



**Please join us on December 9, 2020 for our
Geriatric ECHO Webinar series from 12:00 to
1:00 pm**

**Depression and Dementia Screening During COVID:
Screening tools via telemed.**

by

Brett Lu, MD

Webinars are on the second Wednesday of the month from 12:00 - 1:00 pm

12:00 - 12:30 : Presentation

12:30 - 1:00 : Case Presentations

Q&A session

Faculty Disclosure

None

Brett Lu MD PhD

Associate Professor of Psychiatry, University of Hawaii

Queen's Medical Center

Honolulu, HI USA

brettl@yaho.com

Depression and Dementia During COVID: Screen tools via telemed

COVID and mental health

Assessing older patients via telemed

Depression

Dementia

COVID-19 Pandemic on Mental Health

What is the evidence so far:

Increased PTSD (post-traumatic stress symptoms) and Depression among COVID patients

Worsening of symptoms among those already with mental illness

Increased depression/stress/anxiety/insomnia among healthcare workers, unpaid caregivers

Risk factors for worsening symptoms include:
female, poor health, relatives with covid

Age-specific Depressive Symptoms

Major depressive disorder: Age-related differences

	Children/adolescents	Adults	Older adults
Prevalence	2% in children; 6% in adolescents	20%	25%
Male-to-female ratio	1:1 in children; 1:2 in adolescents	1:2	1:2
DSM-IV-TR criteria	Similar	Similar	Similar
Clinical features	Irritability, temper tantrums, somatic complaints, hypersomnia, weight gain, auditory hallucinations, psychomotor agitation, separation anxiety, social phobia, panic disorder, drug abuse, poor self-esteem	Typical DSM-IV-TR features. Psychomotor retardation, middle and terminal insomnia	Irritability, motor agitation, restlessness, somatic complaints, diarrhea and constipation, decreased libido, cognitive impairment, delusions, anxiety, panic, worsening of medical comorbidities

COVID-19 Pandemic and the Elderly

Elderly most vulnerable for COVID-related severity and mortality

Elderly expected to be most susceptible to mental health problems during the pandemic

PSYCHIATRIC
NEWS

ALERT

The Voice of the American Psychiatric Association and the Psychiatric Community

Older Adults May Be More Resilient During Pandemic Than Younger People



Older adults may be more resilient to the anxiety, depression, and stress-related mental disorders that are being reported by younger adults during the COVID-19 pandemic, according to an [article](#) in JAMA.

COVID-19 Pandemic and the Elderly

TABLE 1. Respondent characteristics and prevalence of adverse mental health outcomes, increased substance use to cope with stress or emotions related to COVID-19 pandemic, and suicidal ideation — United States, June 24–30, 2020

Characteristic	All respondents who completed surveys during June 24–30, 2020 weighted* no. (%)	Weighted %*						
		Conditions				Started or increased substance use to cope with pandemic-related stress or emotions [¶]	Seriously considered suicide in past 30 days	≥1 adverse mental or behavioral health symptom
		Anxiety disorder [†]	Depressive disorder [†]	Anxiety or depressive disorder [†]	COVID-19–related TSRD [§]			
All respondents	5,470 (100)	25.5	24.3	30.9	26.3	13.3	10.7	40.9
Gender								
Female	2,784 (50.9)	26.3	23.9	31.5	24.7	12.2	8.9	41.4
Male	2,676 (48.9)	24.7	24.8	30.4	27.9	14.4	12.6	40.5
Other	10 (0.2)	20.0	30.0	30.0	30.0	10.0	0.0	30.0
Age group (yrs)								
18–24	731 (13.4)	49.1	52.3	62.9	46.0	24.7	25.5	74.9
25–44	1,911 (34.9)	35.3	32.5	40.4	36.0	19.5	16.0	51.9
45–64	1,895 (34.6)	16.1	14.4	20.3	17.2	7.7	3.8	29.5
≥65	933 (17.1)	6.2	5.8	8.1	9.2	3.0	2.0	15.1

Czeisler 2020, CDC report

Elderly: more coping mechanisms, more resilient, better prevention adherence (PPE, avoid outings), value quality over quantity in social interaction

Vahia 2020

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Depression

Dementia

Assessing Older Patients via Telemedicine

Table 1. National Prevalence of Telemedicine Unreadiness in US Adults Older Than 65 Years in 2018 by Mode of Telemedicine Visit^a

Reason for unreadiness	No., millions (%)		Telephone visits	Telephone visits with social support ^b
	Video visits	Video visits with social support ^b		
Any unreadiness	13.0 (38)	10.8 (32)	6.7 (20)	5.5 (16)

Lam 2020

Main reasons were:
lack of experience with technology
physical disability (hearing/visual...)

