

Alzheimer's Disease Assessment (Early Symptoms)

Dementia is a progressive deterioration of cognitive functioning and global impairment of the intellect. Alzheimer's disease (AD) is one of the most common forms of dementia characterized by neuronal degeneration and brain cell death. Advanced age is a risk factor and early signs and symptoms include poor judgement and decision-making, difficulty having a conversation, the inability to manage a budget, losing track of the date or season, and misplacing things.



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Risk Factors

Advanced Age

Old Age

Age is the most important risk factor for developing Alzheimer's dementia. 44% of individuals between 75-84 years of age have AD. This is attributed to cumulative cellular damage, genetic predisposition, and amyloid-beta plaque accumulation in the brain, which leads to neural loss and synaptic dysfunction.

Early Signs and Symptoms

Poor Judgment and Decision-Making

Poor Judge and Bad-decision

People with Alzheimer's may be easily influenced by others and may trust strangers. They may not dress appropriately for the weather, or for the social situation (ex. Bathrobe to the store).

Difficulty Having a Conversation

Broken Con-versation

Language and writing difficulties in Alzheimer's are among the earliest symptoms and can significantly affect daily functioning. As the disease progresses, these difficulties become more pronounced, and speech, writing, and memory impairments may interfere with the individual's ability to interact effectively with others. Early recognition and intervention are essential in managing symptoms and improving the quality of life for patients with Alzheimer's.

Inability to Manage a Budget

Can't Balance Budget

An early sign of Alzheimer's may manifest as spending excessive amounts of money inappropriately, and patients may not be able to manage a monthly budget.

Losing Track of the Date or Season

Unaware of Season

Individuals can occasionally forget the day of the week or what time of year it is, appearing confused.

Misplacing Things

Misplaced wallet

Many individuals can get frustrated because they temporarily misplace things like their keys, purses or wallets. Furthermore, these people may put objects in inappropriate places, but have no memory of how it arrived there.