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 *Professor of Psychiatry, Neurology, Epidemiology, and Pathology, University of Calgary; Clinician Scientist, Hotchkiss Brain Institute and O'Brien Institute for Public Health*
9:50 am – 10:20 am *Includes 5 minutes for Q & A*	**Subjective Cognitive Decline and Stage 2 of Alzheimer's Disease** **Frank Jessen,** MD *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)*
10:20 am – 10:30 am	**Transition Time**
10:30 am – 12:00 pm	**Concurrent Sessions** *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.*
Stream 1: Alzheimer Disease Assessment and Management	
10:30 am – 11:00 am *Includes 5 minutes for Q & A*	**An Update on Blood Biomarkers for Neurodegenerative Disease and Factors Beyond CNS Pathophysiology that Affect their Interpretation** **Joel Simrén**, MD, PhD *Researcher, Department of Psychiatry and Neurochemistry, University of Gothenburg; Resident Physician in Clinical Chemistry, Sahlgrenska University Hospital*
11:00 am – 11:30 am *Includes 5 minutes for Q & A*	**Blood-based Biomarkers in the Clinical Diagnosis of Alzheimer's Disease** **Suzanne Schindler**, MD, PhD *Professor of Neurology, Washington University School of Medicine; Leader of the Fluid Biomarker Core, Knight Alzheimer Disease Research Center*
11:30 am – 12:00 pm *Includes 5 minutes for Q & A*	**DMT Real-World Experience** **Vijay K. Ramanan**, MD, PhD *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*
Stream 2: Research Spotlight - Scientific Highlights in Dementia Research	
10:30 am – 11:00 am *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.* **10:30 am, Presentation 1:** **Real-World Clinical Experience with more than Thousand ALZpath Plasma p-tau217 Testing in a Canadian Diagnostic Laboratory** **Hans Frykman**, MD, PhD, FRCPC *Chief Executive Officer & Laboratory Director, BC Neuroimmunology Laboratory; Research*

	Associate, Division of Neurology, Department of Medicine, University of British Columbia; Founder & Medical Director, BC Neuroimmunology Laboratory; Medical Director, Lykke Lab; Chief Scientific Officer, Neurocode Lab Inc.; Center Director for Advanced Biochemistry, National Reference Lab; Clinical Assistant Professor, Division of Neurology, Department of Medicine, University of British Columbia; Canadian Representative, Global Biomarker Consortium Committee; Canadian Representative, IFCC Standardization Committee for Blood-Based Biomarkers in Neurodegeneration
	10:40 am, Presentation 2: **Associations Between Later-Life Sleep Disturbance Burden and Later-Life Cognitive and Behavioural Changes in Postmenopausal Females** **Sanvi Langay**, BSc (Honours) candidate *Biological Sciences, Undergraduate Researcher/Student, University of Calgary*
	10:50 am, Presentation 3: **Co-Designing Culturally Responsive KTE Products with Ethnocultural Communities to Bridge Community Needs and Health Policy** **Zaina Alsibai**, MSc, BSc *Research Associate/Trainee, McGill University*
11:00 am – 11:30 am *Includes 5 minutes for Q & A*	**Clinical, and Subclinical Cardiac Disease and Risk of Dementia** **Michelle Johansen** *Associate Professor of Neurology at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine*
11:30 am – 12:00 am *Includes 5 minutes for Q & A*	**The Cellular Phase of Alzheimer's** **Bart De Strooper**, MD, PhD *Professor (Molecular Medicine), KU Leuven and VIB; Group Leader, UK Dementia Research Institute (UK DRI), University College London and Francis Crick Institute*
Stream 3: Public Health & Epidemiology	
10:30 am – 11:00 am *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 am *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 *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, Sponsor Expo, Poster Viewing & Voting**

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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 *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 *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 *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 *Includes 5 minutes for Q & A*	**Canadian Plasma Biomarker Appropriate Use Recommendations** **Zahinoor Ismail**, MD FRCPC *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 Remarks & People's Choice for Best Abstract**
4:00 pm – 5:00 pm	**Poster Viewing** https://events.myconferencesuite.com/CCDHotTopics2026/page/Posters