Lack of access worst in oldest group
(>85 yrs): 72%



Assessing Older Patients via Telemedicine

Before interview

- Choose an app that is simple, not requiring downloads (Zoom, for example)
- Make sure to allot MUCH time for technical issues

Interview

- Minimize noise/distractions/lighting
- Ensure privacy if needed, aware of need for separate interviews
- Make sure camera angle/lighting appropriate

Sensory Impairment (usually hearing)

- Consider using chat function if able to read
- Headphone
- Have CG/helper ask simple questions for you

Cautions

- Make sure CGs/helpers maintain safe distance

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Depression

Signs in older people, other than telling you that “I am depressed..”:

Somatic complaints (headache, bellyache)

Poor attention/eye contact

Making little effort to engage

Irritable/rejecting help angrily

Depression in Dementia

20% in Alzheimer's

20% - 40% in Vascular dementia

>50% in Parkinson's Disease dementia

Irritability, self-pity, rejection sensitivity, loss of interest,
isolation, poor effort to engage, poor eye contact

**Leads to physical aggression, higher risk of death, and
faster memory decline**

Measuring Depression in Older Patients

Screening Instruments:

PHQ-9, Patient Health Questionnaire
used for different age groups

GDS (15 item short form), Geriatric Depression Scale
more specific for older individuals

CSDD, Cornell Scale for Depression in Dementia
for patients with moderate dementia or worse

Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ-9)

Over the last 2 weeks, how often have you been bothered by any of the following problems?	Not at all	Several days	More than half the days	Nearly every day
1. Little interest or pleasure in doing things	0	1	2	3
2. Feeling down, depressed, or hopeless	0	1	2	3
3. Trouble falling or staying asleep, or sleeping too much	0	1	2	3
4. Feeling tired or having little energy	0	1	2	3
5. Poor appetite or overeating	0	1	2	3
6. Feeling bad about yourself – or that you are a failure or have let yourself or your family down	0	1	2	3
7. Trouble concentrating on things, such as reading the newspaper or watching television	0	1	2	3
8. Moving or speaking so slowly that other people could have noticed? Or the opposite – being so fidgety or restless that you have been moving around a lot more than usual	0	1	2	3
9. Thoughts that you would be better off dead or of hurting yourself in some way	0	1	2	3

For office coding: Total Score _____ = _____ + _____ + _____

Total Score _____

Guide for Interpreting PHQ-9 Scores

Score	Depression Severity	Action
0 - 4	None-minimal	Patient may not need depression treatment.
5 - 9	Mild	Use clinical judgment about treatment, based on patient's duration of symptoms and functional impairment.
10 - 14	Moderate	Use clinical judgment about treatment, based on patient's duration of symptoms and functional impairment.
15 - 19	Moderately severe	Treat using antidepressants, psychotherapy or a combination of treatment.
20 - 27	Severe	Treat using antidepressants with or without psychotherapy.

GDS:

To be read out
loud to the patient

Not valid for
moderate or
severe
dementia

15-Item Geriatric Depression Scale

Choose the best answer for how you have felt over the past week:

Are you basically satisfied with your life?	Yes/ No
Have you dropped many of your activities and interests?	Yes /No
Do you feel that your life is empty?	Yes /No
Do you often get bored?	Yes /No
Are you in good spirits most of the time?	Yes/ No
Are you afraid that something bad is going to happen to you?	Yes /No
Do you feel happy most of the time?	Yes/ No
Do you often feel helpless?	Yes /No
Do you prefer to stay at home, rather than going out and doing new things?	Yes /No
Do you feel you have more problems with memory than most?	Yes /No
Do you think it is wonderful to be alive now?	Yes/ No
Do you feel pretty worthless the way you are now?	Yes /No
Do you feel full of energy?	Yes/ No
Do you feel that your situation is hopeless?	Yes /No
Do you think that most people are better off than you are?	Yes /No

Scoring: Bolded answers receive 1 point. A score of more than 5 suggests depression that should be further evaluated clinically.

