



NEWS

ANTELOPE VALLEY'S
HEALTHCARE
NEWS RESOURCE

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FREE HEALTH LECTURE ON DEMENTIA AT ANTELOPE VALLEY HOSPITAL NOVEMBER 5, 2009

(LANCASTER, CA – October 29, 2009) —Did you know that not every cognitive problem is dementia? Many medical issues or psychiatric issues resemble dementia, which is why Antelope Valley Hospital (AVH) is offering a free health lecture to help the community better understand dementia on **Thursday, November 5, 2009 at 6:30 p.m.** Robert Imani, M.D. will conduct the lecture titled "*Is It Really Dementia?*"

Dementia is a disease which has many different causes. It could be Alzheimer's, which is the reason for the majority of the dementia, or it could be more chronic central nervous system illnesses such as Parkinson's or many small strokes.

"Some people confuse temporary forgetfulness with dementia, which tends to worsen over time" says Robert Imani, M.D., a psychiatrist on staff at AVH. "Because nearly 10% of people over age 75 suffer from dementia, it's important for family members and caregivers to understand the disease so they can help those affected by it."

As people pass the age of 75 their chances of suffering from dementia increase. It is estimated that up to 50% of people in their late 80s have some type of dementia. Dr. Imani will discuss the causes and symptoms of dementia in addition to the treatable and non-treatable types.

"Many people in the Antelope Valley are caring for their elderly family members," said Edward Mirzabegian, AVH Chief Executive Officer. "Understanding the causes and symptoms of dementia will help them seek out and provide better care."

Dr. Imani's free health lecture on **Thursday, November 5** will begin at **6:30 p.m.** It will be held at the **AV Outpatient Imaging Building 44105 15th Street West**, Lancaster (the corner of Avenue J-5 and 15th Street West) on the **4th floor**, in **conference room 15**. To reserve a seat, please call **(661) 726-6499** or send an e-mail to

(more)

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communityrelations@avhospital.org. Please leave your name, contact number, and number of guests attending the lecture.

About Antelope Valley Hospital

Celebrating more than 50 years of caring for the community, Antelope Valley Hospital, a facility of Antelope Valley Healthcare District, is a non-profit, 420-bed hospital that was founded in 1955. The hospital is dedicated to providing quality care and services to everyone in the Antelope Valley. AV Hospital is located at 1600 West Avenue J in Lancaster, California. For further information, please visit www.avhospital.org or call 661-949-5000.

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