Studies

**Association of midlife body-weight variability and cycles with earlier dementia onset: a nationwide cohort study**

The present study highlights the importance of considering BW changes with BW variability along with the BW cycle to assess dementia risk in detail, providing valuable insights for preventive strategies.

**Tailored videoconferencing counselling program to support family carers of people living with dementia during the transition to permanent residential care: a pilot and feasibility randomised trial**

Delivery of a tailored counselling program via videoconferencing to family carers of people living with dementia during the transition to residential care was feasible and acceptable. The program has the potential to improve transitional support to family carers.

Webinar

**Youth Summit**

A free virtual worldwide event that unites children, teens and young adults of a parent living with, or has lived with younger-onset dementia of any form. An inspiring day together to share common story, exchange carer strategies, move forward advocacy initiatives and build community.

News

**First of its kind Beatles book brings the band’s story to life for people with dementia**

A new book about The Beatles, which has been designed specifically with, and for, people with dementia has been released, with the accompanying audio voiced by actor Bill Nighy. The books are unique as they solve many of the barriers people with dementia face when reading and can be enjoyed alone or with loved ones and carers. They use familiar stories, rhyme and rhythm for recall and illustrations to bring the narrative and memories to life. The need to focus on the evolving plot of a story is less important because each page works as its own, individual story. What’s more, the audio version provides additional support for the reader and there are exercises based on Cognitive Stimulation Therapy.

**Mentally stimulating work plays key role in staving off dementia, study finds**

Researchers have found that the more people use their brains at work, the better they seem to be protected against thinking and memory problems that come with older age. In a study of more than 7,000 Norwegians in 305 occupations, those who held the least mentally demanding jobs had a 66% greater risk of mild cognitive impairment, and a 31% greater risk of dementia, after the age of 70 compared with those in the most mentally taxing roles.
**Dementia: experts urge doctors to reduce antipsychotic prescriptions**
Doctors are being urged to reduce prescribing of antipsychotic drugs to dementia patients after the largest study of its kind found they were linked to more harmful side-effects than previously thought. The powerful medications are widely prescribed for behavioural and psychological symptoms of dementia such as apathy, depression, aggression, anxiety, irritability, delirium and psychosis. Tens of thousands of dementia patients in England are prescribed them every year. Safety concerns have previously been raised about the drugs, with warnings to medics based on increased risks for stroke and death, but evidence of other dangers was less conclusive. New research suggests there are a considerably wider range of harms associated with their use than previously acknowledged in regulatory alerts, underscoring the need for increased caution in the early stages of treatment. Antipsychotic use in dementia patients was associated with elevated risks of a wide range of serious adverse outcomes, including stroke, blood clots, heart attack, heart failure, fracture, pneumonia and acute kidney injury, the study’s authors reported. Their findings were published in the BMJ.

"I’ve got three degrees, but I can’t tell the time" – new film reveals reality of dementia with Lewy bodies
Des O’Sullivan and Valli Yanni feature in a new film by Alzheimer’s Research UK that shines a spotlight on the lesser-known disease Des is living with: dementia with Lewy bodies (DLB).

**Specialist dementia support for the LGBTQ+ community**
A newly created Consultant Admiral Nurse service for the LGBTQ+ community is an exciting step for Dementia UK. It serves to represent the needs of people within the LGBTQ+ community, their families and carers, raising awareness of the challenges they face and advocating for inclusive and affirmative care. The service will provide clinical guidance to members of the LGBTQ+ community, their families and carers; as well as support in raising awareness, promoting inclusivity within the services we provide, influencing policy work, research and developing educational resources.