CSDD:

To be done with a caregiver who knows patient well

for Moderate or severe dementia

CORNELL SCALE FOR DEPRESSION IN DEMENTIA						
Resident Name _____		Age _____		<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female		
INSTRUCTIONS: Ratings should be based on symptoms and signs during the week before the interview. No score should be given if symptoms result from physical disability or illness.						
SIGNS/SYMPTOMS		SCORE:	A	0	1	2
A. MOOD - RELATED SIGNS						
1. Anxiety; anxious expression, rumination, worrying.....						
2. Sadness; sad expression, sad voice, tearfulness.....						
3. Lack of reaction to pleasant events.....						
4. Irritability; annoyed, short tempered.....						
B. BEHAVIORAL DISTURBANCE						
5. Agitation; restlessness, hand wringing, hair pulling.....						
6. Retardation; slow movements, slow speech, slow reactions.....						
7. Multiple physical complaints (<i>score 0 if gastrointestinal symptoms only</i>).....						
8. Loss of interest; less involved in usual activities (<i>score only if change occurred acutely, i.e., in less than one month</i>).....						
C. PHYSICAL SIGNS						
9. Appetite loss; eating less than usual.....						
10. Weight loss (<i>score 2 if greater than 5 pounds in one month</i>).....						
11. Lack of energy; fatigues easily, unable to sustain activities.....						
D. CYCLIC FUNCTIONS						
12. Daily variation of mood; symptoms worse in the morning.....						
13. Difficulty falling asleep; later than usual for this individual.....						
14. Multiple awakening during sleep.....						
15. Early morning awaking; earlier than usual for this individual.....						
E. IDEATIONAL DISTURBANCE						
16. Suicidal; feels life is not worth living.....						
17. Poor self-esteem; self-blame, self-depreciation, feelings of failure.....						
18. Pessimism; anticipation of the worst.....						
19. Mood congruent delusions; delusions of poverty, illness or loss.....						
Notes/Current Medications: _____						

SCORING SYSTEM: A = Unable to Evaluate 1 = Mild to Intermittent Score of greater than 12 = Probable Depression		0 = Absent 2 = Severe		SCORE: _____		
Signature of Assessor _____ Title _____ Date ____/____/____						
NAME-Last		First		Middle		Attending Physician
						Record No.
						Room/Bed

Helping those with depression

- offer support/monitoring: video visits
- validate concerns/feelings, empathic listening
(avoid “I know how you feel” or “just get over it”)
- contact primary care physicians/behavioral health providers. Many offer online therapy sessions
- crisis hotline (24/7)
Oahu 832-3100, neighbor islands 808-753-6879
- emergency room/911

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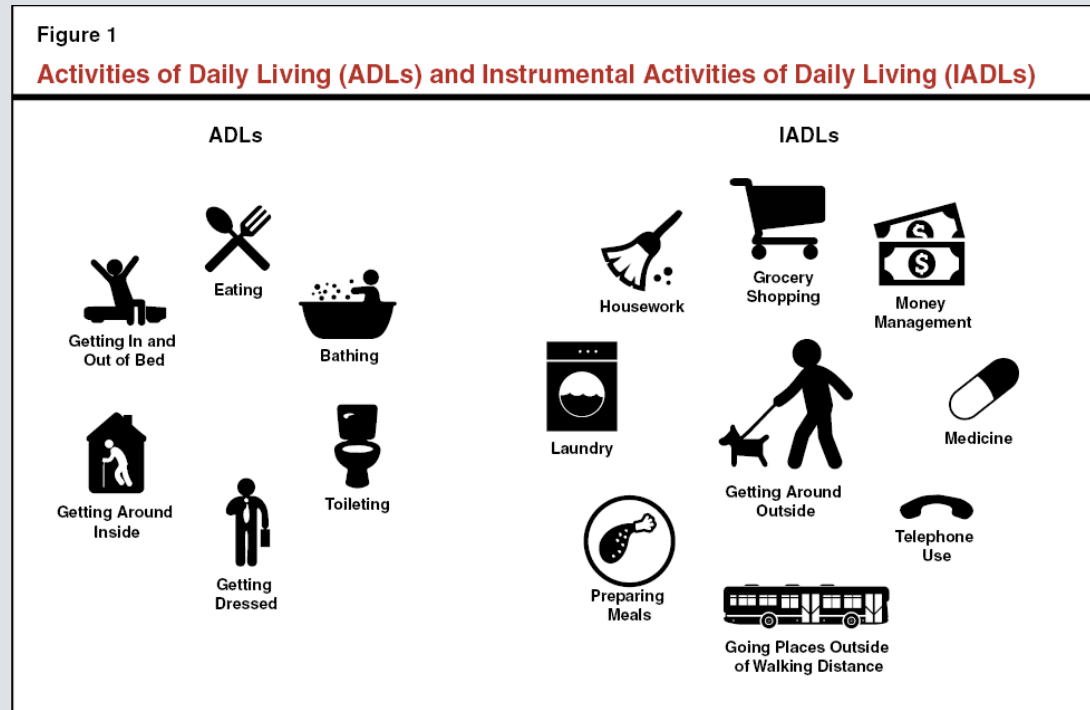
Memory Decline

