



Canadian Conference on Dementia

Hot Topics 2026 | Oct 7, 2026 | Virtual

Program Agenda | Wednesday October 7, 2026 | Virtual - Zoom Events

Program times are in Eastern Daylight Time (EDT)

09:00 am – 9:45 am Eastern Time (EDT)	Attendees are invited to interact with sponsor exhibits. Posters are available for viewing on the conference website throughout the week.
09:45 am – 9:50 am	Opening Remarks from the Conference Chair Zahinoor Ismail , MD FRCPC <i>Professor of Psychiatry, Neurology, Epidemiology, and Pathology, University of Calgary; Clinician Scientist, Hotchkiss Brain Institute and O'Brien Institute for Public Health</i>
9:50 am – 10:20 am <i>Includes 5 minutes for Q & A</i>	Subjective Cognitive Decline and Stage 2 of Alzheimer's Disease Frank Jessen , MD <i>Director of the Department of Psychiatry, University of Cologne; Group Leader for Clinical Alzheimer Research and Member of the Clinical Executive Board, German Center for Neurodegenerative Diseases (DZNE)</i>
10:20 am – 10:30 am	Transition Time
10:30 am – 12:00 pm	Concurrent Sessions <i>The following three streams will run concurrently from 10:30 – 12:00. Each stream consists of three 30-minute presentations: 25 minutes presentation + 5 minutes Q & A.</i>
Stream 1: Alzheimer Disease Assessment and Management	
10:30 am – 11:00 pm Room 1 <i>Includes 5 minutes for Q & A</i>	An Update on Blood Biomarkers for Neurodegenerative Disease and Factors Beyond CNS Pathophysiology that Affect their Interpretation Joel Simrén , MD, PhD <i>Researcher, Department of Psychiatry and Neurochemistry, University of Gothenburg; Resident Physician in Clinical Chemistry, Sahlgrenska University Hospital</i>
11:00 am – 11:30 pm Room 1 <i>Includes 5 minutes for Q & A</i>	Blood-based Biomarkers in the Clinical Diagnosis of Alzheimer's Disease Suzanne Schindler , MD, PhD <i>Professor of Neurology, Washington University School of Medicine; Leader of the Fluid Biomarker Core, Knight Alzheimer Disease Research Center</i>
11:30 am – 12:00 pm Room 1 <i>Includes 5 minutes for Q & A</i>	DMT Real-World Experience Vijay K. Ramanan , MD, PhD <i>Associate Professor of Neurology and Director of the Alzheimer's Disease Treatment Clinic, Mayo Clinic; Consultant in the Division of Cognitive/Behavioral Neurology, Department of Neurology, Mayo Clinic</i>
Stream 2: Research Spotlight - Scientific Highlights in Dementia Research	
10:30 am – 11:00 pm Room 2 <i>Includes 5 minutes for Q & A</i>	The Cellular Phase of Alzheimer's Bart De Strooper , MD, PhD <i>Professor (Molecular Medicine), KU Leuven and VIB; Group Leader, UK Dementia Research Institute (UK DRI), University College London and Francis Crick Institute</i>
11:00 am – 11:30 pm Room 2 <i>Includes 5 minutes for Q & A</i>	Clinical, and Subclinical Cardiac Disease and Risk of Dementia Michelle Johansen <i>Associate Professor of Neurology at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine</i>



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11:30 am – 12:00 pm
Room 2

7 minutes presentation + 3
minutes Q & A

New and Notable

Top 3 Abstracts The top 3 abstracts taken from the Call for Abstracts will have 7 minutes each to present with 3 minutes for Q & A.

Sanvi Langay, Undergraduate Student

Hans Frykman, PhD and **Pankaj Kumar**, PhD FADLM

Zaina Alsibai, MSC

Stream 3: Public Health & Epidemiology

10:30 am – 11:00 am
Room 3

Includes 5 minutes for Q & A

Hearing and Dementia: From Ears to Brain

Jason Warren, PhD FRACP

Professor of Neurology, University College London; Consultant Neurologist, National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery

11:00 am – 11:30 pm
Room 3

Includes 5 minutes for Q & A

Population Neuroscience and Dementia Syndemics: Using Systems to Address a Global Health Crisis

Ganesh Babulal, PhD OTD MSCI MOT OTR/L

Professor, Mayo Clinic - Rochester

11:30 am – 12:00 pm
Room 3

Includes 5 minutes for Q & A

Why We Should Care about Mild Behavioural Impairment (MBI)

Constantine (Kostas) G Lyketsos, MD, MHS

Elizabeth Plank Althouse Professor and Chair, Johns Hopkins University; Clinical Core Leader, Johns Hopkins Alzheimer's Disease Research Center (ADRC); Founder, Richman Family Precision Medicine Center of Excellence on Alzheimer's Disease

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm

Lunch, Networking Rooms, Chat Lobby

1:30 pm – 2:30 pm

Parallel Sessions The following parallel sessions will run concurrently from 1:30 – 2:30 pm. Each session consists of two 30-minute presentations: 25 minutes presentation + 5 minutes Q & A.

Parallel 1: Across the Cognitive Continuum

1:30 pm – 2:00 pm

Room 1

Includes 5 minutes for Q & A

How Can AI Chatbots Support Dementia Care?

Ipsit Vahia, MD

Associate Professor of Psychiatry, Harvard Medical School; Chief, Division of Geriatric Psychiatry, McLean Hospital

2:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Room 1

Includes 5 minutes for Q & A

Sleep and Incident Dementia

Kristine Yaffe, MD

Distinguished Professor of Psychiatry, Neurology, and Epidemiology, University of California, San Francisco; Director of the Center for Population Brain Health, University of California, San Francisco

Parallel 2: Biomarker Guidelines and Recommendations

1:30 pm – 2:00 pm

Room 2

Includes 5 minutes for Q & A

Alzheimer's Association's Guidelines for Blood-based Biomarkers: Where We Are Now and What's Around the Corner

Heather Whitson, MD MHS

Professor of Medicine, Duke University School of Medicine; Co-Director, Duke/UNC Alzheimer's Disease Research Center

2:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Room 2

Includes 5 minutes for Q & A

Canadian Plasma Biomarker Appropriate Use Recommendations

Zahinoor Ismail, MD FRCPC



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Professor of Psychiatry, Neurology, Epidemiology, and Pathology, University of Calgary; Clinician Scientist, Hotchkiss Brain Institute and O'Brien Institute for Public Health

2:30 pm – 2:45 pm

Break

2:45 pm – 3:15 pm

Includes 5 minutes for Q & A

Future Directions in Alzheimer's Disease/ADRD Research

Heather Snyder, PhD

Senior Vice President, Medical and Scientific Operations, Alzheimer's Association

3:15 pm – 3:45 pm

Includes 5 minutes for Q & A

The VasCog-2-WSO Criteria for Vascular Cognitive Impairment and Dementia (VCID)

Perminder Sachdev, MD PhD FRANZCP

Scientia Professor of Neuropsychiatry, UNSW Sydney; Co-Director, Centre for Healthy Brain Ageing (CHeBA); Clinical Director, Neuropsychiatric Institute, Prince of Wales Hospital

3:45 pm – 5:00 pm

Closing & Poster Viewing

Posters remain available for viewing on the conference website.