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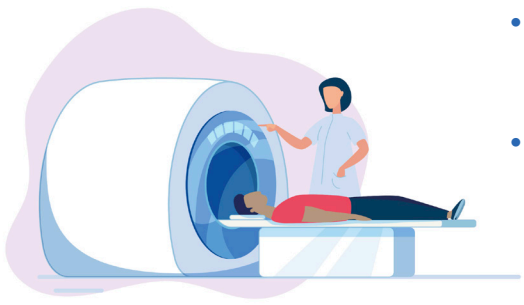
THE DIAGNOSTIC JOURNEY OF ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE: WHY EARLY DETECTION MATTERS

Alzheimer's is a chronic, progressive brain disease that slowly gets worse over time and affects memory, behavior, problem-solving and daily activities.[1] It is one of the biggest global healthcare challenges facing society.[2]

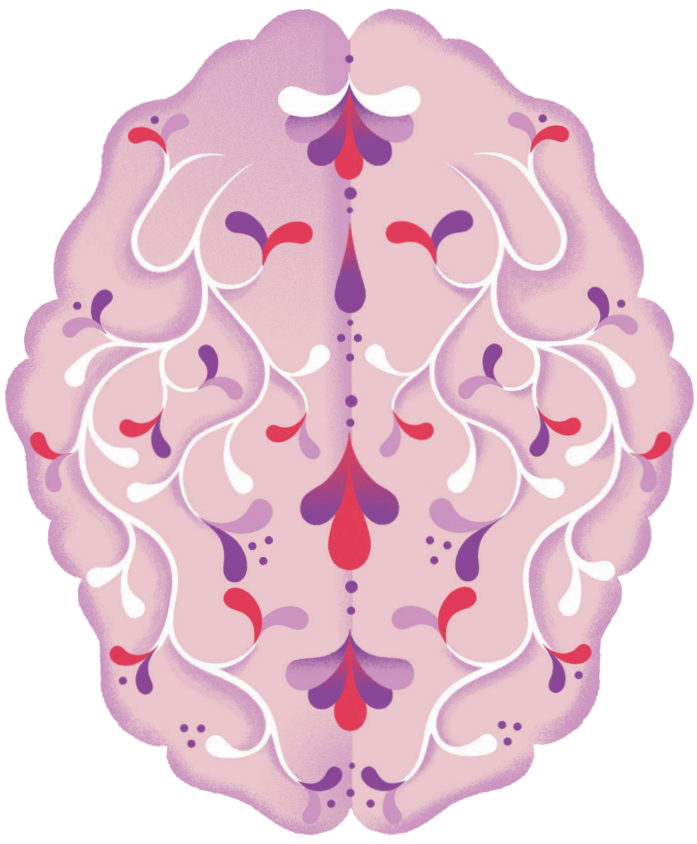
TODAY, THE ALZHEIMER'S DIAGNOSTIC JOURNEY IS COMPLEX AND LENGTHY

- Alzheimer's is typically missed or diagnosed late in the disease journey.
  - Changes in the brain may start 20+ years before symptoms of Alzheimer's become noticeable, by which time the disease has already advanced.[3,4]
- It may take up to 2 years, sometimes longer, of appointments and thorough neurological testing before Alzheimer's is diagnosed.[5,6]
  - Diagnosis is based on detection of cognitive decline through a series of cognitive assessments and, then later, through brain scanning technology such as:



  - MRI or CT scans, primarily used to rule out other conditions that can cause similar symptoms[7]
  - Positron emission tomography (PET) scans and cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) testing to detect the presence of beta-amyloid and tau[4]
- Reasons for missed diagnosis or delays include:[1,4,8]
  - Stigma of dementia and fear of diagnosis, lack of awareness
  - Difficulty in distinguishing Alzheimer's from typical age-related changes
  - Lack of access to specialist practitioners and equipment

Contrary to popular belief, the cognitive decline associated with Alzheimer's is not a natural part of aging.[8]



EARLY DETECTION AND TIMELY DIAGNOSIS IS CRITICALLY IMPORTANT

Early detection of Alzheimer's[9,10] involves identifying physiological changes that occur in the brain, long before changes in memory function or ability to perform daily tasks become apparent.

Biological markers, or 'biomarkers,' are naturally occurring characteristics of the body that can be objectively measured via analysis of body fluids, tissues or imaging to help determine the presence of disease.

Research has shown that disease-modifying therapies may be more likely to slow the progression of Alzheimer's when given during the preclinical or early stages of disease.[10,11]

By screening more people with a higher likelihood of developing Alzheimer's, before symptoms appear, they can be referred for further tests.

Biomarker tests have significant potential to change how we detect, diagnose, manage, and monitor Alzheimer's.[12,13]

› Currently in clinical practice: Tests that use samples of cerebrospinal fluid can be used to monitor levels of the 'hallmarks of Alzheimer's', amyloid and tau, and support diagnosis.[4]

› Currently being researched: Blood-based and digital biomarkers.[13,14]

A TIMELY DIAGNOSIS CAN BRING IMPORTANT BENEFIT[15]

- Begin health measures to help preserve existing cognitive function
- Access approved medicines that may reduce the impact of memory loss and confusion
- Identify support that may benefit the entire family
- Start planning and be part of decision-making

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