

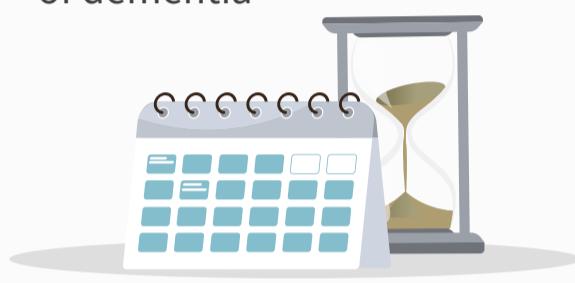
Depression and an ageing population



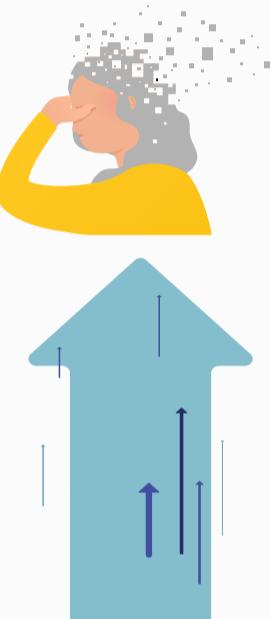
Major depressive disorder (MDD) and dementia commonly co-occur within the ageing population and their overlap is complex^{1,2}



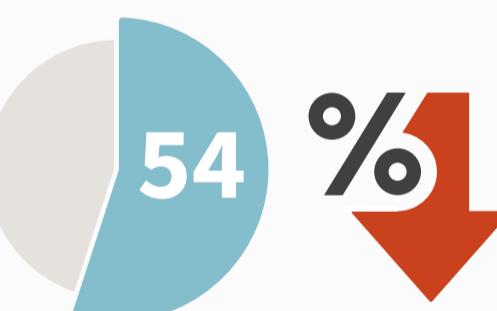
MDD is a risk factor for dementia, although depression can appear years before other symptoms of dementia³



Patients with depressive symptoms have a **1.2–2.4x** increased risk of developing dementia^{4–8}

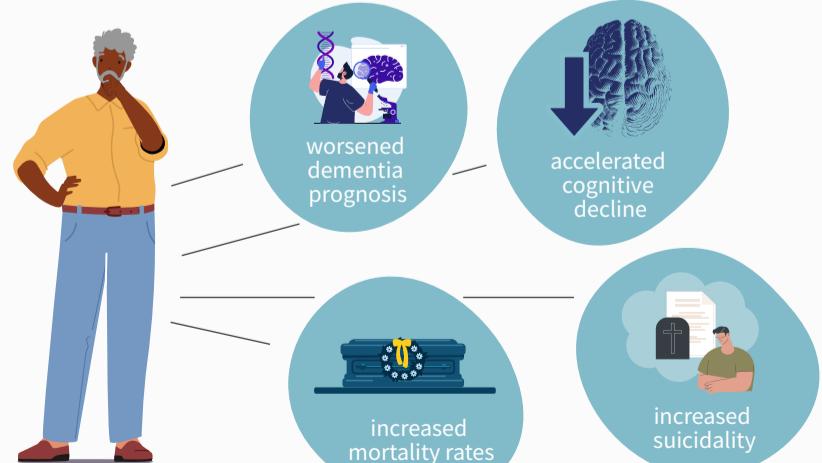


MDD and co-morbid dementia can **reduce QoL** and have a **negative impact** on **caregiver burden**^{9,10}

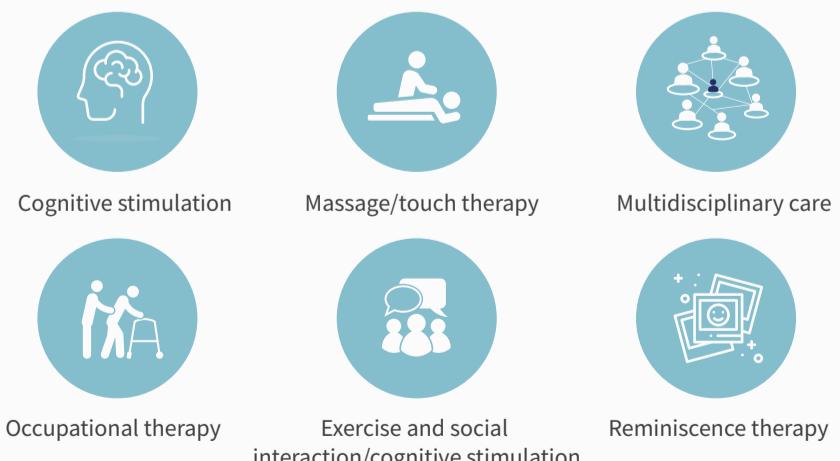


Patients with co-morbid depression and dementia have a **54%** lower QoL than the general older adult population⁹

Inadequate treatment of MDD and co-morbid dementia can lead to:^{11–15}



Non-pharmacological approaches in the treatment of depressive symptoms in dementia:^{16,17}



Treating patients with MDD and co-morbid dementia can be challenging¹⁷⁻²⁰



Depression with Alzheimer's disease is under-diagnosed as:¹⁷



Cognitive symptoms related to depression undermine neuropsychological assessment¹⁹



MDD features/functional impairments may be less noticeable¹⁸



Symptoms of depression are underestimated²⁰

There is **limited evidence** supporting the efficacy of antidepressants in patients with MDD and co-morbid dementia²¹



Depression **should not** automatically be assumed to be an **inevitable “part of dementia”**²²



References

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