

First Link Connection Video Transcript - Part 5

What if I told you that there is an area of the brain that doesn't have a highway? This area is called the emotional memory.

Emotional memory is part of a person until the end of life. The person living with dementia may not remember your name or how you connect with them but they will know how you make them feel. It is important to know even a small act like putting lotion on a hand or holding a hand for a moment provides an emotional connection. We therefore encourage care partners to use the senses: taste, touch, sound, sight and smell to be able to engage with the person living with dementia.

There are lots of other areas of the brain that we have not discussed in this short program such as awareness of time, physical movement, and more. More information about these can be accessed via our Client Services team or on the ASANT Café.

In conclusion, for most experiences of dementia the disease starts in short term memory and moves to other areas over time. Returning to our highway system, this is represented in the early stage with those few boxes in a few areas, in the middle stage more boxes in more areas and in late stage dementia lots of boxes in lots of areas.