

## Imagine...

**Imagine** the *loneliness* when the person closest to you no longer remembers your birthday or their own.

**Imagine** when they stop *recognising* the home you've shared for many years, cannot recall key memories of your life together – and one day perhaps they don't even know you or their own children

**Imagine** continuing to love and care for them on your own every day all day, when those looking on from outside *don't notice or understand* any change

**Imagine** doing your best to keep them safe and well, when they can't see or accept their own vulnerability and may be antagonistic to your efforts or sometimes lash out.

**Imagine** when friends and family *stop coming round*, because they can't cope with the changed "atmosphere", don't know what to say, are embarrassed, offended, or scared by unpredictable behaviour.

**Imagine** when *bodily functions* can no longer be controlled.

**Imagine** when *parent becomes child, partner becomes patient*, you become a carer.

Providing timely support, information and respite can make the difference between swimming and drowning.

# The Carers' Call to Action



**DAA** Dementia  
Action Alliance  
**The Carers' Call to Action**

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follow us on

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 DAA The Carers' Call to Action

Supporting the needs and rights for family carers of people with dementia through **our shared vision**.

  
Supporting family carers  
of people with dementia

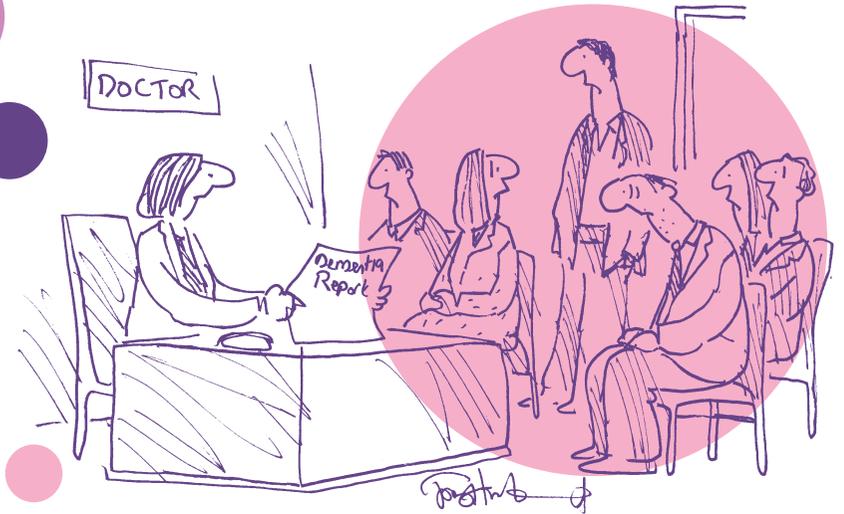
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## Our shared vision

Carers of people with dementia:

- have recognition of their unique experience
- are recognised as essential partners in care
- have access to expertise to be effective carers for the person with dementia
- have assessments and support to maintain their own health and well-being
- have confidence that they are able to access good quality care, support and respite service.

“A diagnosis of dementia is given not just to one person – it is given to a spouse, a partner, a child and the extended family and friends.”



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### Achieving our shared vision we will...

- Have a major impact on people with dementia and family carers.
- Increase choice and quality of life.
- Reduce the risk of expensive and distressing crisis intervention.

**We need your support.  
Join us to make it happen –  
The Carer' Call to Action  
will support you!**

**Share Our Vision – Sign Up**

## Our Milestones

- By March 2014 CC2A will engage with all Health and Wellbeing Boards, Clinical Commissioning Groups and Local Government in England to make a commitment to **our shared vision**. We will provide support, resources, examples of good practice and solutions.
- By March 2015 two thirds of Health and Wellbeing Boards, Clinical Commissioning Groups and Local Government in England will recognise the importance of support for carers of people with dementia. Local areas will be awarded star ratings by the CC2A based on demonstrating measurable actions in line with the five aims of **our shared vision**.

- 'CC2A will produce a free booklet highlighting the key issues, questions and actions people can take within their local community to support the needs of carers of people with dementia.
- CC2A will ask individuals and organisation to 'sign up' to commit to **our shared vision**.

“The pivotal role of carers in achieving a good quality of life for people with dementia makes this Call to Action so important. As NHS England's National Clinical Director for Dementia, I am delighted to give it my full backing.”

Alistair Burns