

Let's talk about agitation in Alzheimer's dementia: Prevalence, behavioural symptoms and reaching a diagnosis

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A conversation between:



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Agenda

Prevalence of agitation in Alzheimer's dementia

Impact of agitation in Alzheimer's dementia on people living with dementia and their care partners

How to recognize and diagnose early-stage agitation in Alzheimer's dementia

Prevalence of agitation in Alzheimer's dementia

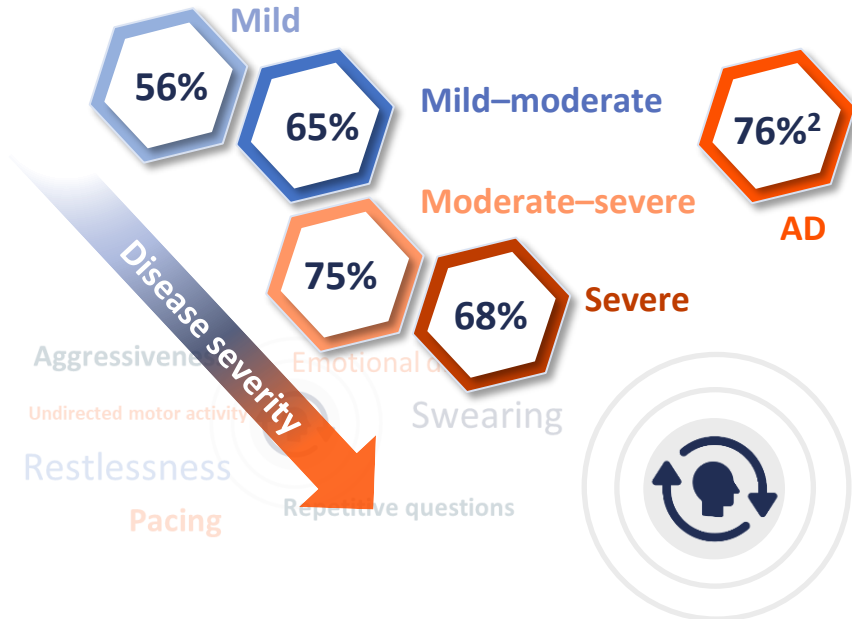
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Prevalence of agitation

Dementia severity (community sample)*¹



Care setting



*The study included 320,886 eligible PLWD (mean age, 76.4 years; 64.7% female) who were observed over a 2-year observation period.

†The study was a cross-sectional secondary analysis of administrative healthcare data in residents (N=6,265) with dementia residing in a LTCF for ≥12 months.

AD, Alzheimer's dementia; LTCF, long-term care facility, PLWD, people living with dementia.

1. Halpern R, et al. *Int J Geriatr Psychiatry*. 2019;34:420–31; 2. Van der Mussel S, et al. *Aging Ment Health*. 2015;19:247–57;

3. Fillit H, et al. *Int J Geriatr Psychiatry*. 2021;36:1959–69.

Impact of agitation in Alzheimer's dementia on people living with dementia and their care partners

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Agitation and impact on PLWD and care partners

Domains of agitation³

PLWD^{1,2}

- **More rapid:**
 - Disease progression
 - Deterioration in physical and mental health
 - Functional decline
- **Increased:**
 - Caregiving hours and healthcare costs
 - Use of medications
 - Risk of institutionalization
- **Reduced quality of life**



Care partners^{1,3-5}

- **Increased:**
 - Stress
 - Depression
 - Distress
 - Need for emotional support
- **Reduced:**
 - Quality of life
 - Productivity
- **Loss of income**

PLWD, people living with dementia.

1. Grossberg GT, et al. Insights and Implications in Gerontology. August 2023. Available at: <https://bit.ly/3HbJQyE> (accessed 20 June 2024);

2. Jones E, et al. *J Alzheimers Dis.* 2021;83:89–101; 3. Cummings J, et al. *Int Psychogeriatr.* 2015;27:7–17; 4. Feast A, et al. *Br J Psychiatry.* 2016;208:429–34;

5. Schein J, et al. *J Alzheimers Dis.* 2022;88:663–77.

Dementia care model: Integrated memory care

Goals of IMC:

- Reduce fragmentation of care by creating a comprehensive practice
- Improve the quality of life for people living with dementia and their family care partner



