

Multidisciplinary perspectives on management of agitation in Alzheimer's dementia

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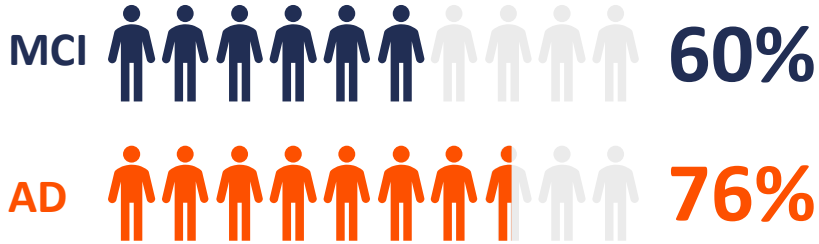
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Agitation in Alzheimer's dementia

Prevalence¹



Agitation may occur at².....



Behaviours^{2,3}

Aggressiveness

Emotional distress

Undirected motor activity



Swearing

Restlessness

Repetitious movements

Pacing

Repetitive questions

IMPACT²

- Accelerated disease progression
- Physical and mental health deterioration
- Functional decline
- Increased risk of admission to LTCFs
- Poor quality of life

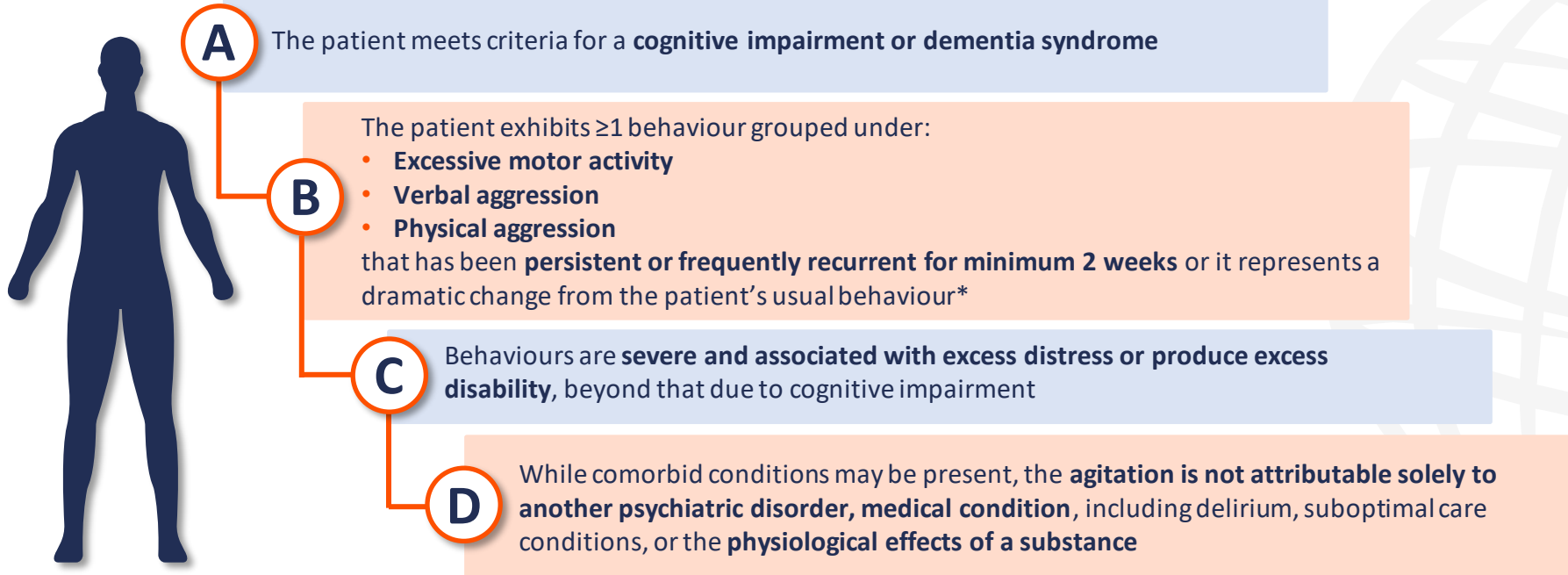
AD, Alzheimer's disease; LTCF, long-term care facility; MCI, mild cognitive impairment.

1. Van der Mussele S, et al. *Aging Ment Health*. 2015;19:247–57; 2. The Gerontological Society of America. Insights and Implications in Gerontology. August 2023.

Available at: <https://bit.ly/3HbIQyE> (accessed 06 March 2024); 3. Cummings J, et al. *Int Psychogeriatr*. 2015;27:7–17.

Definition of agitation in cognitive disorders

International Psychogeriatric Association Consensus



*In special circumstances, the ability to document the behaviours over 2 weeks may not be possible and other terms of persistence and severity may be needed to capture the syndrome beyond a single episode.

1. Cummings J, et al. *Int Psychogeriatr*. 2015;27:7–17; 2. The Gerontological Society of America. Insights and Implications in Gerontology. August 2023.

Available at: <https://bit.ly/3HbIQyE> (accessed 06 March 2024).

Preventing and responding to agitation

Prevention



Create a calm environment



Avoid environmental triggers



Monitor personal comfort



Simplify tasks and routines



Provide opportunities for exercise

Response



Non-pharmacologic interventions

