

BENEFITS OF AN EARLY DIAGNOSIS

So, what happens now?

Seeking help at the first sign of symptoms is incredibly beneficial for those living with dementia. The earlier a diagnosis is given, the easier it is for both your loved one and yourself as a carer to understand this condition and the changes to your lives. A diagnosis will involve visiting your local doctor, a review of your medical history as well as psychological, neurological and physical assessments.

THERE ARE MANY ADVANTAGES TO GETTING AN EARLY DIAGNOSIS

- ❖ Provides an explanation for the symptoms
- ❖ Puts an end to any suspicions or doubts
- ❖ Allows early access to the right specialist, services and support
- ❖ Puts you in control of the condition
- ❖ Allows you to live independently at home for longer
- ❖ Gives more time to make preparations to maintain good quality of life
- ❖ Supports forward planning, while one still has the capacity to make decisions (e.g. Power of Attorney, Guardianship, applying for a home care package or residential care).
- ❖ Helps you make financial, legal, medical and care options known to your family
- ❖ Gives early access to available treatments which may improve cognition/help reduce symptoms
- ❖ Allows carers (usually spouse/partner and/or adult children) time to adjust to future changes

At St Luke's Care, our specially trained dementia support team is here for you and your loved one. We have many programs including home care, residential aged care, respite care and social and community programs.



ST LUKE'S CARE

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