Stages:

Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI):

cognitive decline, no loss of ADLs (activities of daily living)
can address reversible risk factors of further decline

Dementia:
cognitive decline AND
loss of ADLs



Asking about memory decline

Questions:

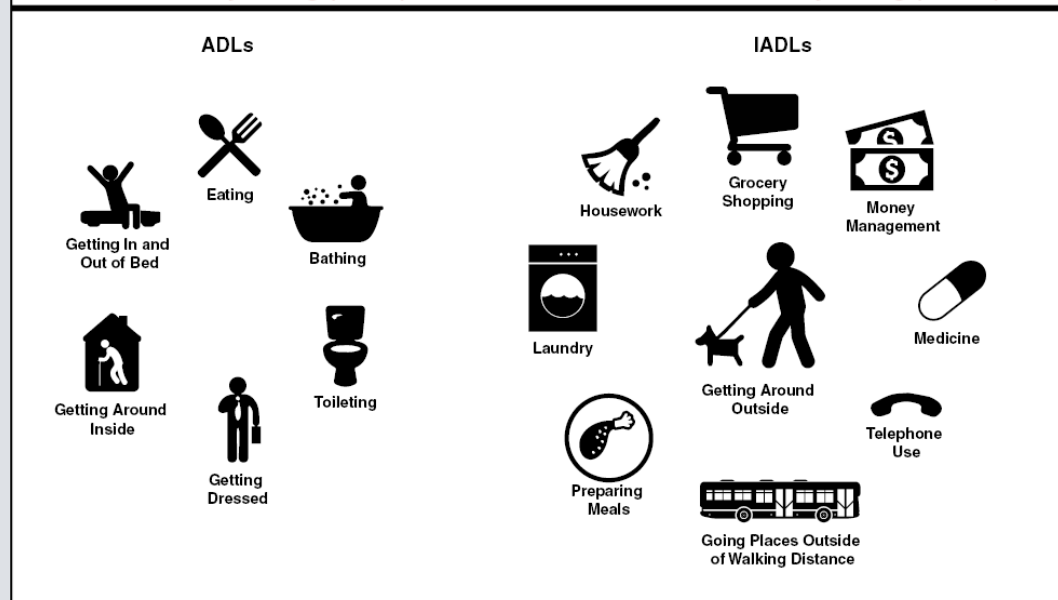
- any depression? any new medications?
- memory loss (loss of recent memory first)

-poorer planning, no longer able to perform previously learned skills not due to physical disability

-loss of IADLs,
before basic ADLs

Figure 1

Activities of Daily Living (ADLs) and Instrumental Activities of Daily Living (IADLs)



Cognitive Screening Tools

May need a helper to assist if done via video

Screening Instruments:

Mini-Cog

screen for dementia, short

MMSE (Mini Mental Status Exam)

screen for dementia, up to 10min

MOCA (Montrell Cognitive Assessment)

better screen for MCI, up to 15min

may need to pay to be certified

SLUMS (St. Louis University Mental Status Exam)

better screen for MCI, up to 10min, public domain

-Mini-Cog (Borson 2000)

-three word recall
and a clock draw

-better than PCPs in
detecting early
dementia

-can be reliable in
those with limited
English as long as
they understand
simple instructions

-not useful for
detecting MCI

MINI-COG™

- 1) GET THE PATIENT'S ATTENTION, THEN SAY: "I am going to say three words that I want you to remember. The words are
Banana Sunrise Chair.

