



Dementia Fact Sheet

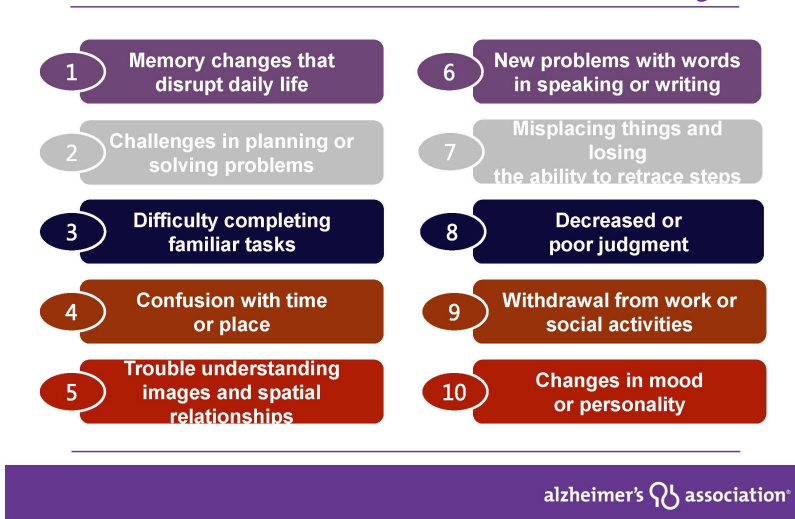
Dementia is an “umbrella term” used to refer to the condition of people who have thinking and memory problems. Dementia is not a normal part of the aging process. There are other labels given to those who have dementia, but they all refer to problems with memory and thinking.

Some causes of dementia can be treated, and some cannot.

Some of the causes which can be treated to reverse symptoms are listed below:

Reaction to medication	Emotional Distress
Metabolic Disturbances	Problems with vision or hearing
Endocrine abnormalities	Nutritional deficiencies
Infections	Brain tumor
Blood clot on the surface of the brain	Depression
Pressure inside the brain from fluid build up	
Hardening of the arteries or “atherosclerosis”	

Know The 10 Signs



Some causes of dementia cannot be reversed.

Some cases of injury to the brain from a fall or accident

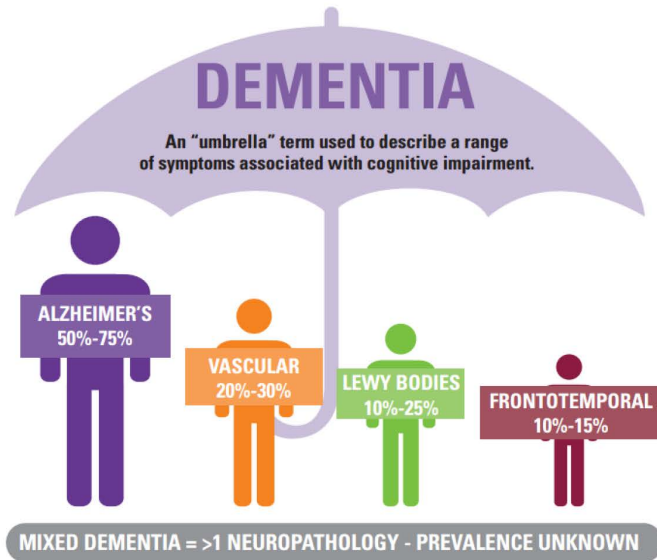
Diseases which cause the brain to degenerate such as:

Alzheimer's disease (the most common)	Parkinson's disease
Lewy bodies disease	Pick's disease
Huntington's chorea disease	Loss of oxygen to the brain
Stroke	Creutzfeldt-Jakob's disease
AIDS	Binswanger disease
Multiple sclerosis	

For diagnosis, a doctor can use medical and neuropsychological evaluations, as well as **brain scans**. The cause of some dementias can be established. In other cases, diagnosis involves ruling out causes and looking closely at symptoms. Sometimes an autopsy is required to absolutely establish diagnosis.

Types of Dementia

- Dementia is the loss of memory due to changes in the brain
- Alzheimer's is the most common form



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Caring for someone who has dementia is a very demanding role. Caregivers need support for themselves, new skills to handle problematic behaviors, strategies for safety, and knowledge about how to take care of themselves while caring for someone else. The Florida REACH Project is designed to help family members in the caregiving role.