IMC in partnership with care partners

- Single site, full-scope primary care
- Dementia specialty care
- Care partner-only visits with providers
- Care coordination and navigation
- Care partner psychotherapy, education and support groups
- Family advisory council

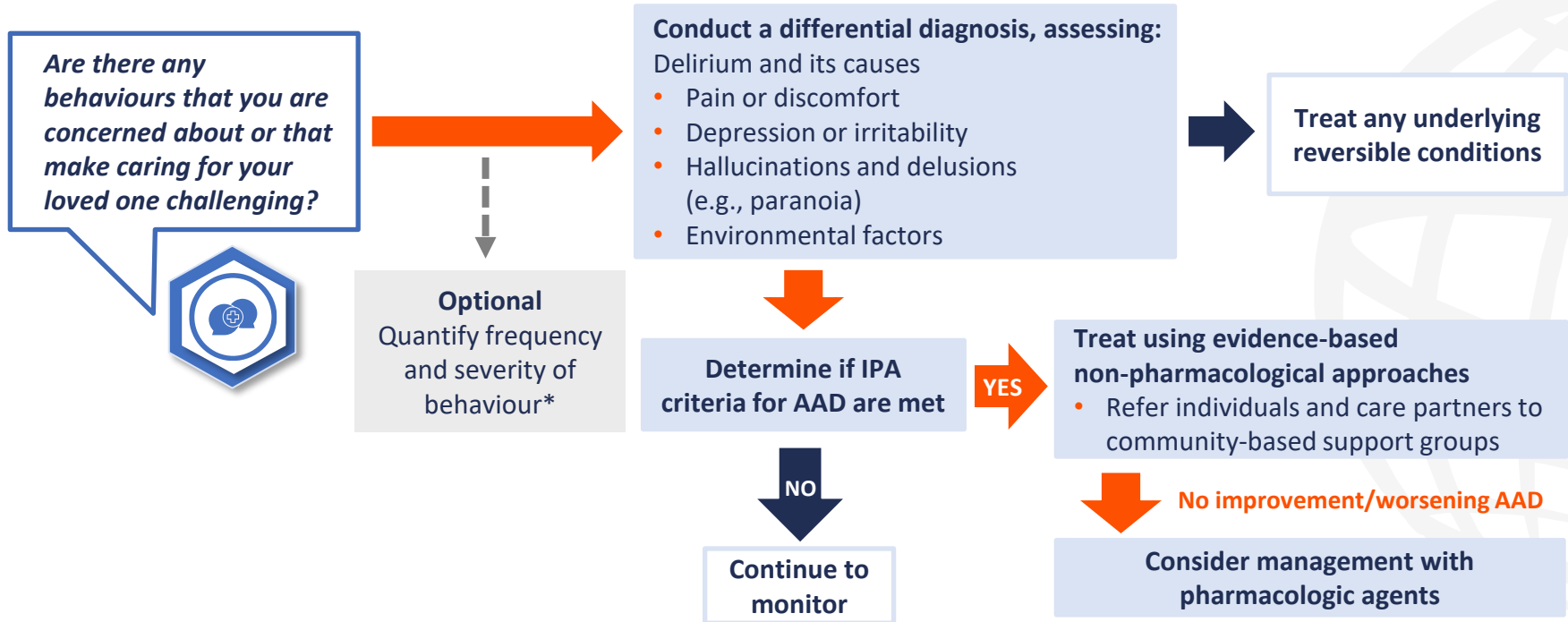
How to recognize and diagnose early-stage agitation in Alzheimer's dementia