Please say them for me now." (Give the patient 3 tries to repeat the words. If unable after 3 tries, go to next item.)

old this page back at the TWO dotted lines BELOW to make a blank space and cover the memory words. Hand the patient a pencil/pen).

- 2) SAY ALL THE FOLLOWING PHRASES IN THE ORDER INDICATED: "Please draw a clock in the space below. Start by drawing a large circle." (When this is done, say) "Put all the numbers in the circle." (When done, say) "Now set the hands to show 11:10 (10 past 11)."
-

- 3) SAY: "What were the three words I asked you to remember?"

_____ (Score 1 point for each) 3-Item Recall Score

Score the clock (see other side for instructions):

Normal clock
Abnormal clock

2 points
0 points

Clock Score

Total Score = 3-item recall plus clock score

0, 1, or 2 possible impairment; 3, 4, or 5 suggests no impairment

MMSE

-more frequently used than Mini-cog

-good for assessing degree of dementia

-not too useful for detecting MCI

MINI MENTAL STATE EXAMINATION (MMSE)

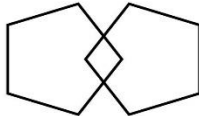
Name:

DOB:

Hospital Number:

One point for each answer

DATE:

ORIENTATION								
Year	Season	Month	Date	Time		...../ 5	...../ 5	...../ 5
Country	Town	District	Hospital	Ward/Floor		...../ 5	...../ 5	...../ 5
REGISTRATION								
Examiner names three objects (e.g. apple, table, penny) and asks the patient to repeat (1 point for each correct. THEN the patient learns the 3 names repeating until correct).						...../ 3	...../ 3	...../ 3
ATTENTION AND CALCULATION								
Subtract 7 from 100, then repeat from result. Continue five times: 100, 93, 86, 79, 65. (Alternative: spell "WORLD" backwards: DLROW).						...../ 5	...../ 5	...../ 5
RECALL								
Ask for the names of the three objects learned earlier.						...../ 3	...../ 3	...../ 3
LANGUAGE								
Name two objects (e.g. pen, watch).						...../ 2	...../ 2	...../ 2
Repeat "No ifs, ands, or buts".						...../ 1	...../ 1	...../ 1
Give a three-stage command. Score 1 for each stage. (e.g. "Place index finger of right hand on your nose and then on your left ear").						...../ 3	...../ 3	...../ 3
Ask the patient to read and obey a written command on a piece of paper. The written instruction is: "Close your eyes".						...../ 1	...../ 1	...../ 1
Ask the patient to write a sentence. Score 1 if it is sensible and has a subject and a verb.						...../ 1	...../ 1	...../ 1
COPYING: Ask the patient to copy a pair of intersecting pentagons								
						...../ 1	...../ 1	...../ 1
TOTAL:						...../ 30	...../ 30	...../ 30

MMSE scoring

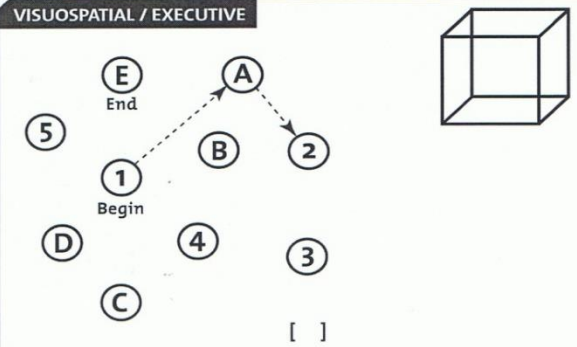
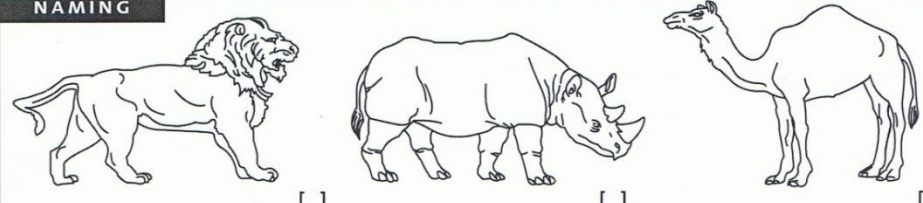
24-30: no cognitive impairment
18-23: mild cognitive impairment
0-17: severe cognitive impairment

