

Studies

[Objectively Measured Visual Impairment and Dementia Prevalence in Older Adults in the US](#)

In this survey study, based on objective assessments of visual function with habitual correction in the 2021 nationally representative National Health and Aging Trends Study, all types of VI (distance VI, near VI, and contrast sensitivity impairment) were associated with a higher dementia prevalence. Having multiple VIs was more strongly associated with dementia than having a single VI.

[Psychosocial impact of being diagnosed with mild cognitive impairment: patient and carer perspective](#)

Patients' awareness of being diagnosed with MCI is relatively limited. Public education campaigns raising awareness about MCI can help influence the 'illness representation' for MCI and enable people to seek timely advice and support.

Conference Report

[Conference Highlights from AAIC 2023](#)

A summary of findings presented at the Alzheimer's Association International Conference.

News

[Drug donanemab seen as turning point in dementia fight](#)

A new drug, donanemab, is being hailed as a turning point in the fight against Alzheimer's, after a global trial confirms it slows cognitive decline. The antibody medicine helps in the early stages of the disease by clearing a protein that builds up in the brains of people with this type of dementia. Although not a cure, charities say the results in the journal [JAMA](#) mark a new era where Alzheimer's can be treated. The UK's drugs watchdog has started assessing it for possible NHS use.

[Innovative test could quicken Alzheimer's and dementia diagnosis](#)

A new test known as 'Fastball' could help detect Alzheimer's and dementia earlier than current methods. The Fastball test is being developed by researchers at the Universities of Bath and Bristol, using £1.5m of funding from the National Institute for Health and Care Research. The test, which is still in development, measures brain waves when a person recognises an image.

[People with Parkinson's may benefit from cardio, weight training and yoga – here's what you need to know](#)

Many people associate Parkinson's disease with the physical symptoms it causes – such as tremors, muscle stiffness and balance problems – which can all make everyday activities difficult. But just because Parkinson's makes movement harder, doesn't mean those with the disease should stop moving.



elderly vascular geriatrics
Alzheimer's environment
cognition early onset
fronto-temporal research
memory old age
dementia
lewy bodies support



NHS
Mersey Care
NHS Foundation Trust

Community and Mental Health Services

25 July 2023

[Alzheimer's disease could be diagnosed at home with simple blood test](#)

A finger prick blood test has been shown to help detect Alzheimer's at home at the same time as a separate blood test was found to predict the disease significantly better than clinical diagnosis by doctors.

[Constipation and cognitive decline: How gut bacteria may play a role in brain health](#)

The gut and the brain are in constant communication. A better understanding of the "gut-brain axis" could help scientists develop new ways to help stave off dementia.

[Challenging brain in older age may reduce dementia risk, study finds](#)

Taking part in activities such as chess, writing a journal, or educational classes in older age may help to reduce the risk of dementia, a study has suggested. [Writing in the journal Jama Network Open](#), researchers in the US and Australia report how they used data from the Australian Asprey Longitudinal Study of Older Persons covering the period from 1 March 2010 to 30 November 2020.

[More than 250,000 dementia patients in England could miss new treatments](#)

More than a third of Alzheimer's patients could miss out on certain drugs because they have no recorded diagnosis, NHS figures show. The NHS [primary care dementia figures](#), released on Thursday, estimate that there are about 708,000 people over 65 with dementia in England, but only about 450,000 have a recorded diagnosis. That means that more than 250,000 are missing out on potential new treatments. The estimate comprises the number of people thought to have dementia, based on age, sex and other factors.

