





Dementia

A group of thinking and social symptoms that interferes with daily functioning.

Very common

More than 10 million cases per year (India)

-  Treatment can help, but this condition can't be cured
-  Chronic: can last for years or be lifelong
-  Requires a medical diagnosis
-  Lab tests or imaging often required

Not a specific disease, dementia is a group of conditions characterised by impairment of at least two brain functions, such as memory loss and judgement.

Symptoms include forgetfulness, limited social skills and thinking abilities so impaired that it interferes with daily functioning.

Medication and therapies may help manage symptoms. Some causes are reversible.

Ages affected



Symptoms

Requires a medical diagnosis

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People may experience:

Cognitive: memory loss, mental decline, confusion in the evening hours, disorientation, forgetfulness, inability to speak or understand language, making things up, mental confusion, or inability to recognise common things

Behavioural: aggression, irritability, personality changes, restlessness, lack of restraint, or wandering and getting lost

Mood: anger, anxiety, apathy, general discontent, loneliness, or mood swings

Psychological: depression, hallucination, or paranoia

Muscular: inability to combine muscle movements or unsteady walking

Also common: difficulty falling asleep, difficulty swallowing, falling, jumbled speech, leaking of stool, nervousness, trembling, or tremor

Consult a doctor for medical advice

Note: The information you see describes what usually happens with a medical condition, but doesn't apply to everyone. This information isn't medical advice, so make sure that you contact a health care provider if you have a medical problem. If you think you may have a medical emergency, call your doctor or a emergency number immediately.

Sources: Apollo Hospitals and others. [Learn more](#)