

# Dementia

Oct 2020

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## **COVID-19**

[Worst hit: dementia during coronavirus](#) Alzheimer's Society's new report, 'Worst hit: dementia during coronavirus', says Government must fix social care now, learning lessons to avoid further winter tragedy, as dementia carers struggle with depression, insomnia and exhaustion. The charity reports the catastrophic impact coronavirus has had on the 850,000 people living with dementia – with nearly 14,000 dying from the virus between March and June.

[Updated policies for visiting arrangements in care homes](#) For all care homes in England, this guidance sets out:

- the principles of a local approach and dynamic risk assessment
- advice for providers when establishing their visiting policy
- advice for providers when taking visiting decisions for particular residents or groups of residents
- infection-control precautions
- communicating with family and others about the visiting policy and visiting decisions

[Adult social care: our COVID-19 winter plan 2020 to 2021](#) This policy paper sets out the key elements of national support available for the social care sector for winter 2020 to 2021, as well as the main actions to take for local authorities, NHS organisations, and social care providers, including in the voluntary and community sector. Working together will ensure that high-quality, safe and timely care is provided to everyone who needs it, whilst protecting people who need care, their carers and the social care workforce from COVID-19.

[Dementia wellbeing in the COVID-19 pandemic](#) This resource is primarily for clinicians working with people with dementia, but can also be used by carers and people with dementia. This document takes the wellbeing pathway and sets out the adjustments and amendments needed to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. It highlights key priorities and actions for each step in the pathway.

[A UK survey of COVID-19 related social support closures and their effects on older people, people with dementia, and carers](#) Being unable to access social support services due to COVID contributed to worse quality of life and anxiety in those affected by dementia and older adults across the UK. Social support services need to be enabled to continue providing support in adapted formats, especially in light of continued public health restrictions for the foreseeable future.

## **News**

[Dementia project shows digital technology can make a life-changing difference](#)

Digital technology can bring huge benefits to the health and wellbeing of people with dementia and their carers, a pathfinder project has found.

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## Reports

[World Alzheimer Report 2020: Design, Dignity, Dementia: dementia-related design and the built environment](#) The first of its kind, the World Alzheimer Report 2020 is the most comprehensive and in-depth look at dementia related design and the built environment. It looks at progress to date, pioneers and innovators, design principles, application, regional and cultural contexts, and the importance of including people with dementia in all aspects of design.

[NICE impact end of life care for adults](#) This report highlights progress made by the health and care system in implementing NICE guidance on end of life care.

## Clinical Answer

[What is the accuracy of magnetic resonance imaging \(MRI\) of the hippocampus, medial temporal lobe, and lateral ventricles for the diagnosis of dementia due to Alzheimer's disease?](#) Likelihood ratios for all five MRI tests failed to reach levels that would provide clinically significant changes in the probability of Alzheimer's disease dementia after a positive or negative test.

## Study

[Treating diabetes with metformin helps reduce memory and thinking decline](#) New research published in the journal Diabetes Care suggests that the drug metformin may help reduce a decline in memory and thinking skills in people with diabetes. The research also finds that metformin use is associated with fewer cases of dementia.

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