

Help us find the key to a world without dementia

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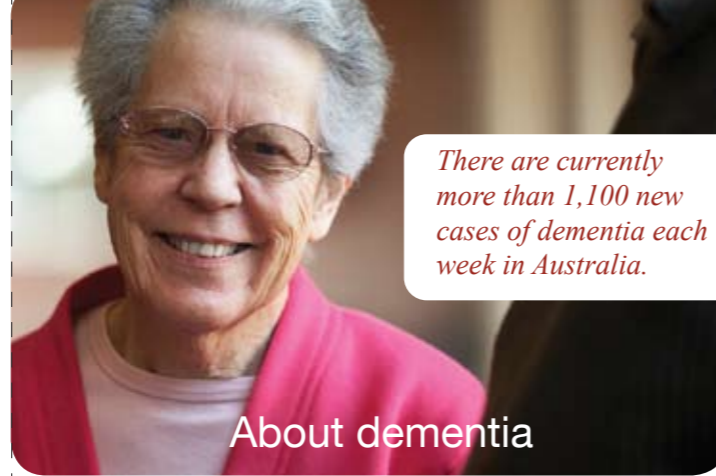
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Send to:
Alzheimer's Australia Research Ltd
PO Box 4019, Hawker ACT 2614

Phone: (02) 6254 4233 Email: admin@alzheimers.org.au
 A receipt will be issued. Donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

Thank you for your support. It is vital to our work.



There are currently more than 1,100 new cases of dementia each week in Australia.

About dementia

Dementia is the term used to describe the symptoms of a large group of illnesses which cause a progressive decline in a person's functioning.

Alzheimer's disease is the most common cause of dementia and accounts for 50% - 70% of all cases. Other causes include vascular dementia, frontotemporal dementia and Lewy body dementia, but there are about 100 different causes.

Symptoms of dementia may include:

- Persistent and progressive memory loss
- Confusion
- Personality change
- Apathy and withdrawal
- Loss of ability to deal with a task

Although most people with dementia are in the 65+ age group, younger people also develop dementia. As it progresses, the person gradually loses the ability to perform even the simplest activities of daily living. Eventually dementia is a terminal condition.

On average, people live with dementia around 8 years; some may live more than 20 years.

To make a donation to Alzheimer's Australia Research, please:

- send a cheque to: **Alzheimer's Australia Research Ltd**
PO Box 4019, Hawker ACT 2614
- call **02 6254 4233** to make a donation via credit card or fill out and post the attached donation form.
- donate online at **www.alzheimers.org.au** and follow the fast links to the Alzheimer's Australia Research secure payment facility.

Donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

Please contact us if you wish to be sent information on how to remember Alzheimer's Australia Research Ltd in your Will.

For more information contact

Alzheimer's Australia Research Ltd
 PO Box 4019
 HAWKER ACT 2614

Phone: 02 6254 4233
 Fax: 02 6278 7225
 Email: aar@alzheimers.org.au

National Dementia Helpline
 1800 100 500
 An Australian Government Initiative
 www.alzheimers.org.au



Our vision is for a world without dementia.

Our mission is to promote, disseminate, and fund research in Alzheimer's disease and related disorders causing dementia.



Invest in our future...
 support dementia research

All of these people live with dementia.

Why is research important?

Research is the key to a world without dementia.

Dementia research is crucial if we are to:

- reduce the number of people affected by dementia; and
- ensure people with the condition have a better quality of life.

Research into dementia prevention, diagnosis, treatment, cure, and care will give hope for all people with dementia and their families.

Australia must invest in dementia research now to achieve scientific advances. There is a small window of opportunity to find solutions as the numbers of people diagnosed with dementia will significantly increase.

There are currently estimated to be around 250,000 people with dementia in Australia and this number will rise to nearly a million people by 2050 unless there is a medical breakthrough.

Australia has the potential and expertise to be a world leader in dementia research. This cannot happen at the current level of investment, which is well below 1% of the direct health cost of dementia. Dementia research in Australia is significantly under-funded compared with other chronic diseases, relative to its high disease burden, growing prevalence as the population ages, and the direct cost of care of \$5.4 billion in 2008.

It is important to take action now to reduce the present and future impact of the dementia epidemic in Australia.

Research can make a difference



*At present
there is
no cure.*

Scientific research has dramatically improved our understanding of dementia. Most of our current knowledge of dementia has been discovered by researchers in the last 25 years.

If we invest now in a future without dementia, the next two decades could yield significant progress in all areas of dementia research.

The major targets in dementia research are to:

- Understand the causes of dementia
- Develop ways to prevent dementia
- Promote accurate and earlier diagnosis
- Find a cure for dementia
- Improve quality of life for people with dementia and their families and carers

Research will make a difference – even a five year delay in the average onset of Alzheimer’s disease could halve the number of new cases by the year 2050.

The role of Alzheimer’s Australia Research

Building dementia research capacity for the future.

Alzheimer’s Australia Research Ltd (AAR) was established as a separate non-profit company within the Alzheimer’s Australia federated organisations to promote, disseminate and fund research into Alzheimer’s disease and other forms of dementia.

Research Grants

AAR actively encourages dementia related research in Australia through its annual Dementia Grants Program. Research grants are available in many areas of dementia research including biomedical research, prevention and dementia care.

Supporting New Researchers

A key priority is to fund emerging researchers to become involved in dementia research. AAR provides new investigator grants, doctoral scholarships, postdoctoral fellowships and travel grants to new researchers on a competitive basis. Evaluations have shown that AAR grants have assisted the emerging researchers to progress their careers. The results obtained from some pilot studies funded by AAR have been instrumental in researchers obtaining further funding from organisations such as the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC).

Promoting Excellence in Research

AAR is committed to promoting excellence in Australian dementia research. Applications for AAR’s annual Dementia Grants Program undergo a rigorous grant assessment process which is overseen by a Scientific and Medical Panel of some of Australia’s most eminent researchers and clinicians.