MOCA

-useful in detecting
MCI

-takes longer than
other tests

-certification fee

MONTREAL COGNITIVE ASSESSMENT (MOCA)						NAME :	Education :	Date of birth :																		
						Sex :		DATE :																		
VISUOSPATIAL / EXECUTIVE 						Draw CLOCK (Ten past eleven) (3 points)		POINTS ___/5																		
						<input type="checkbox"/> Contour <input type="checkbox"/> Numbers <input type="checkbox"/> Hands																				
NAMING 								___/3																		
MEMORY						Read list of words, subject must repeat them. Do 2 trials. Do a recall after 5 minutes.	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>FACE</th> <th>VELVET</th> <th>CHURCH</th> <th>DAISY</th> <th>RED</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1st trial</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>2nd trial</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		FACE	VELVET	CHURCH	DAISY	RED	1st trial						2nd trial						No points
	FACE	VELVET	CHURCH	DAISY	RED																					
1st trial																										
2nd trial																										
ATTENTION						Read list of digits (1 digit/ sec.). Subject has to repeat them in the forward order [] 2 1 8 5 4 Subject has to repeat them in the backward order [] 7 4 2	___/2																			
Read list of letters. The subject must tap with his hand at each letter A. No points if ≥ 2 errors [] FBACMNAAJKLBAFAKDEAAJAMOFaAB								___/1																		
Serial 7 subtraction starting at 100 [] 93 [] 86 [] 79 [] 72 [] 65 4 or 5 correct subtractions: 3 pts, 2 or 3 correct: 2 pts, 1 correct: 1 pt, 0 correct: 0 pt								___/3																		
LANGUAGE						Repeat : I only know that John is the one to help today. [] The cat always hid under the couch when dogs were in the room. []	___/2																			
Fluency / Name maximum number of words in one minute that begin with the letter F [] ____ (N ≥ 11 words)								___/1																		
ABSTRACTION						Similarity between e.g. banana - orange = fruit [] train - bicycle [] watch - ruler	___/2																			
DELAYED RECALL						Has to recall words WITH NO CUE [] [] [] [] [] [] Optional: Category cue [] [] [] [] [] [] Multiple choice cue [] [] [] [] [] []	Points for UNCUEd recall only	___/5																		
ORIENTATION						[] Date [] Month [] Year [] Day [] Place [] City	___/6																			
© Z.Nasreddine MD Version 7.0 www.mocatest.org Normal ≥ 26 / 30						TOTAL ___/30 Add 1 point if ≤ 12 yr edu																				

SLUMS

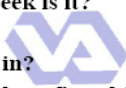
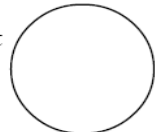


-useful in detecting MCI

-public domain

VAMC SLUMS Examination

Questions about this assessment tool? E-mail aging@slu.edu.

Name _____ Age _____
Is patient alert? _____ Level of education _____

____/1 ____/1 ____/1 ____/3 ____/3 ____/5 ____/2 ____/4 ____/2 ____/8	<p>① 1. What day of the week is it?</p> <p>① 2. What is the year?</p> <p>① 3. What state are we in?</p> <p>4. Please remember these five objects. I will ask you what they are later. Apple Pen Tie House Car</p> <p>5. You have \$100 and you go to the store and buy a dozen apples for \$3 and a tricycle for \$20.</p> <p>① How much did you spend?</p> <p>② How much do you have left?</p> <p>6. Please name as many animals as you can in one minute. ① 0-4 animals ① 5-9 animals ② 10-14 animals ③ 15+ animals</p> <p>7. What were the five objects I asked you to remember? 1 point for each one correct.</p> <p>8. I am going to give you a series of numbers and I would like you to give them to me backwards. For example, if I say 42, you would say 24. ① 87 ① 649 ① 8537</p> <p>9. This is a clock face. Please put in the hour markers and the time at ten minutes to eleven o'clock.</p> <p>② Hour markers okay</p> <p>② Time correct</p> <p>① 10. Please place an X in the triangle.</p> <p>① Which of the above figures is largest?</p> <p>11. I am going to tell you a story. Please listen carefully because afterwards, I'm going to ask you some questions about it. Jill was a very successful stockbroker. She made a lot of money on the stock market. She then met Jack, a devastatingly handsome man. She married him and had three children. They lived in Chicago. She then stopped work and stayed at home to bring up her children. When they were teenagers, she went back to work. She and Jack lived happily ever after.</p> <p>② What was the female's name?</p> <p>② When did she go back to work?</p>	<div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Department of Veterans Affairs</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;">  </div> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;">  </div> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;">  <p>SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY</p> </div>
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TOTAL SCORE



