

# **Studies**

<u>Blood-based biomarkers for Alzheimer's disease in Down syndrome: A systematic review and meta-analysis</u>

In conclusion, our work demonstrates the promising potential of the blood-based AT(N) model for diagnosing AD in individuals with DS. Also, we identified the potential of inflammatory biomarkers, such as GFAP, suggesting the possibility of extending the model to an AT(N)I framework. This conclusion is consistent with recent perspective research. While these findings are encouraging, longitudinal studies are needed to further validate these biomarkers and potentially develop new ones to support early clinical AD diagnosis and facilitate clinical trials and research in the DS population.

Changing definitions of disease: Transformations in the diagnostic criteria for Alzheimer's disease

Early diagnosis and incorporating recent scientific findings are recurring aims for criteria revisions but aims and motivations for revising are often unclear or ambiguous and reflection on previous criteria is lacking. The subsequent criteria, except International Working Group (IWG) 2021/2024, consistently lower the threshold for diagnosing AD and increasingly focus on amyloid  $\beta$  and tau biomarkers.

## A natural experiment on the effect of herpes zoster vaccination on dementia

Through the use of a unique natural experiment, this study provides evidence of a dementiapreventing or dementia-delaying effect from zoster vaccination that is less vulnerable to confounding and bias than the existing associational evidence.

# Behavioural and psychological symptoms among out-patients with different cognitive states: cross-sectional study

The study examines the behavioural and psychological symptoms (BPSs) associated with dementia and mild cognitive impairment (MCI), highlighting the prevalence and impact of these symptoms on individuals with varying levels of cognitive function, particularly in the context of the increasing incidence of dementia among the ageing population.

# A mapping review of studies exploring the barriers and facilitators to a dementia diagnosis through an intersectionality lens

Our mapping review suggests the large body of work within this field tends to treat people with dementia and their carers as homogenous and androgenous groups. To better inform this key policy directive, studies are needed that explore the influence of social determinants on people's experiences of seeking a dementia diagnosis. Such work would create a richer, more nuanced evidence base that better elicits ways of addressing inequalities and inequities that arise at this key stage of people's dementia care journey.

Prevalence of dementia and mild cognitive impairment among the older prisoner population in England and Wales: a cross-sectional study

Approximately 1020 older adults living in prison have symptoms of likely dementia, and service provision for this group is inadequate.











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## Paper

#### Long-term metformin use for Alzheimer's disease prevention?

In conclusion, metformin is a safe, affordable, and widely used anti-T2DM drug, with growing evidence suggesting that its long-term use is associated with a lower risk of cognitive decline.

# **Online Events**

Supporting people living alone with young onset dementia, 14 May, 12.30pm

This webinar on Wednesday 14th May 2025 will be hosted by Dr Jenni Brooks, Associate Professor of Social Policy at Sheffield Hallam University, who will present the findings of a research project – 'Living alone with dementia: managing without informal support to contact and navigate services'.

#### Lorenzo's Youth Summit, 20 & 21 June

A free, virtual worldwide event that unites the daughters and sons of younger-onset dementia.

# Podcast

#### What happens after a dementia diagnosis?

Jasmine Blane, a DPhil researcher at the Oxford Brain Health Clinic, talks in this podcast about the work she is doing to help support patients in the midst of a dementia diagnosis, and into the future.

# News

<u>Amid all the warnings about a 'dementia tsunami', here are the things you should know</u> When we dig into new research we see why all the alarming headlines are written, but also that science is bringing new hope, says Devi Sridhar, chair of global public health at the University of Edinburgh.

#### Lowering bad cholesterol may cut risk of dementia by 26%, study suggests

Research highlights link between low LDL cholesterol and reduced dementia risk, with statins offering additional protection.

## Prime Minister turbocharges medical research

The Prime Minister has announced action to accelerate the discovery of life-saving drugs, improve patient care and make Britain the best place in the world for medical research. The government and the Wellcome Trust will invest up to  $\pounds600$  million to create a new health data research service. This will transform the access to NHS data by providing a secure single access point to national-scale data sets, slashing red tape for researchers. This improvement - which will begin from the end of 2026 - will speed up the process and could set the UK on a path to cure cancer, dementia and arthritis quicker, which will improve patient outcomes and help turbocharge the economy.









<u>Could diabetes and eye drugs be used to treat dementia?</u> Repurposing drugs in the future may hold some answers to how we treat dementia.

Parenting and family life after being diagnosed with Alzheimer's at 50 Elaine in Surrey is making the most of family life after being diagnosed with young-onset Alzheimer's disease.

How does Parkinson's disease cause dementia?

Parkinson's disease is often thought of as a condition that affects movement. However some people experience other symptoms such as nerve pain, insomnia, and problems with their memory. People with Parkinson's are up to six times more likely to develop dementia compared to the general population. This is called Parkinson's disease dementia.

Vienna conference builds bridges across different types of dementia

Reflections on this year's annual Alzheimer's disease and Parkinson's disease conference which was held in Vienna.







