





# **Engaging Senior Living Communities to Partner in PLWD Care**

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## Learning Objectives



- Describe the benefits of a nontraditional care model.
- Explain the required partnerships within a health system to launch a new program/care delivery model.





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#### Prevalence of Dementia in America





- Nearly 6.9 million Americans living with dementia, according to the Alzheimer's Association
- 1 in 9 people over the age of 65 is living with dementia (10.9%)

## How Dementia Patients Present in Health Systems



## NO CARE PLANNING

#### **RESULTING IN**

Calls and messages

Missed appointments

Poor performance on MIPS (BP and A1c control)

**ED** visits

Long length of stay

Poor patient and family experience

Moral and ethical dilemmas

UNREALISTIC EXPECTATIONS

BEHAVIORAL SYMPTOMS

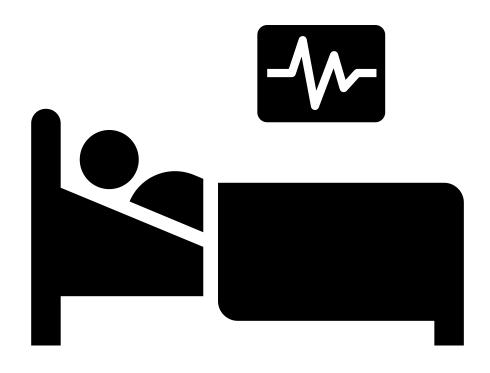
## Dementia in Health Systems

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Increased, inappropriate healthcare utilization

 Increased individual financial burden

Increased health system costs



## Providing Care for Patients Living With Dementia Can Be vizient. Challenging

- Patients Living With Dementia (PLWD) increasingly relying on caregivers to maintain outpatient appointments
- Getting to outpatient appointments increasingly challenging
- Emergency Dept use for symptoms of normal disease progression

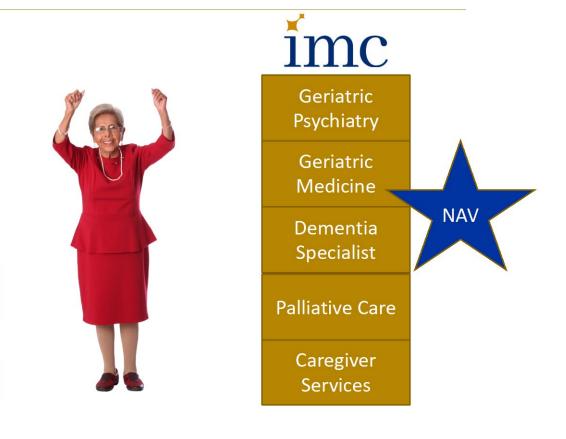


## **Integrated Memory Care**



## A single site solution for people living with dementia

- Full-scope primary care
- Dementia/neurology specialty care
- Psychiatric specialist consultations
- Psychotherapy, classes and support groups for care partners
- Delivered by a nurse-led, physiciansupported interprofessional team





## **Integrated Memory Care CLINIC**

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Office or telemedicine encounters

Direct scheduling access

Longer appointments (typically 40 minutes)

Engages and makes space for family care partner/caregiver

#### AS WELL AS

Social worker-led virtual classes and support groups, psychotherapy, and care navigation

Registered nurses for clinical triage and care coordination

## Integrated Memory Care Clinic RESULTS



### Compared to similar patients in usual primary care:

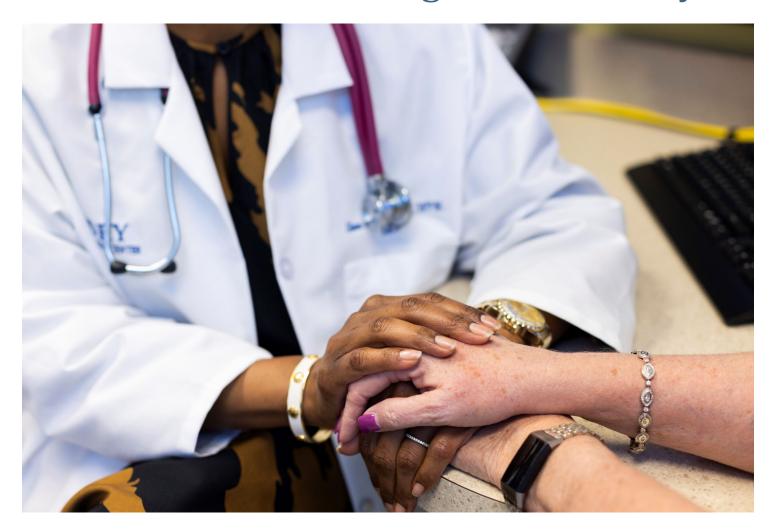
- Reduced risk of hospitalization
- Avoidance of inappropriate screening tests
- Increased likelihood of deprescribing high-risk medications