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The AAD decision tree^{1,2}

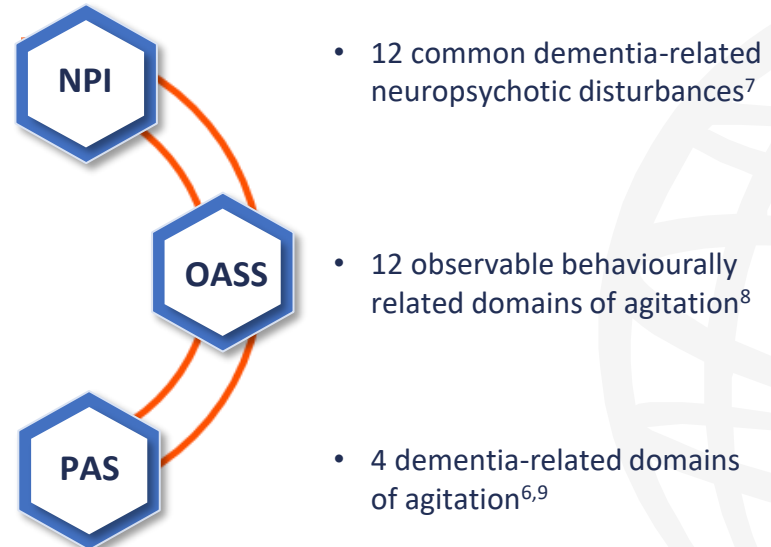
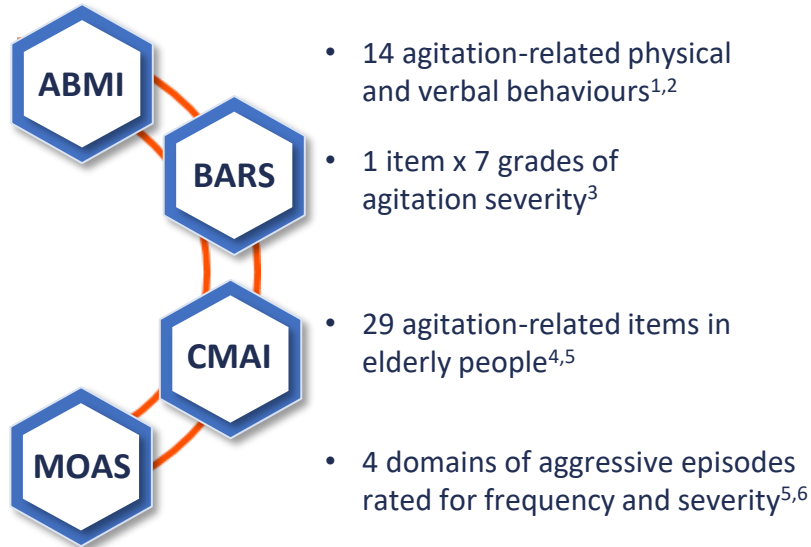


*Behavioural questionnaire administered to care partner, informant or another person familiar with the PLWD.

AAD, agitation associated with Alzheimer's disease; IPA, International Psychogeriatric Association; PLWD, person living with dementia.

1. Grossberg GT, et al. *Innov Aging*. 2022;6(Suppl. 1):528; 2. Grossberg GT, et al. Poster presented at: Gerontological Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting, Indianapolis, IN, USA, November 2–6, 2022. Available at: <https://gsaenrich.geron.org> (accessed 17 July 2024).

Tools for assessing agitation in dementia



The quality of assessment and planning has a critical impact on the quality of care of people living with dementia¹⁰

ABMI, Agitation Behaviour Mapping Instrument; BARS, Behavioural Activity Rating Scale; CMAI, Cohen-Mansfield Agitation Inventory; MOAS, Modified Overt Aggression Scale; NPI, Neuropsychiatric Inventory; OASS, Overt Agitation Severity Scale; PAS, Pittsburgh Agitation Scale. 1. Cohen-Mansfield J, et al. *Int Psychogeriatr*. 1989;1:153–65; 2. Zediker E, et al. *J Am Geriatr Soc*. 2023;71:1334–6; 3. Simpson SA, et al. *Colorado J Psych Psychol*. 2017;2:doi:10.25677/10968/4333; 4. Cohen-Mansfield J, et al. *J Gerontol*. 1989;44:M77–84; 5. Carrarini C, et al. *Front Neurol*. 2021;12:644317; 6. Kay SR, et al. *J Nerv Ment Dis*. 1988;176:539–46; 7. Cummings JL. *Neurology*. 1997;48(Suppl. 6):S10–6; 8. Yudofsky SC, et al. *J Neuropsychiatry Clin Neurosci*. 1997;9:541–8; 9. Rosen J, et al. *Am J Geriatr Psychiatry*. 1994;2:52–9; 10. Grossberg GT, et al. *Insights and Implications in Gerontology*. August 2023. Available at: <https://bit.ly/3HbJQvE> (accessed 20 June 2024).