Dementia Support Australia

Funded by the Australian Government
A service led by HammondCare

Understanding acronyms

When caring for someone living with dementia

A quick reference for carers. Find acronyms by topic, then alphabetically within each section. It's okay to pause and ask what something means.

Dementia & related terms

BPSD = Behavioural and Psychological Symptoms of Dementia
bvFTD = Behavioural Variant Frontotemporal Dementia
FTD = Frontotemporal Dementia
LBD = Lewy Body Dementia
nfvPPA = Non-fluent/agrammatic Variant Primary Progressive Aphasia
PPA = Primary Progressive Aphasia
svPPA = Semantic Variant Primary Progressive Aphasia
VD = Vascular Dementia
YOFTD = Younger Onset Frontotemporal Dementia

Health & care terminology

ADL = Activities of Daily Living
AMS = Altered Mental Status
Ax = Assessment
CP = Care Partner or Care Plan
Dx = Diagnosis
Hx = History
LoS = Length of Stay
NPMs = Non-pharmacological pain treatment modalities
OT = Occupational Therapist
Px = Prescribed
RN = Registered Nurse
Rx = Prescribed Medication/Treatment
SW = Social Worker
Sx = Symptoms

Organisations & support

CDS = Childhood Dementia Support
DA = Dementia Australia
DSA = Dementia Support Australia
DTA = Dementia Training Australia
OPAN = Older Persons Advocacy Network
PHN = Primary Health Network

Family & online conversations

BIL = Brother-in-law
DIL = Daughter-in-law
FIL = Father-in-law
Fx = Family
GSoH = Good Sense of Humour
LO = Loved One
MDB = My Dearly Beloved
MH = My Husband
MIL = Mother-in-law
MW = My Wife
PoV = Point of View
SAHD = Stay-at-home Dad
SAHM = Stay-at-home Mum
SIL = Son-in-law or Sister-in-law
SO = Significant Other
SsP = Same-sex Partner

Finding your way through care

Assessments, services, accommodation, funding and legal terms.

Some acronyms have more than one meaning. Check the context with your care team.

Assessments, services & programs

ACAS = Aged Care Assessment Service
ACAT = Aged Care Assessment Team
ACN = Aged Care Number
AT = Assistive Technology
CDC = Consumer Directed Care
CF = Care Finder
CHSP = Commonwealth Home Support Program
GOS = Geriatric Outreach Service
HARP = Hospital Admission Risk Program
HCP = Home Care Package
HM = Home Modifications
IAT = Integrated Assessment Tool
MAC = My Aged Care
NDIS = National Disability Insurance Scheme
RCP = Restorative Care Pathway
SaHP = Staying at Home Program
SAH = Support at Home
SDCP = Specialist Dementia Care Program
TCP = Transition Care Program

Care settings & accommodation

ACF = Aged Care Facility
CAP = Care Awaiting Placement
ICB = Interim Care Bed
NH = Nursing Home
RACF = Residential Aged Care Facility
SDA = Specialist Disability Accommodation
SDCU = Specialist Dementia Care Unit
SIL = Supported Independent Living

Funding, fees & payments

ACFI = Aged Care Funding Instrument
AN-ACC = Australian National Aged Care Classification
DAC = Daily Accommodation Contribution
DAP = Daily Accommodation Payment
HELF = Higher Everyday Living Fee
RAC = Refundable Accommodation Contribution
RAD = Refundable Accommodation Deposit

Legal & decision-making

ACAT = ACT Civil & Administrative Tribunal
EG = Enduring Guardian
EPOA = Enduring Power of Attorney
NCAT = NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal
NTCAT = Northern Territory Civil and Administrative Tribunal
POA = Power of Attorney
QCAT = Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal
SACAT = South Australian Civil and Administrative Tribunal
SAT = State Administrative Tribunal of Western Australia
SDM = Substitute Decision Maker
TASCAT = Tasmanian Civil and Administrative Tribunal
VCAT = Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal