

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

6 January 2025

Studies

[The SLaM Brain Health Clinic: remote biomarker enhanced memory clinic for people with mild cognitive impairment within a National Health Service mental health trust](#)

The SLaM BHC provides a highly acceptable and safe clinical model for remote assessments and lumbar punctures in a representative, ethnically diverse population. This allows early and accurate diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease, differentiation from other MCI causes and targets modifiable risk factors. This is crucial for future disease modification, ensuring equitable access to research, and provides precise, timely and cost-efficient diagnoses in UK mental health services.

[Evidence for music therapy and music medicine in psychiatry: transdiagnostic meta-review of meta-analyses](#)

Music therapy shows promising potential as an adjunctive treatment for psychiatric disorders, but methodological weaknesses and variability limit the evidence. More high-quality, well-powered studies are needed to reliably confirm its effect size.

Webinars

[Age-appropriate support in care homes](#)

Our webinar on Wednesday 12th February 2025 at 12.30-1.30pm will outline the main issues that people living with young onset dementia and their families face when looking for age-appropriate care in a care home. We will consider how adaptations can support age-appropriate care, and how care homes can make changes to support people and families living with the condition.

[Working together to support children and young people affected by parental young onset dementia](#)

Our November webinar shared the progress being made to improve the support received by children and young people affected by parental young onset dementia. Watch the recording [here](#).

News

[How does dementia cause death?](#)

As diseases like Alzheimer's or vascular dementia progress, they damage more and more of the brain. This damage eventually affects areas of the brain that control the body, causing systems to go wrong and shut down, eventually leading to death.

[Why having conversations about end-of-life in dementia is so important](#)

Current guidelines recommend that conversations about end-of-life care and advance care planning should happen at the point of diagnosis. However, healthcare professionals can be hesitant. Often, they have given a person a difficult diagnosis and they want to support people to live as well as possible. They don't always want to talk about end-of-life challenges that may arise. But it is important to start that dialogue and talk about it not just one time, but regularly.



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



NHS

Mersey Care
NHS Foundation Trust

6 January 2025

[2024 in dementia research](#)

A look back at some of the breakthroughs in dementia research and the achievements and milestones of the Join Dementia Research service.

[Dementia Research, Winter Newsletter](#)

This edition covers: a couple involved in Alzheimer's research, how music could improve use in older adults, and online internet use in older adults, and online survey studies seeking volunteers.

[Staying Mentally Sharp After 60](#)

For the [study](#), researchers used data from cognition and dementia measures in the Health and Retirement Study to detect elevated risk for dementia years before its onset. The ongoing study has followed a nationally representative sample of about 20,000 older Americans since 1992. The strongest risk factors for dementia at age 60 were lower levels of memory and thinking skills; functional limitations, such as difficulty with bathing or walking, low grip strength, or poor balance; and poor general physical health. Chronic health conditions like diabetes, obesity and stroke by age 60 were strongly linked to a higher likelihood of developing dementia later in life.

[Astrocytes play a role in accumulation of amyloid driven by Alzheimer's risk gene](#)

Research led by Prof Bart De Strooper (UK DRI at UCL & VIB-KU Leuven Center for Brain & Disease Research) and Pranav Preman (VIB-KU Leuven Center for Brain & Disease Research) reveals a role for the star-shaped supporting brain cells known as astrocytes in the accumulation of toxic amyloid protein in Alzheimer's. The study, published in [EMBO Molecular Medicine](#), could lead to new therapeutic avenues for the condition.

