

## Studies

### [Cold sore viral infection implicated in development of Alzheimer's disease](#)

Symptomatic infection with the virus responsible for cold sores around the mouth—herpes simplex 1, or HSV-1 for short—may have a key role in the development of Alzheimer's disease, suggests a [large pharma industry-funded US study](#) published in the open access journal BMJ Open.

### [Improving early dementia diagnosis: the READ-OUT study](#)

Professor Vanessa Raymont is an Associate Professor at the University of Oxford and an Honorary Consultant Psychiatrist at Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust. She is a highly experienced psychiatrist with over 25 years research experience in the UK and USA. In this blog, she writes about the READ-OUT study into blood tests for dementia.

### [Qualitative study exploring knowledge and attitudes towards dementia risk prediction, barriers to dementia services and service improvement recommendations with diverse populations in England](#)

As international policy on dementia shifts focus to prevention, there is a growing interest in identifying those at high risk and intervening early. This study illustrates current levels of dementia knowledge and attitudes towards risk prediction among socioeconomically and ethnically diverse groups in the UK. Barriers to health services for diverse populations and service improvement recommendations offer a starting point for providers to develop culturally aware and inclusive dementia services.

### [Cost-consequence analysis of an e-health intervention to reduce distress in dementia carers: results from the iSupport randomised controlled trial](#)

Use of iSupport was associated with reduced health and social care resource use costs for carers compared with care-as-usual. Self-guided e-health interventions for dementia carers may have the potential to reduce health and social care resource use and wider societal costs, but evidence relating to their effectiveness and cost-effectiveness is lacking.

### [Assessment of the validity of the Resilience and Strain Questionnaire in Caregivers of People with Dementia \(ResQ-Care-Dem\): a cross-sectional survey study](#)

The reliability and structural validity of the ResQ-Care-Dem were partially confirmed. Evidence supporting its convergent validity suggests that the questionnaire has potential as a tool for assessing caregiver burden and resilience factors among informal caregivers of people with dementia. While these findings indicate potential practical applicability, future studies should investigate its performance in real-world settings and assess changes over time (eg, responsiveness) in longitudinal studies.

## Podcast

### [My life with dementia - a Dementia UK podcast](#)

'My life with dementia' takes listeners on a personal journey through the world of dementia, as told by people who have experienced it themselves. Subscribe to [#MyLifeWithDementia](#) wherever you get your podcasts.

## Cochrane Clinical Answer

### [What are the effects of music-based therapeutic interventions for adults with dementia?](#)

For adults with dementia (of varying degrees of severity, residing in long-term care facilities or specialist hospital units), music-based therapeutic interventions probably slightly reduce symptoms of depression at the end of treatment when compared with usual care (moderate-certainty evidence). These interventions may also slightly reduce overall behavioral problems at the end of treatment (low-certainty evidence). However, they probably have little to no effect on agitation or aggression at the end of treatment (moderate-certainty evidence) and may also have little to no effect on anxiety, cognition, or social behavior (low-certainty evidence).

## Network Meeting

### [Liverpool Dementia & Ageing Research Forum Regional Networking Meeting June Tickets, Wed, Jun 11, 2025 at 12:30 PM](#)

The next Liverpool Dementia and Ageing Research Forum will have a special focus on young onset dementia. It is open to anyone with an interest or personal or professional experience of dementia.

## Webinars

### [Supporting the autonomy of people with young onset dementia](#)

Our webinar on Wednesday 18th June 2025 at 12.30-1.30pm will explore some practical ideas and resources that can support ways in which autonomy can be maintained for younger people with dementia.

### [Supporting people living alone with young onset dementia](#)

At our recent webinar, the expert panel shared recent research findings and resources, and discussed how best to support younger people who live alone with dementia.

## News

### [Celebrities launch our Forget Me Not Appeal with striking new portraits](#)

Alzheimer's Society has released a new photography series to launch its [2025 Forget Me Not Appeal](#) which aims to end the devastation caused by dementia – the UK's biggest killer, with nearly one million people in the UK living with the disease. Alzheimer's Society Ambassadors Anna Richardson, Gareth Locke-Locke and Meera Syal CBE feature in a powerful and intimate series of images – Unforgettable Frames – shot by celebrity photographer Sam Riley.

