UW Medicine

Living with Memory Loss

A basic guide









Second Edition, August 2019

"You go through the grief process and then you start living. Yes, there's life after diagnosis."

~ Myriam, living with dementia

UW Medicine

Table of Contents

Living with Memory Loss: A basic guide

Welcome

Chapters

1. The Memory Loss Journey

A brief introduction

2. My Diagnosis

What is going on, and what does it mean for my life?

3. My Next Steps

How do I process this news, and who do I tell?

4. My Medical Care

What treatments are there for memory loss?

5. My Daily Life

What can I do to be as healthy as possible?

6. My Relationships and Activities

How can I stay connected with the people and things I love?

7. My Strengths

How can I use my talents and skills to make a difference?

8. SuppOrt for Care Partners

What should my family and friends know?

9. My Community

What resources will be helpful on this journey?

10. My Plans for the Future

What plans can I make now that will help later on?

11. Stepping Forward

"Living in the possible"

12. Appendix

My Care Team at UW Medicine Memory a	
Brain Wellness Center	2
My Contacts	3
Disability Insurance and Benefits	4
My Workplace Rights	6
Research Studies	8
Books	10
Terms and Definitions	12
My Notes	16
With Thanks	17
Convrights and Renrints	18

UW Medicine

Welcome

From Dr. Tom Grabowski, Director of UW Medicine Memory and Brain Wellness Center

Dear friends,

Welcome to the UW Medicine Memory and Brain Wellness Center. Our mission is to promote the well-being of people living with memory loss and their families.

Our care team in the memory clinic is made up of experts in memory and brain health. We aim to provide outstanding care for you, every step of the way.

We have created this handbook as a resource for your life after your diagnosis. It contains information and insights from our team members, community partners, and others living with memory loss and their family members and friends.

We hope that this handbook informs, encourages, and empowers you for your journey ahead. We welcome your ideas and feedback on this handbook as we work to make it even more helpful.

Sincerely,

Dr. Tom Grabowski

Director, UW Medicine Memory and

Brain Wellness Center



Dr. Tom Grabowski