

# Dementia

July 2020

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## **COVID-19**

[Vivaldi 1: coronavirus \(COVID-19\) care homes study report](#) This study provides a summary of antigen testing in all care homes for those over 65 years old in England and survey results of managers of those homes.

[Regular retesting rolled out for care home staff and residents](#) Staff and residents in care homes for over 65s and those with dementia will receive regular coronavirus tests from next week as part of a new social care testing strategy.

[Number of deaths in care homes notified to the Care Quality Commission](#) Provisional counts of deaths in care homes caused by the coronavirus (COVID-19) by local authority.

[People affected by dementia cannot be forgotten as lockdown eases](#) For many, the gradual easing of lockdown will signal a return to normality and a cause for celebration. For those living with dementia and their families, however, a return to normality will have a very different meaning. Months of being inside may have caused a loss of familiarity with the outside world, making the transition into a post-lockdown world difficult.

## **Systematic Review**

[Effects of non-facilitated meaningful activities for people with dementia in long-term care facilities: A systematic review](#) This systematic review sought to evaluate the effectiveness of non-facilitated meaningful activities for older people with dementia in long-term care facilities. Meaningful non-facilitated activities, such as music, stimulated family presence, animal-like social robot PARO/plush toy and lifelike dolls, may have beneficial effects on agitation, emotional well-being, feelings of pleasure, engagement, and sleep quality. However, there remains a lack of conclusive and robust evidence.

## **Evidence**

[Can nutrition support healthy cognitive ageing and reduce dementia risk?](#) A description of the evidence and potential for food and food bioactive components to reduce the population prevalence of dementia

## **Blog**

[The arts, creativity and dementia](#) The impact of the arts on people with dementia is becoming increasingly significant. It can be a powerful way for people with dementia to not only express themselves but also stimulate their mind which can improve thinking ability.

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## Studies

[Dementia care: what increases caregiver burden?](#) This blog looks at a recent 3-year longitudinal study exploring the burden that falls on caregivers of people with various types of dementia.

[A review of Dementia Friendly Communities in England](#) This blog summarises a recent scoping study on dementia friendly communities in England: what they are and what they want to achieve.

[Diabetes-Related Topics in an Online Forum for Caregivers of Individuals Living with Alzheimer Disease and Related Dementias: Qualitative Inquiry](#) Results showed that comorbidities of ADRD were common topics of discussions among family caregivers. Diabetes management in ADRD challenged family caregivers. Family caregivers might neglect their own health care because of the caring burden, and they reported poor health outcomes and reduced quality of life. The online forum provided a platform for family caregivers to seek support in their attempts to learn more about how to manage the ADRD of their care recipients and seek support for managing their own lives as caregivers.

[Ecological Momentary Assessment within a Digital Health Intervention for Reminiscence in Persons with Dementia and Caregivers: User Engagement Study](#) Ecological momentary assessment (EMA) can be used to gather accurate real-time data in an individual's natural environment by asking questions at any given instant. Questions asked following reminiscence with personal media, especially those asked after personal photos, were less likely to be answered compared to those asked after other media. In contrast, questions asked after the user had listened to generic media, in particular those asked after generic music, were much more likely to be answered.

## Factsheet

[Finding, choosing and funding a care home](#) This factsheet gives information about finding, choosing and funding a suitable care home including types of homes, how to identify the right home for you, and funding of care home placements.