

Commonly Used Terminology and Abbreviations

Are you new and feeling lost when faced with online jargon? Check out the following terminology and commonly used abbreviations to become more acquainted with the ALZConnected® community.

Basic structure:

Message Board: An interactive website which allows registered members to read, write, and respond to messages by other members. Messages are sorted by topic (also called threads) in Forums.

Forum: Sections within a message board categorized by topic. Each forum has a list of discussions topics. The forums on our message board include:

- Caregivers Forum
- Spouse or Partner Caregiver Forum
- I Have Alzheimer's of Another Dementia Forum
- Younger- Onset AD or Other Dementia Forum
- LGBT Community and Allies
- Clinical Trials
- Discussions en Espanol
- Caregivers Who have Lost Someone
- Musings

Thread or Topic: A discussion between members. This can also be referred to as a 'discussion.' By starting a new topic you are also starting a new thread.

Post: A message written by a member, which is then submitted as a new topic in a forum, or in response to a thread. ***Only registered members can post.***

Reply: This is a response to a post another member has written.

Quote: You can highlight a portion of another person's posts when responding to them. This way members know what you are responding to and can follow your post.

Other Helpful Terms

Links or Hyperlinks: A website URL address that will lead you to a new web page. Often these are highlighted or underlined.

Announcement Posts: An important topic or thread shown with a green envelope next to the topic's name. Announcements remain at the top of the forum topic list. These announcements contain important information which each member should read. Keep your eye out for new messages.

Screen Name: This is the name a member chooses to be addressed by within the community. This does not have to be your real name.

Sticky Posts: A topic or thread with a blue envelope next to the topic's name. Sticky Posts remain at the top of the forum topic list below the announcements. These posts contain important information, and some include reference links.

Avatar: This is the profile picture or icon a member chooses to represent themselves within the community.

Chat Room: An online place where people can communicate with one another in real time. Each member can enter a Chat Room and type messages for all other members in that room to read immediately.

Acronym TTT or ttt: This popular and highly used acronym stands for "To the Top." Members use this acronym in place of content in a post to have the topic appear at the top of the forum list, because the most current topic is listed at the top of the forum listing.

Common Abbreviations

People	
DH	Dear Husband
DS	Dear/Darling Son
DD	Dear/Darling Daughter
DW	Dear/Darling Wife
PWD/ PLWD	Person with Dementia/ Person Living with dementia
MIL	Mother-in-Law
FIL	Father-in-Law
BIL	Brother-in-Law
SIL	Sister-in-Law
GMIL	Grandmother-in-Law
GFIL	Grandfather-in-Law
NOK	Next of Kin
BF	Boy Friend
GF	Girl Friend
SO	Significant Other
OH	Other Half
SIB's	Brothers and Sisters or siblings
LO	Loved One
GLO	Greetings to Loved Ones
ADLO	Loved One with Alzheimer's disease

Popular Online Shortcuts	
AKA	Also known as
BBL	be back later
BTW	by the way
BRB	Be right back
IMHO	In My Humble Opinion
IMCO	In My Considered Opinion
IOW	in other words
J/K	just kidding
LOL	Laugh Out Loud
OMG	oh my gosh!
OT	Off topic
PITA	Pain in the "butt"
ROFL	Roll on the Floor Laughing!
(())	hugs
WDYT	what do you think
TIA	thanks in advance
ttt	"to the top"
TTYL	Talk to you later

Types of Dementia

AD or Alz	Alzheimer's disease
EO	Early Onset (diagnosis before the age of 65)
EOAD	Early Onset Alzheimer's Disease (diagnosis of Alzheimer's before the age of 65)
YOAD	Younger Onset Alzheimer's Disease (another way to say Diagnosis before age 65)
FTD	Frontotemporal Dementia
FTLD	Frontotemporal Lobar Degeneration
LBD or LB	Lewy Body Disease or Dementia
MD	Mixed Dementia
VD	Vascular Disease or Dementia
TBI	Traumatic Brain Injury
CTE	Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy
NPH	Normal Pressure Hydrocephalus
MCI	Mild Cognitive Impairment

Stages of Dementia

ES	Early Stage of dementia (in the beginning of the disease progression)
MS	Middle Stage of dementia
LS	Late Stage of dementia

Care Places

AL	Assisted Living
ALF	Assisted Living Facility
NH	Nursing Home
SNF	Skilled Nursing Facility/Nursing Home
RCF	Residential Care Facility (Group Home, Personal Care Home, Adult Family Home)
ADC	Adult Day Care
MC	Memory Care
CCC or CCRC	Continuing Care Community or Continuing Care Retirement Community (a facility which offers independent living, assisted living and nursing home residences)

Medical	
Dx	Diagnosis
PCP	Primary Care Physician
ER	Emergency Room
DNR	Do Not Resuscitate
UTI	Urinary Tract Infection
DVT	Deep Vein Thrombosis
TIA	transient ischemic attack (mini stroke)
MMSE	Mini Mental State Exam
DON	Director of Nursing
RN	Registered Nurse
LPN	Licensed Practical Nurse
LVN	Licensed Vocational Nurse
CNA	Certified Nursing Assistant
PT	Physical therapy
OT	Occupational therapy
PEG Tube	percutaneous endoscopic gastrostomy tube (feeding tube inserted direct into the abdomen)
Delusion	false ideas that are firmly believed in spite of contradictory proof
Hallucination	false perceptions of objects or events involving the senses; seeing, hearing or tasting things that are not there

Legal	
DPOA	Durable Power of Attorney
POA	Power of Attorney
LW	Living Will
APS	Adult Protective Services
CELA	Certified elder law Attorney
HIPAA Law	Health Insurance Provider Accountability Act
LTCO	Long Term Care Ombudsman
NAELA	National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys

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