



Community and Mental Health Services

9 January 2024

#### **Studies**

The high cost of care and limited evidence on cost-effective strategies for Lewy body dementia: systematic review of evidence

Thirteen papers were included, comprising ten cost-of-illness studies and three economic evaluations. The cost of LBD tends to be higher than that of other forms of dementia, such as Alzheimer's disease, and these costs escalate more steeply as the disease progresses. These cost differences may not be solely influenced by the subtype of dementia, but possibly also by patient characteristics like physical and cognitive abilities. Costeffectiveness of potential interventions for LBD is limited.

# Risk factors for cognitive impairment in middle-aged type 2 diabetic patients: a cross-sectional study

Age, education, diabetic dietary pattern, waist circumference (WC), overweight, obesity, hypoglycaemic episode in 3 months and cerebrovascular disease (CVD) may be potential influencing factors for the occurrence of cognitive impairment (CI) in hospitalised middle-aged population with T2DM. The combination of BMI and WC may represent a good predictor for early screening of CI in this population. Nevertheless, more relevant prospective studies are still needed.

# Independent and joint associations of cardiorespiratory fitness and BMI with dementia risk: the Cooper Center Longitudinal Study

Lower midlife fitness is a risk marker for dementia irrespective of weight status. Being unfit coupled with overweight/obese status might increase one's risk for dementia even further.

# <u>Pet Ownership, Living Alone, and Cognitive Decline Among Adults 50 Years</u> and Older

In this cohort study, pet ownership was associated with slower rates of decline in verbal memory and verbal fluency among older adults living alone, but not among those living with others, and pet ownership offset the associations between living alone and declining rates in verbal memory and verbal fluency. Further studies are needed to assess whether pet ownership slows the rate of cognitive decline in older adults living alone.

















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#### **Blogs**

'I wouldn't have missed it for the world': 10 things I learned when my father had dementia

A family member talks about what he has learned from his experience of a father with dementia.

<u>Dementia has allowed my mum to live in the present. If she can forget,</u> then maybe so can I

A family member speaks of her experience of having a mother with dementia.

### Campaign

Invisible – 2023 Dementia Carers Count Survey Findings

Over 1300 dementia carers shared their experiences in the annual survey. Dementia carers told us that they were feeling forgotten, scared of what is to come and struggling to cope. Nine in ten carers are reaching crisis.

#### **News**

Alcohol misuse and loneliness 'increase risk of early-onset dementia'

Alcohol misuse, coming from a lower socioeconomic background, loneliness and having a hearing impairment are among 15 factors found to significantly increase the risk of early-onset dementia, according to a "groundbreaking" study.

Bolstering our sense of smell may reduce the risk of dementia

Scientists are studying how a decline in our olfactory abilities can signal conditions such as Alzheimer's.

New Alzheimer's drugs bring hope of slowing disease for UK patients

Two dementia medicines set for approval in Britain are first to improve patients' lives directly – but condition must be diagnosed.









