



15 April 2024

## **Studies**

## <u>Sleep disturbance in people living with dementia or mild cognitive impairment: a realist</u> review of general practice

In primary care, sleep disturbance among PLwD or MCI is not adequately addressed. Over-reliance on medication, underutilisation of non-pharmacological strategies, and inflexible care home routines were reported as a result of low confidence in sleep management and resource constraints. This does not constitute effective and personcentred care. Future work should consider ways to tailor the assessment and management of sleep disturbance to the needs of individuals and their informal carers without overstretching services.

### Dementia prevention and the GP's role: a qualitative interview study

There needs to be a whole-systems shift towards prioritising brain health and supporting primary care professionals in their preventive role. Education is key to underpinning this role in dementia prevention.

# <u>Biophysical models applied to dementia patients reveal links between geographical</u> origin, gender, disease duration, and loss of neural inhibition

Results suggest a critical link between abnormal neural and circuit-level excitability levels, the loss of grey matter observed in dementia, and the reorganization of functional connectivity, while highlighting the sensitivity of the underlying biophysical mechanism to demographic and clinical heterogeneities in the patient population.

# <u>Barriers and facilitators to care for agitation and/or aggression among persons living</u> <u>with dementia in long-term care</u>

This study advances care for persons living with dementia in LTC by drawing attention to unique and systemic barriers present across local and national Canadian LTC facilities. Findings will support future implementation research endeavours to eliminate these identified barriers across the spectrum of care, thus improving care outcomes among people with dementia in LTC.

#### Identifying a group of factors predicting cognitive impairment among older adults

Using the training dataset, we developed a composite risk score that predicted undiagnosed cognitive decline based on ten selected predictive risk factors including age, waist circumference, healthy eating index, race, education, income, physical activity, diabetes, hypercholesterolemia, and annual visit to dentist. The risk score was significantly associated with poor cognitive performance both in the training dataset and validation dataset.











### Resources

### Living alone with dementia

People can and do live on their own with dementia and without informal support. A series of new resources offers advice to enable this, including guidance for people living with dementia, commissioners and people working with people with dementia.

## News

# <u>Hundreds of thousands face being denied revolutionary new dementia drugs in</u> England

Hundreds of thousands of dementia patients in England face being denied access to revolutionary new drugs because the diagnostic capacity of the NHS lags behind every other G7 country, according to a damning report.

### Our highlights from this year's AD/PD conference

Three take homes from the 2024 AD/PD conference.

### My reflections on the UK's largest gathering of dementia researchers

A look back on the Alzheimer's Research UK Research Conference 2024 in Liverpool.

How your vision can predict dementia 12 years before it is diagnosed – new study

Identifying vision problems can predict dementia 12 years before diagnosis. This research involved more than 8,000 healthy participants in Norfolk.