### Independently:

- ~95% likelihood to recommend practice and clinician
- Qualitatively positive experiences for patients and families



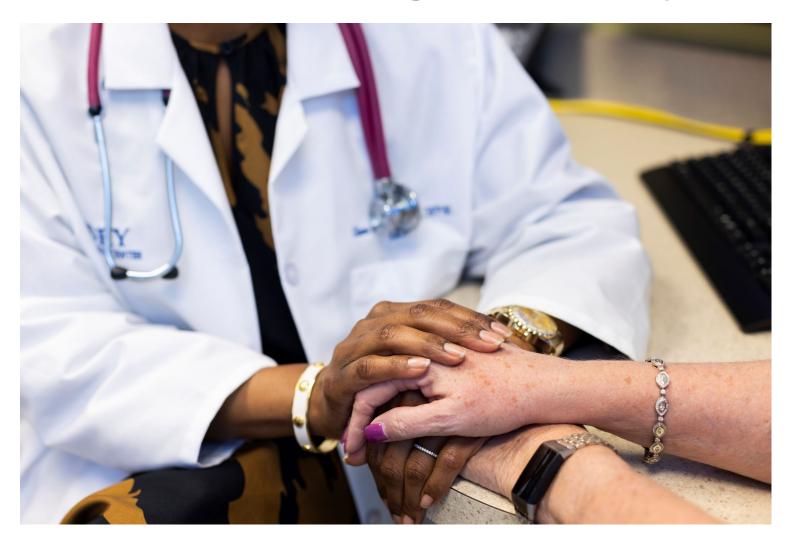
## Business Case for Integrated Memory Care in Community vizient.



#### Causes for Clinic Attrition

- Hospice (34%)
- Long-Term Skilled Nursing (3%)
- Senior Living Community (14%)
- Move to be Near Family (5%)
- Lost to Follow-Up or Change in PCP (30%)
- Death (14%)

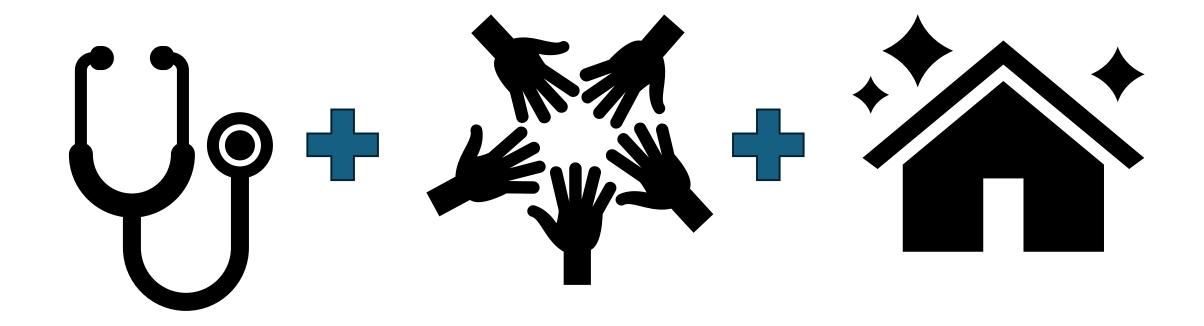
## Business Case for Integrated Memory Care in Community vizient.



