





Community and Mental Health Services

25 August 2021

# Covid-19

## The impact of COVID-19 to date on older people's mental and physical health

Carers, families, and friends of people living with dementia have reported rapid deterioration in their loved one's cognitive function, which has affected memory, sleep, mood, and behaviour.

# **Systematic Reviews**

## Coronary artery revascularizations and cognitive decline – A systematic review

Based on the currently published research, it is impossible to conclude whether percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) or coronary artery bypass grafting (CABG) is associated with the risk of cognitive decline or dementia. Coronary artery disease (CAD) ipso facto is a risk factor of cognitive decline, and its prevention may reduce the risk of cognitive disorder. Coronary artery revascularizations have been shown to improve general health-related quality of life and survival among CAD patients.

## Are changes in blood pressure and weight linked to later dementia?

Summary of a systematic review exploring the trajectory of blood pressure, body mass index, cholesterol and incident dementia.

## New review suggests that PTSD may be a modifiable risk factor for dementia

This post discusses a new systematic review and meta-analysis of longitudinal cohort studies, which explores the relationship between PTSD and all-cause dementia.

#### **Cochrane Reviews**

## Enteral tube feeding for people with severe dementia

This review found no evidence that tube feeding improves survival; improves quality of life; reduces pain; reduces mortality; decreases behavioural and psychological symptoms of dementia; leads to better nourishment; improves family or carer outcomes such as depression, anxiety, carer burden, or satisfaction with care; and no indication of harm.

#### News

#### Al could detect dementia years before symptoms appear

Artificial intelligence could spot the early signs of dementia from a simple brain scan long before major symptoms appear – and in some cases before any symptoms appear – say cambridge researchers.





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## **Studies**

#### Cognition in rugby union players decreases across season

A decline in blood flow was seen in players, which was more marked in forwards. There was also an increase in the levels of markers of oxidative stress that didn't vary for different player position.

## Looking for the light Coronavirus and Dementia in Care Homes

Findings from the Coronavirus and Dementia in Care homes (CoDeC) Study.

# <u>Cognitive stimulation in the workplace, plasma proteins, and risk of dementia: three</u> analyses of population cohort studies

The risk of dementia in old age was found to be lower in people with cognitively stimulating jobs than in those with non-stimulating jobs.

## <u>Neuropsychiatric and Cognitive Symptoms Across the Alzheimer Disease Clinical</u> Spectrum: Cross-sectional and Longitudinal Associations

Neuropsychiatric symptoms and cognitive symptoms are both prevalent across the Alzheimer Disease continuum, but show a different evolution during the course of the disease.

## <u>Progression of Clinical Features in Lewy Body Dementia Can Be Detected Over 6</u> Months

Clinically significant rates of change in core clinical features can be detected and quantified in Lewy body dementia over a relatively short period (6 months) using common clinical instruments, and thus may be useful as clinical endpoints for therapeutic trials of disease modifying and symptomatic agents.

# Blog

## Answering your questions about aducanumab

In June 2021, the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) made a decision to approve the Alzheimer's drug aducanumab (known commercially as Aduhelm). Although not yet received similar approval for use in the UK, this is the first time a drug has been approved for dementia treatment in nearly 20 years.

#### **Event**

#### Age Scotland's online dementia learning event on the 13th of September 2021

Age Scotland's dementia training team is hosting a free day of learning, exploring what we can all do to create, empower and effect change with and for people living with dementia.