# Memory Matters



# 5.1 MILLION Americans have ALZHEIMEI'S

DISease



Risk of dementia DOUBLES every 5 years between ages 65-95

## WHY Are screenings important?

Memory screenings are a significant first step toward finding out if a person may have a memory problem. Memory problems could be caused by Alzheimer's disease or other medical conditions.

92% of participants have never been given a screening by their primary healthcare provider

83% of participants worried about their memory had not discussed concern with a healthcare provider

median age

OF PARTICIPANTS - 65 TO 74

(AFA Survey/2010 National Memory Screening Day Participants)

### MISDIAGNOSIS OF ALZHEIMET'S DISEASE



64% of caregivers said they initially mistook behavioral symptoms of Alzheimer's disease, such as irritability and aggression, as "normal aging."

As a result, 67% said those false impressions delayed their loved one's diagnosis of the incurable brain disorder.

(From "Alzheimer's Caregivers: Behavioral vs. Cognitive Challenges" survey conducted by Harris Interactive for AFA: http://bit.ly/TGjdnG)



#### ABOUT SCREENINGS

- Consist of questions and tasks
- Can be done at doctor's office, community sites
- · Results are not a diagnosis

