask you to submit it within 6 weeks of the invitation. Final stories are 4 – 10 double-spaced pages or 800 – 2000 words.

For more information about the journal *Narrative Inquiry in Bioethics*, the guidelines for authors, and privacy policies, visit our webpage at: <http://nibjournal.org/submit/guidelines/>

We plan to publish 12 stories on this topic in our print edition; additional stories may be published as online-only supplemental material. We also publish 3 – 4 commentary articles that discuss the stories that are published in the journal. To see a finished symposium, please visit *Narrative Inquiry in Bioethics'* page on [Project MUSE](#) and click on the unlocked, open-access issue.

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