NACC Project #2007-JI-01 (Secondary Analysis of NACC data)
“Determinants of Judgment and Problem Solving Among Patients with Dementia”

Junior Investigator
Ann M. Mayo, RN DNSc, University of California San Francisco

ADC Director
Bruce Miller, MD

Project Work Dates
2007-2008

Project Description
As the population of older adults continues to increase, health care providers are encountering patients with dementia in ever increasing numbers. Many of these providers are concerned about their patients' judgment and problem solving abilities as these abilities ultimately impact care needs, safety needs, and cost of care. However, in most clinical settings health care providers, due to time constraints and/or lack of resources, are unable to assess judgment and problem solving abilities to the degree desired. On the other hand, health care providers often do assess a patient's functional capacity on a routine basis as part of their standard of care. This cross-sectional secondary analysis will use data from the NACC UDS data base to examine the associations between functional activities and judgment and problem solving among subjects with dementia. In addition, the study will show to what extent predisposing characteristics (demographics), cognition, and global cognition and function explain the extent of problem solving ability among the subjects. Hierarchical regression analysis will be used to test the significance and strength of these associations.

Contact Information
For further information regarding this study, please contact:
Ann Mayo, RN DNSc
University of California San Francisco
JAHF Center for Geriatric Nursing Excellence
UCSF School of Nursing
email: Ann.Mayo@ucsf.edu
phone: (619) 993-7976
ADC website: http://www.memory.ucsf.edu/