

Studies

[Reliability and Validity of Smartphone Cognitive Testing for Frontotemporal Lobar Degeneration](#)

The findings of this cohort study suggest that smartphones could offer a feasible, reliable, valid, and scalable solution for remote evaluations of FTLD and may improve early detection. Smartphone assessments should be considered as a complementary approach to traditional in-person trial designs. Future research should validate these results in diverse populations and evaluate the utility of these tests for longitudinal monitoring.

[COVID-19 and Alzheimer's disease: Impact of lockdown and other restrictive measures during the COVID-19 pandemic](#)

There appears to be a significant overlap in the pathology and symptomology of Alzheimer's disease and COVID-19. Alzheimer patients have an increased risk of acquiring COVID-19 infection and once infected, exhibit worsening clinical outcomes, including increasing morbidity and mortality. Similarly, elderly patients contracting SARS-COV-2 infection are more likely to develop neurological and psychiatric symptoms akin to dementia and Alzheimer's disease. Furthermore, strict anti-social lockdown measures negatively impacted patients with Alzheimer's disease and their caregivers including their ability to effectively provide care and accurately assess the wellbeing of their patients. Thus, additional safeguard measures in conjunction with pharmacological and non-pharmacological approaches are needed to protect the wellbeing of dementia patients and their caregivers in light of this pandemic.

[Similarities and differences in the prevalence and risk factors of suicidal behavior between caregivers and people with dementia: a systematic review](#)

Self-related and care receiver-related factors should be assessed among caregivers of people with dementia to evaluate the risk of suicidal behavior. In addition, we recommend evaluating suicidal risk in people with dementia in the early phase of dementia when cognitive decline is less severe. However, as the majority of the selected studies had unclear risk of bias, future studies with improved methodologies are warranted to confirm our study findings.

News

[Thousands to be offered blood tests for dementia in UK trial](#)

Thousands of people across the UK who are worried about their memory will receive blood tests for dementia in two trials that doctors hope will help to revolutionise the low diagnosis rate. Teams from the University of Oxford and University College London will lead the trials to research the use of cheap and simple tests to detect proteins for people with early stages of dementia or problems with cognition, with the hope of speeding up diagnosis and reaching more people.

[Smartphone app could help detect early-onset dementia cause, study finds](#)

A smartphone app could help detect a leading cause of early-onset dementia in people who are at high risk of developing it, data suggests. Scientists have demonstrated that cognitive tests done via a smartphone app are at least as sensitive at detecting early signs of frontotemporal dementia in people with a genetic predisposition to the condition as medical evaluations performed in clinics.

[Alzheimer's 'breakthrough' stalls: why a much-hyped drug is facing approval delays](#)

The benefits of drugs such as donanemab, aducanumab and lecanemab are proving harder to quantify than potential harms, experts say.

[Dementia risk can be cut with drinking less alcohol, new research suggests](#)

Drinking less alcohol and reducing the risk of type 2 diabetes could help people cut their chances of dementia, new research suggests. Limiting exposure to traffic-related air pollution could also reduce the risk of developing the condition, according to the study. It has been suggested that the findings could also help explain why certain groups may be more vulnerable to dementia.