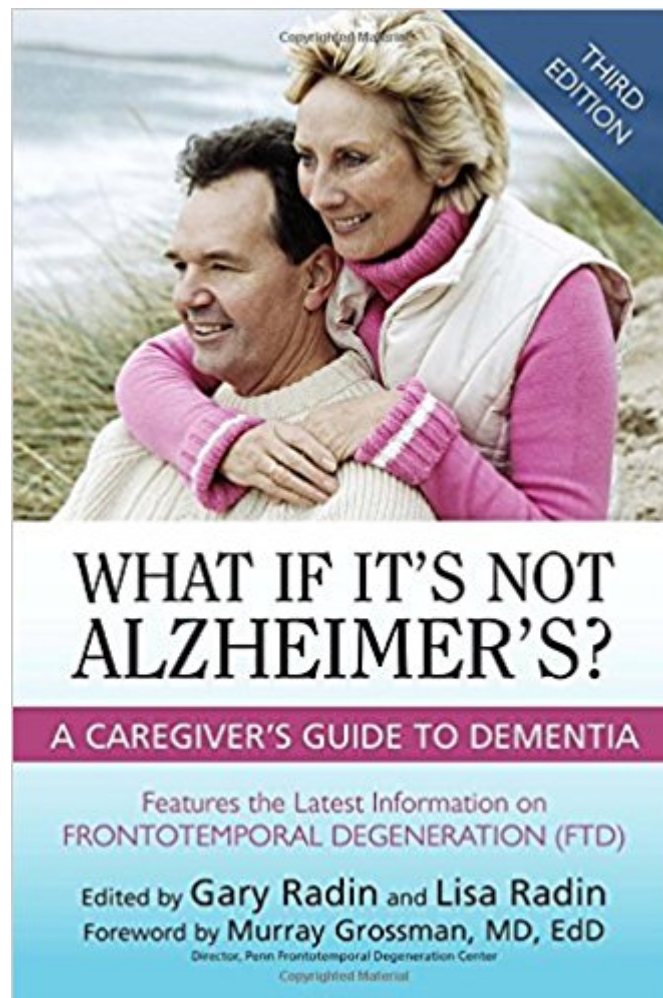




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What If It's Not Alzheimer's?: A Caregiver's Guide To Dementia (3rd Edition)



Synopsis

Although the public most often associates dementia with Alzheimer's disease, the medical profession now distinguishes various types of "other" dementias. This book is the first and only comprehensive guide dealing with frontotemporal degeneration (FTD), one of the largest groups of non-Alzheimer's dementias. The contributors are either specialists in their fields or have exceptional hands-on experience with FTD sufferers.

Beginning with a focus on the medical facts, the first part defines and explores FTD as an illness distinct from Alzheimer's disease. Also considered are clinical and medical care issues and practices, as well as such topics as finding a medical team and rehabilitation interventions. The next section on managing care examines the daily care routine including exercise, socialization, adapting the home environment, and behavioral issues. In the following section on caregiver resources, the contributors identify professional and government assistance programs along with private resources and legal options. The final section focuses on the caregiver, in particular the need for respite and the challenge of managing emotions. This new, completely revised edition follows recent worldwide collaboration in research and provides the most current medical information available, a better understanding of the different classifications of FTD, and more clarity regarding the role of genetics. The wealth of information offered in these pages will help both healthcare professionals and caregivers of someone suffering from frontotemporal degeneration.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

“What If It’s Not Alzheimer’s?” is a must-read for anyone dealing with a diagnosis of dementia, especially FTD. The practical information, the resources, and the depth of understanding reflected in this book provide a comprehensive reference to guide and accompany a person throughout the journey.

• Susan L.-J. Dickinson, MS, CGC, executive director of the Association for Frontotemporal Degeneration

“I am certain that no other lay writers have been more dedicated to updating the vital information to help caregivers navigate the emotionally trying, ever-evolving landscape of early-onset, non-Alzheimer’s dementia. These caregivers remain underserved, highlighting the importance of this book and of finding each other.”

• Dr. Tiffany Chow, behavioral neurologist, author of The Memory Clinic

Praise for the first edition: “[A]n updated handbook packed from cover to cover with tips and information for caregivers and sufferers alike.” -- Bookwatch

“[D]eals with a topic about which little has been written. ...an excellent resource....makes an important contribution to the family caregiving literature because of the biomedical and professional insight it offers into an important but rarely discussed type of dementia.”-- Canadian Journal on Aging

Gary Radin (Mullica Hill, NJ) and his mother, Lisa Radin (Las Vegas, NV), provided complete in-home care for father and husband Neil Radin over a four-year period. In 1998, they established the Neil L. Radin Caregivers Relief Foundation. They are both support-group facilitators and have been involved in planning and coordinating FTD caregiver conferences.

FTD - fronto-temporal dementia - is the second-most common dementia after Alzheimer’s disease, yet few seem to realize not all dementias are the same. An exceedingly tough subject to write about - Radin is informative, candid, and clear. He makes good use of research, statistics, case studies, and includes experiences from people in the field, both professional and non-professional. Most of all, his tone is never condescending: there is an underlying warmth but an overall practicality that is perhaps more useful than anything else to the FTD caregiver. There are a lot of compassionate books out there, and a lot of people write about the emotional and psychological struggles in dealing with FTD; equally, there are a lot of publications that are pitched to those in the medical field, articles and books full of specialized jargon and obscure references. Few books hit the middle zone of no-nonsense advice, clear information about what to expect, and information on resources, organizations, online groups, etc. If you’re a caregiver, if you know someone who is, if you know someone in the throes of FTD and want to learn more, this is the best comprehensive guide I’ve

seen.

My mother has had many years of symptoms that just don't seem to get her the help she needs. Her neurologist told us her issues are not neurological because she doesn't fit their examination of memory issues. This book gave me hope that someone out there might understand and help us. Her problems are centered on executive functioning. I hope to contact the resources mentioned in this book.

This is not a book I wanted to have to order, but since I needed to learn about this, of course I got it. I was impressed with how well laid out the content was and how well it answered so many of the questions I had. If you are facing a future with Frontotemporal Dementia, I highly recommend this book for you. The more you learn, the easier it will be. Very well written and filled with some of the best information I have found.

An excellent "up close and personal" look at FTD (fronto-temporal-temporal dementia), a form of dementia too few members of the public, caregivers, and medical professionals recognize or understand in its subtleties. It should be required reading. Written in a no-nonsense but compassionate tone by a woman whose brilliant husband slowly disappeared before her eyes. So many helpful suggestions from a wise author who obviously wants to help lessen the suffering of others who are grappling with this cruel disease.

Very good information regarding Frontotemporal Degeneration, a little known dementia. The authors share knowledge, based on their experience as caregivers, including how to prepare for the inevitable end, including legal guidelines on how to guard family financial resources. They advise how to deal with social agencies and many more things that the average person wouldn't even think of. It's a must read for families dealing with this terrible disease.

I really liked how this book is a great resource book including an index to go back and refer to as different symptoms arise. Along with that being said it also goes into the emotional changes and physical changes of the patient and the caregiver. It also has countless ideas for each situation you might be facing. Although easier to read on kindle I am considering getting a paper copy just for reference.

Important read

This book could be titled, "Everything you wanted to know about FTD, but were afraid to ask". It is packed with helpful information and resources. A must read for every FTD caregiver, it paints an accurate picture of what every caregiver experiences.

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