DIFFICULT BEHAVIORS & ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

Do you know someone with Alzheimer's disease who has any of these behaviors?

- Overly anxious or excited
- Making offensive comments
- Pacing, unable to sit still
- Kicking, biting, scratching
- Trying to leave
- Resisting help with daily care
- Anger and hostility
- Shouting or swearing
- Uncooperative
- Throwing things

Study Participants must be:

- Stable medically
- Living at home with caregiver who is willing to come in with participant for visits

Participants will receive at no charge:

- Complete memory and psychiatric assessment by a geriatric psychiatrist
- Careful follow-up related to agitated behaviors

Medical research provides new hope for adults suffering from symptoms of agitation and aggression associated with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias. Such symptoms often respond poorly to currently available treatments.

The Alzheimer's Disease Research Center is studying a new use for an old medication. We are currently investigating the use of a blood pressure medication, prazosin, for its effectiveness in the treatment of these behavioral problems.

Each study participant will have a 50:50 chance of being on prazosin or placebo (a sugar pill) for the first 12 weeks of the study. Everyone will be on prazosin for the second 12 weeks. Participation, which lasts about 24 weeks, involves up to 14 visits to our clinic (at the Veterans Medical Center on Beacon Hill in Seattle). Some of these visits can be done by phone.

The study is available to all members of the public, not just veterans. All participation is free of charge.

For more information about this study or other concerns about treating agitation in Alzheimer's disease contact:

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