

## Alzheimer's Disease Assessment (Early Symptoms)

Dementia is a progressive deterioration of cognitive functioning and global impairment of the intellect. Alzheimer's disease (AD) is one of the most common forms of dementia characterized by neuronal degeneration and brain cell death. Advanced age is a risk factor and early signs and symptoms include poor judgement and decision-making, difficulty having a conversation, the inability to manage a budget, losing track of the date or season, and misplacing things.



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### Risk Factors

#### Advanced Age

##### Old Age

Age is the most important risk factor for developing Alzheimer's dementia. 44% of individuals between 75-84 years of age have AD.

### Early Signs and Symptoms

#### Poor Judgment and Decision-Making

##### Poor Judge and Bad-decision

People with Alzheimer's may be easily influenced by others and may trust strangers. They may not dress appropriately for the weather, or for the social situation (ex. Bathrobe to the store).

#### Difficulty Having a Conversation

##### Broken Con-versation

Patients with the early signs of Alzheimer's may have a hard time communicating and finding the "right" word. Their writing skills may also be affected, resulting in poor penmanship.

#### Inability to Manage a Budget

##### Can't Balance Budget

An early sign of Alzheimer's may manifest as spending excessive amounts of money inappropriately, and patients may not be able to manage a monthly budget.

#### Losing Track of the Date or Season

##### Unaware of Season

Individuals can occasionally forget the day of the week or what time of year it is, appearing confused.

#### Misplacing Things

##### Misplaced wallet

Many individuals can get frustrated because they temporarily misplace things like their keys, purses or wallets. Furthermore, these people may put objects in inappropriate places, but have no memory of how it arrived there.