Impact on Families

When someone is diagnosed with ALS it impacts their families and friends as well. Family members quickly learn about the disease, but they also receive a crash course in insurance, home modifications, the medical system, and much more. The impact on families is much greater than the initial diagnosis itself.

Emotional Impact

- Stress of getting the diagnosis
- Grieving the diagnosis
- Coping with physical changes
- Coping with role changes
- Treatment decisions
- Quality of life decisions
- Caregiver and Family Stress, including children

Important Decisions that Families Have to Make

- When to leave work and when to apply for Social Security Disability
- Can the caregiver leave work
- When and whether to change living arrangements
- Dealing with mobility issues
- Feeding tube
- Choosing appropriate communication devices
- Respiratory Support (biPap, invasive ventilation)
- End of Life Planning