

## ***SAFETY MEASURES FOR PATIENTS AT RISK OF WANDERING***

- Try to prevent restless periods by engaging the patient in activities prior to that time frame.
- Do not leave a patient home alone if he/she cannot respond to an emergency or is at risk of wandering.
- Install locks that are difficult to open or located in an unusual place (top or bottom of door).
- Install window and door alarms, chimes, safety door knob covers, gates to block unsafe areas and stairs.
- Secure large windows, sliding glass doors, bedroom windows, garage doors and the yard that may be potential exits. This is especially important if you are located near a canal, pool, or body of water. Alzheimer's patients are attracted to water.
- Introduce activities: music, dance, exercise, simple domestic chores, take a walk, allow to walk in secure areas, provide a quiet place for rest
- Place a stop sign on the front door and/or back door.
- Place night lights in hallways, bathroom, bedroom or any dark areas.
- Investigate safety tools such as: pocket identification cards, alert security personnel if residing in a gated community, Medical ID Bracelet or Alzheimer's Community Care's ID Locator Service.
- Speak to a Family Nurse Consultant! Discuss patient behaviors, "sundowning" (changes in behavior in the late afternoon/early evening), medications, stages of the disease, contributing medical or environmental issues.

**60 – 70% of Alzheimer's patients will wander  
at some point.....**

**For more information- 561-683-2700**

800 Northpoint Pkwy., West Palm Beach, FL 33407

24-Hour Crisis Line- 800-394-1771