

When working with older adults, providing supportive care to individuals and families that are dealing with memory loss is a daily occurrence and sometimes can be a very challenging one. There are many ethical challenges that the provider will encounter also, there are resources that can help when providers are in sticky situations. One good online resource is the Alzheimer's Association. They have many educational topics that are covered to provide training and guidance for caregivers and family members of individuals with memory loss and Alzheimer's.

An ethical challenge that providers may encounter when providing care to patients with memory loss has to do with autonomy. Individuals with memory loss often have trouble making decisions about their care. Providers should always respect that individual's autonomy and look out for their well-being. Individuals with memory loss are at risk of being taken advantage of, and at risk for neglect and abuse. As providers, it is our responsibility to always ensure their safety. (Chiong et al., 2021)

### **Reference**

Chiong, W., Tsou, A. Y., Simmons, Z., Bonnie, R. J., & Russell, J. A. (2021). Ethical considerations in dementia diagnosis and care. *Neurology*, 97(2), 80–89.