

<b>Title</b>	BACKGROUND AND BEHAVIOR IN TRANSITION PERIOD AMONG THE ELDERLY WITH ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE
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#### ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study is to research the background and behavior transition period among the elderly with Alzheimer's disease.

This study utilized qualitative approach and retrospective design. The key informants were the family members or relatives who stayed closely to the elderly with Alzheimer's disease which can provide the information from normal aging to stage amnesic mild cognitive impairment of Alzheimer's disease. The purposive sampling and snowball sampling were utilized to select people who had the inclusion criteria. This method was performed via the webboard of The Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorder Association – ARDA. The data was collected by in-depth interview using the interview guide. Data analysis was performed by analyzing the substance of data which using the medical criteria for indicated the difference of behavior.

The results showed that the background of the elderly with Alzheimer's disease which related to personally were included the degenerative of aging and the personal disease such as diabetes, high blood pressure, vascular disease, Parkinson's disease, and thyroid disease. The background of the elderly which related to socio-economic were included the stress from work. And the background of these people which related to the environment were included the history of accident and injury of brain.

In the part of behavior changes within the transition period of the elderly with Alzheimer's disease that involved the defectively of memory were included forgetting, repeating the same question over and over again, retelling the same stories. The behavior which related to the defectively of memory combined with abnormally of brain were included forgetting words, confusing speech, lack of attention during conversation, trouble in managing of the number-related tasks such as bill paying, and unable to complete the multi-step tasks. Most of them had the behavior of forgetting that disturbed the activities of daily living and work, which period of time in entry the Alzheimer's disease was different in the individual related to the background of behaviors. This study found that the good management and caring from the members of family will be able to decrease the risks of Alzheimer's disease or slow down the period of time in entry the disease. In the other hand, lack of good management during the beginning of behaviors in transition period can increase the risk of Alzheimer's disease and higher costs of treatment.