

1 April 2025

News

Alzheimer's Society unveils new innovation programme to address hospitalisation challenge

Alzheimer's Society has unveiled its first ever Launchpad Cohort. Their original ideas will address a broad range of challenges people living with dementia face, including tackling some of the main issues connected to hospitalisation. The people behind the 12 new innovative ideas will work with Alzheimer's Society to provide new solutions that will improve quality of life and revolutionise treatment, care, and support for people affected by dementia.

Government-backed technologies support those living with dementia

People living with dementia are set to benefit from government-backed research designed to help them live more independently in their own homes. Four new research networks led by the UK's top researchers, developers, and health and social care professionals will focus on creating technologies to help dementia patients manage memory loss, communication difficulties and cope better with everyday tasks, in the hope of slowing the progress of the disease and maximising the time they can spend safely and happily at home.

<u>Technology boost for blood tests set to revolutionise dementia diagnosis</u>

The Government has pledged £2 million to boost on-going research that aims to diagnose dementia quicker and more accurately than current methods. The new funding will allow researchers to incorporate digital assessments into the Real Word Dementia Outcomes (READ-OUT) study. This is exploring how accurate and reliable blood tests are for different groups of people who have been referred to a memory clinic.

Vision loss, dementia and what it could mean for you

More than 1 in 10 people over the age of 50 have uncorrected visual impairment — a sight problem which hasn't been corrected by wearing glasses, contact lenses, or having surgery or treatment. Last year, the Lancet Commission found evidence that visual impairment caused by cataracts and diabetic retinopathy were linked to a higher likelihood of developing dementia. But glaucoma and age-related macular degeneration do not appear to be linked to dementia.

Red Meat and Dementia Risk: What the Research Says

A new study found that processed red meat, like bacon, sausage, bologna or other deli meats, was especially bad for brain health. Eating about two servings a week of processed red meat raised the risk of dementia by about 14 percent compared to people who ate less than three servings a month.

Three Cups of Green Tea Daily May Boost Brain Health

This study, from researchers in Japan, found that older adults who regularly drank three or more glasses of green tea a day had fewer brain abnormalities known as white matter lesions. Having fewer white matter lesions is linked to more robust brain health and a lower likelihood of developing Alzheimer's disease or other forms of dementia.













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EMA's CHMP recommends against granting marketing authorisation for donanemab

The European Medicines Agency's Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use (CHMP) has recommended against granting the marketing authorisation of donanemab across the European Union's Member States and European Economic Area (EEA). This is likely to be the second disease modifying therapy to be denied by the bloc, after the EMA declined aducanumab, leaving lecanemab as the only disease modifying therapy likely to achieve marketing authorisation.

Health tourism the last resort for many living with Alzheimer's disease

ADI is highlighting the testimonies of those undertaking health tourism to access Alzheimer's disease treatments across the world. Recent significant advancements have led to the development of disease-modifying therapies designed to slow progression. However, access remains highly fragmented, leading to the onset of people travelling for treatment, or health tourism, for those that have the means.

<u>Are dementia prevalence and incidence declining? Findings from a review of cohort studies</u>
Summarises a recent review global cohort studies, which asks the question – is dementia on the downturn, and are the risks the same in high-income or low to middle income countries?

Imperial researchers to develop new technologies for people with dementia

Researchers at Imperial are to develop technologies to enable people living with dementia to live independently for longer. The 'ZeDTech' dementia network – developing zero burden and sustainable technologies to support independent living with dementia –will bring together teams of researchers, developers, engineers and health and social care professionals.

Memories and Dementia: Starting the Conversation season launches at the BBC

The BBC is launching a special new season across TV, iPlayer and Radio called Memories and Dementia: Starting the Conversation. The season is being led by Dr Punam to help start conversations between those living with dementia and their friends, families and carers by evoking memories of their past through content from the BBC's archive.

Animations

Young Dementia Network share animations to raise awareness of YOD

The Young Dementia Network has created two animations to raise awareness of young onset dementia and specifically the challenges younger people face when living with dementia. The animations feature the thoughts of people with young onset dementia and their family members gathered via a 3-question questionnaire.