Department of
Veterans Affairs



SAINT LOUIS
UNIVERSITY



SCORING

HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION		LESS THAN HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION	
27-30	Normal	25-30	
21-26	MNCD*	20-24	
1-20	Dementia	1-19	
* Mild Neurocognitive Disorder			

Addressing Memory Decline

Treat any underlying depression

Reversible risk factors

- medical: blood pressure, cholesterol, fasting glucose

- lifestyle: physical exercise, psychosocial routines

Preparation for next stage

- family/CG to start to adapt to avoiding

- confrontation/challenging their reality, unless dangerous

- surrogacy planning: power of attorney

- become aware of support resources

Non-Medication Approaches for Dementia Behavior

Paranoia/Hallucinations

Avoid confrontation

Reassurance/validate followed by distraction

Safety (hide harmful objects)

Sleep

keep occupied/awake in the day

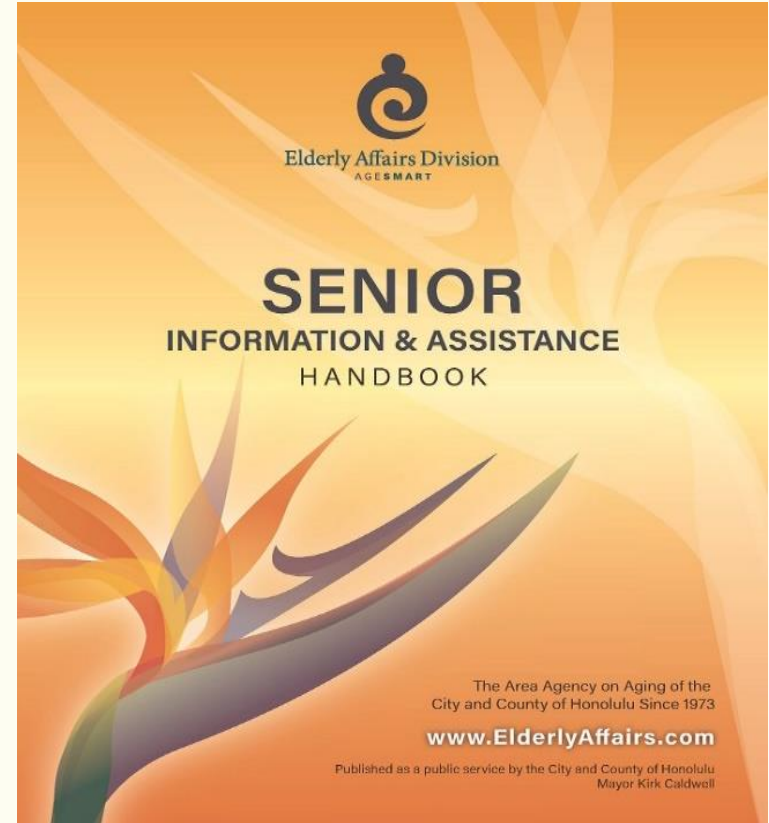
light early evening activities

hallway/bathroom lights

Depression/Cognitive Decline

physical and mental activities

community resource/day programs



808-768-7700

Non-Medication Approaches for Dementia Behavior

Sensory stimulation:

plants, animals,
massage, aromatherapy

Music (familiar!)

Even more important
With COVID restrictions



Courtesy of Manoa Cottages

*Ballard 2009, Beier 2007,
Dyer 2017, Gerdner 1993,
Kong 2009, Rowe 1999, Ueda 2013*

Questions?