How to manage apathy in Alzheimer's-type dementia

Case

Mr. AP is a 78-year-old retired high school teacher with a diagnosis of Alzheimer's-type dementia. He resides with his wife who serves as his primary caregiver. Mr. AP is relatively healthy but requires reminders and cueing for tasks around the home, including sometimes for grooming and dressing. His wife has been coping with her caregiving role but is becoming increasingly frustrated by his lack of “get up and go.” She notes that he will sit around all day, not helping with chores or wanting to do any of the activities he used to enjoy, such as walking or reading. When assessed by his family physician, Mr. AP describes no depressed mood or feelings of hopelessness.

What interventions would you take – pharmacologic or none – to treat Mr. AP's apathy?
Facing personal difficulties or health issues?

Did you know, as an AMA member you and your immediate family members have access to professional, confidential assistance through the Physician and Family Support Program? PFSP telephone support is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, toll-free at 1.877.767.4637. This service is confidential and voluntary and provides immediate access to professionals.

PFSP recognizes the impact of physical, emotional, financial and social influences on a physician’s ability to maintain health and a positive work/life balance and is here to support AMA members. PFSP received 1,938 calls in 2018 and addressed a variety of concerns including issues with family, relationships, mental health, addictions and occupation, and provided support including referrals to counselling and a family physician.

If you are dealing with complex health issues that may be affecting your ability to practice, PFSP can meet with you in-person and help you access appropriate care. Asking for support is a sign of strength.

Call us anytime, toll-free: 1.877.767.4637

Learn more about PFSP

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Students: Have you travelled to complete an elective?

We want to help you with your expenses! The ADIUM Student Elective Travel Grant is now accepting applications for the 2019 grant.

The grant helps AMA medical student members defray the high costs of necessary travel to complete electives, whether within Alberta, across Canada or internationally.

Learn more and apply
Contribute to the well being of your AMA HBTF plan

The deadline to apply is May 31.

The AMA is seeking applications for its AMA Health Benefits Trust Fund Board of Trustees. The AMA HBTF Board of Trustees meets twice per year, with meetings occurring in March and early July.

Our online application process makes it easy to apply! Visit the AMA Committees web page and log in to view details of this position and apply.

What is AMA HBTF?
The AMA Health Benefits Trust Fund provides extended health care and dental plans to help cover costs for services not paid by the provincial health insurance plan. Learn more about AMA HBTF.

Log in and apply

15 grants available for youth mental health and substance use programs

Are you involved in a community program focused on improving mental health, reducing and preventing substance use, increasing resiliency, reducing stigma and decreasing barriers to mental health? The CMA Foundation is now accepting applications for its second annual Healthy Canadians Grants program. There are 15 grants of $20,000 each to be awarded for 2019.

The CMA Foundation’s Healthy Canadians Grants program is designed to provide support for initiatives that will improve the quality of life of patients and vulnerable populations in a community and will have a positive impact on that community as a whole.

Learn more and apply
Help improve eReferral Advice Request

Please respond by May 15

Are you a primary care physician who has used or heard about eReferral Advice Request? Your valuable input is needed! Survey responses will help to inform improvements to this secure messaging system.

Take the survey

Live discussion: Sexual Harassment of Canadian Medical Students

Date: Tuesday, May 14th, 2019
Time: 5-6 pm PT / 6-7 pm MT / 8-9 pm ET / 9-10 pm AT

You are invited to a live discussion on gender equity hosted by the Equity in Medicine Community of Interest (Equity COI) led by Dr. Kim Kelly. Listen as Drs. Susan Phillips and Jenna Webber discuss and answer questions on the published report: Sexual Harassment of Medical Students: A National Review.

Register for the webinar
What do emerging markets and medical students have in common?

Like some med students, emerging markets may need financing to realize their potential. Find out how diversification and attractive yields make emerging market debt an enticing investment.

Learn more

MD Financial Management provides financial products and services, the MD Family of Funds and investment counselling services through the MD Group of Companies. For a detailed list of these companies, visit md.ca. MD Financial Management is a proud sponsor of the AMA Youth Run Club.
Buying your first home?
MD Financial has you covered!

**When:** Wednesday, May 15

**Where:** MD Financial Management, 310–611 Meredith Rd. N.E., Calgary.

Got the "buyer’s dilemma?" The MD team has brought together a mortgage specialist, a home inspector, and a realtor to tell you what you need to know and answer any questions you may have. A sit-down dinner will be provided.

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**Top stories from our last issue**

The top stories from the *April 18 issue of MD Scope* were:

- 5 tax tips you may not know about
- Have your say on an AMA committee
- Tools for supporting your trans patients

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**MD Scope Classifieds**
In the May 2, 2019 MD Scope Classifieds you'll find listings for:

- Locums wanted
- Physicians wanted
- Space available
- For sale
- Services

Are you enrolled in a clinical alternative relationship plan or considering it?

Alternative Relationship Plan
Physician Support Services

If you have questions, we can help!
Get in touch with us: arppss.albertadoctors.org

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