

News

Office of Medical Information
The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas

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****Alzheimer's Clinic will serve
Oak Cliff, South and West Dallas

DALLAS -- A neighborhood clinic for evaluation of persons suspected of having Alzheimer's disease has been established by the clinical care program of the Alzheimer's Disease Research Center (ADRC) at The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas. The clinic, which will serve Oak Cliff, South Dallas and West Dallas, is located at the Elder Care Service, Dallas Mental Health and Mental Retardation Center (MHMR), 1350 Westmoreland.

"Just because people get old doesn't mean they should be having memory problems affecting their ability to perform activities of daily living," said Doris Svetlik, research nurse supervisor at the ADRC. "If you have a family member who is having memory problems, getting confused a good deal of the time, forgetting to eat, or having irritable--even violent--spells, something is definitely wrong.

"It could be that the person is having small strokes or that a medication is causing the strange behavior," she went on to say. There may be a brain tumor; the person may have a thyroid disorder or be depressed--or it may be Alzheimer's disease. The only way to know is to check it out."

Charges for a medical evaluation done at the MHMR site are on a sliding scale. Currently there is no accepted medical therapy for Alzheimer's disease, but UT Southwestern is involved in testing new

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medications, and patients who are diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease may be eligible for medications being tested at no cost. Referrals will be made to appropriate physicians for medical problems other than Alzheimer's disease.

More information about Alzheimer's evaluation is available from the clinic coordinator, Janis Krendick, at 688-6739.

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NOTE: The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas comprises Southwestern Medical School, Southwestern Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, Southwestern Allied Health Sciences School, affiliated teaching hospitals and outpatient clinics.