## Causes for Clinic Attrition

- Hospice
- Long-Term Skilled
   Nursing
- Senior Living Community
- Move to be Near Family
- Dissatisfaction with care

## IMC Community Program



## IMC Clinic Compared to COMMUNITY Program



### Clinic

- Nurse practitioner visits
- Registered nurse triage and care coordination
- Social work education and coaching, therapy, and care navigation

## **Community**

- Dementia Care Assistants
  - Custom engagement activities
  - Tools and supplies
- Mobile phlebotomy
- Coordination with the senior living community

**PLUS** 



## **Engaging Senior Living Communities**



Priorities may differ from health system or resident/family

- Maintaining comfortable living environment for a population of residents
  - Psychiatry services
  - Engagement in group activities
- Care to avoid medical emergencies
  - -With limited clinical (licensed) staff
  - May lead to "safe" options like calling ambulance if ever uncertain
  - Need easy access to the medical team

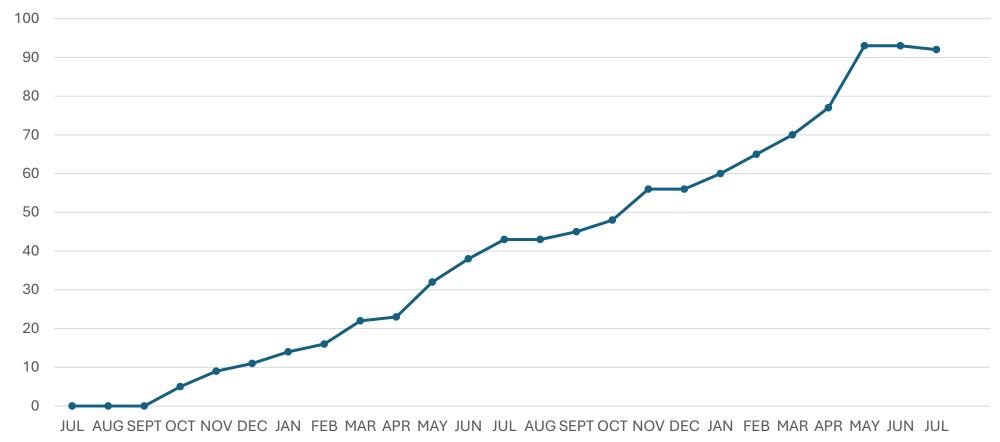


## Community Program Uptake

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- Direct to consumer (care partner/caregiver) is best
- Care partners/caregivers are the least available

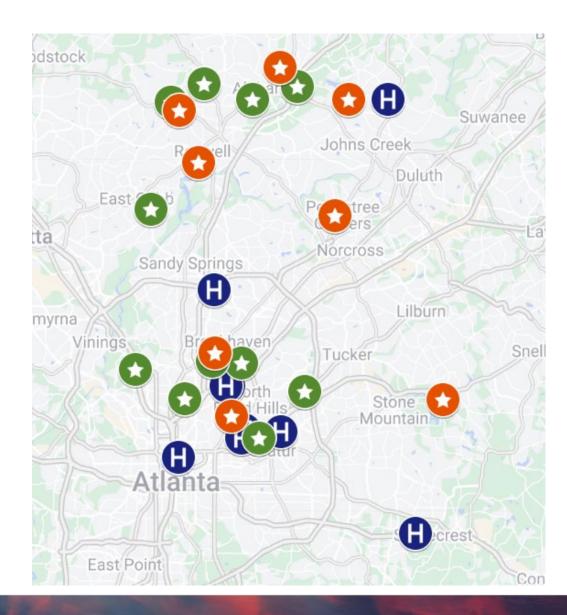




## **Community Program Impact**

- Only ~20% of our current patient population in Community program were IMC clinic patients first
  - Majority are new to Emory system
  - Most interest from Senior Living Communities are outside of Emory's typical catchment area

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#### Lessons Learned



- Family care partner/caregivers are the best spokespeople
- New models of care are challenging to envision—it's not usual care from another health system
- Marketing to decision maker is a challenge
  - Senior living community
  - Person living with dementia
  - Care partner/caregiver
- Higher rate of attrition due to patient acuity in advanced illness models



## Key Takeaways



 Identifying creative ways to care for vulnerable patients outside of traditional clinic setting is possible

 Engaging "community partners" is a long road but valuable for the total care of patients



### Questions?



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