### [Over half of UK adults don't know one of the most common symptoms of dementia](#)

Around one million people are living with dementia in the UK and a third do not have a diagnosis. Yet, our research reveals that over 60% of UK adults do not know that problems with vision can sometimes be a symptom of dementia – and one in ten could not name a single common symptom of dementia.

### [Alzheimer's blood test can spot people with early symptoms, study suggests](#)

A new blood test for Alzheimer's disease can accurately detect people with early symptoms, [research](#) suggests. Experts from the Mayo Clinic in the US have provided further evidence that blood tests can work to accurately diagnose dementia by examining two proteins in blood plasma.

### [Can blood tests predict your risk of developing dementia in the future?](#)

We explain the science behind the headlines on dementia blood tests, what they are and who can benefit. And whether they can predict the risk of getting dementia in people with no symptoms.

### [Liverpool conference showcases exciting developments in neuroscience research](#)

Our Head of Research Funding, Dr Jacqui Hanley, shares highlights from the British Neuroscience Association conference.

### [Weight Training Twice a Week May Protect Against Dementia](#)

Adding twice-a-week strength training to your regular routine may help to gird the brain against the ravages of dementia, a new report suggests. After six months, older volunteers at high risk of dementia who practiced resistance training, the kind that builds strength and muscle, had better memory and thinking skills and less brain wasting than their peers who did not do strength-building exercises.

### [Sleep problems could double risk of dementia in later life](#)

People who experience sleep disorders are at greater risk of developing dementia and other neurodegenerative conditions later in life, new [research](#) led by Prof Valentina Escott-Price (UK DRI at Cardiff) reveals.

### [New screening platform provides powerful tool to study ALS](#)

Scientists led by Prof Adrian Isaacs (UK DRI at UCL) have developed an innovative screening platform that could accelerate the search for treatments for the most common genetic cause of frontotemporal dementia (FTD) and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS). The study is [published in Cell Reports](#).

### [Different versions of APOE protein have varying effect on microglia in Alzheimer's disease](#)

A new study, led by Dr Sarah Marzi and Dr Kitty Murphy at the UK DRI at King's and the Department of Basic and Clinical Neuroscience, offers clues into how APOE isoforms differentially affect human microglia function in Alzheimer's disease. The study is [published in Nature Communications](#).

### [Protein levels altered in brains of people with Down Syndrome & Alzheimer's](#)

Research led by Dr Frances Wiseman (UK DRI at UCL) demonstrates that an important protein implicated in Alzheimer's, Apolipoprotein E (APOE), has increased abundance in the brains of individuals with Down syndrome. This international collaborative project between scientists at University College London and the University of California, Irvine, and [published in Acta Neuropathologica](#), analysed post-mortem brain tissue to understand how the brains of people with Down syndrome with Alzheimer's disease compare to Alzheimer's in the general population.

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



**NHS**

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9 June 2025

#### [Faulty cellular 'energy supply' in ALS](#)

Two common types of gene mutation in amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) have been linked to dysfunction in mitochondria, a part of the cell responsible for supplying energy. This collaborative study between the research groups of Dr Marc-David Ruepp (UK DRI at King's) and Prof Eva Hedlund (Stockholm University), led by Dr Christoph Schweingruber and [published in the journal Nature Communications](#), highlights a potential new direction for drug development.

#### [Deep-layer brain cells falter first in early Alzheimer's](#)

A study led by Dr Marc Aurel Busche (UK DRI at UCL) sheds light on the earliest stage of Alzheimer's, identifying which layers and cell types of the brain are first affected. The research, [published in the journal Neuron](#), identifies a highly specific type of cell in deep brain layers as selectively vulnerable, providing potential new pathways for targeted therapies.

#### [Hope rises as more Alzheimer's drugs enter clinical trials](#)

There are more potential new medicines being tested for Alzheimer's disease, according to an [annual review](#). It reports that 138 drugs are currently being tested – an increase of nearly 9% from last year.

#### [Younger generations less likely to have dementia, study suggests](#)

People born more recently are less likely to have dementia at any given age than earlier generations, [research](#) suggests, with the trend more pronounced in women.

