

**World Dementia
Council** Leading the Global Action
Against Dementia

World Dementia
Council
2023/24





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Introduction

Welcome to the World Dementia Council's programme of activity for the next twelve months.

The World Dementia Council was established by the G8 following the London dementia summit in 2013 to bring together governments, policymakers, international leaders from across the dementia field, and advocates to help address the challenges in our field and identify how we can together make progress.

This is an exciting moment for our field. With the first disease modifying treatments coming into clinical practice, it is a moment of hope. But with that hope comes new challenges. How to diagnose, how to measure clinical meaningfulness, how to fund treatments, and how to ensure access and equity, within countries and around the world. At the same time, despite the hope offered by treatments, we still confront the challenges of stigma, of ensuring people can live well in the community and of providing good quality care.

Over the next 12 months we will be addressing these questions. Following on from the G7 dementia side event we hosted with the government of Japan at the Health Ministers meeting earlier this year, there is a high-level meeting this autumn hosted by the government of the Netherlands. We will hold a series of global dialogues for international leaders on some of the challenges facing our field and how we can address them. And we will again hold a high-level summit in London to bring thought leaders together.

This document sets out some details of our programme and we look forward to working with you over the next 12 months to help improve the lives of people with dementia and their caregivers.



Philip Scheltens
Chair



Lenny Shallcross
Executive Director

Key themes and topics

- ➔ Preventing disease
- ➔ Diagnosing disease
- ➔ The development of therapeutics
- ➔ Dementia in an ageing society



Events 2023/24

Defeating Dementia

Netherlands government high level meeting 2 October 2023

Overview

The Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport of The Netherlands with the collaboration of the World Dementia Council are hosting a high-level meeting on 'Defeating Dementia'. The aim of the event is threefold:

- To discuss the challenges dementia poses to society and the urgency of this issue.
- To highlight the swift progress that could be made in care delivery, diagnosis and drug discovery.
- To agree on concrete actions to improve dementia care and to drive research forward, not least by increasing global public investment in dementia research.

Practicalities

This is an in-person conference taking place on Monday 2 October 2023 at the Kunstmuseum (Museum of Art), The Hague, The Netherlands. The conference will run from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and be followed by a reception.

Audience

Representatives from G20 governments, international institutions, and a limited number of international leaders from across the dementia field, including industry, academia, care providers and civil society organisations are invited to participate in-person in the conference.



Programme

The high-level meeting is hosted by the Netherlands Minister for Long-Term Care, Conny Helder, with remarks from Prime Minister Mark Rutte. Across the course of the day there will be addresses from representatives of G20 governments and the World Health Organization. In addition, there will be four high-level expert panels on diagnosing dementia, prevention, the challenge of an ageing society and technology. Each session will be introduced by a global expert who will give their perspective on the topic. Panelist and audience participants will share reflections on the topic.

The meeting will conclude with agreement on a governmental communique setting out how policymakers can help advance research and deliver better care to people living with dementia today and in the future.

Opening session

Minister Conny Helder
Prof Philip Scheltens, chair World Dementia Council

Diagnosing and treating Alzheimer's and other dementias

Is this a new paradigm for patients and health systems?

Preventing disease

Can we reduce the health and economic costs of dementia through prevention?

Meeting the challenge of the ageing society

Can we keep people participating?

Technology in care and support

Is innovation the route to accelerate improvements in the provision of care?

Closing session

Prime Minister Mark Rutte
Minister Conny Helder



Dementia dialogues

Fall 2023 through to spring 2024

Overview

Building on the success of the dementia dialogue series held in 2021/22, which saw more than 500 global experts participate, the Council will hold a series of expert dialogues over the next 12 months to explore some of the key issues facing our field. Accompanied by a series of discussion papers the conversations will help inform a report being published next year reviewing the progress the international community has made and identifying opportunities for governments and the field to make further advancements. The themes of the expert dialogues are:

- Diagnosis
- Dementia in an ageing society
- Latin America: the challenge of dementia in LMICs

Practicalities

Each of the dialogues will bring together global experts. There will be short introductory remarks from 2-3 speakers and then participants will have an opportunity to share their insight in a virtual roundtable. Transcripts from previous dialogues are published on the [Council's website](#).

Audience

Each dialogue will be for an invited audience with around 50 participants. More information about these events will be available on the events section of the [Council's website](#).



Dialogue themes

Theme 1

Diagnosis



Virtual meetings: **November** | **January** | **April**

About: These will be a series of virtual meetings to help inform a discussion document the meetings will be on:

- Diagnostic biomarkers – should we move to presymptomatic diagnosis in clinical practice?
- Scalability and affordability – diagnosis in the decade ahead
- Accurate diagnosis – for AD and non AD disease

Theme 2

Dementia in an ageing society



Virtual meetings: **February** | **April** | **May**

About: These will be a series of virtual meetings to help inform a discussion document the meetings will be on:

- Brain health: keeping an ageing population well, including reducing of the stigma of aging and cognitive decline
- Care models: keeping people at home, and innovations in improving quality of life for people living with dementia
- Lessons on workforce: professional caregiving, unpaid care partners, and lack/shortage of providers/services

Theme 3

Latin America, the challenge of dementia in LMICs



Virtual meetings: **April** | **May** | **June** (all held in Spanish)

Chairs: Ricardo Alegri and Paulo Caramelli

About: These will be a series of virtual meetings to help inform a discussion document, the meetings will be on:

- Research and clinical trials in LMICs
- Awareness and understanding
- Brain health and impact of social determinants of health

The next decade: therapies and brain health

WDC Summit

26 March 2024

Overview

The decade ahead will be one of significant change in the dementia field. The first disease modifying treatments for dementia have been approved in some countries. The likelihood is the next decade will see treatments for more targets, at different stages of disease and using different mechanisms. Blood biomarkers will be increasingly used in specialist centres, firstly, and then more routinely in clinical practice. Potentially digital biomarkers will be increasingly important in detection. For sure, to benefit from treatments patients will need to be diagnosed much earlier in the disease trajectory than is the norm today, potentially identified through screening populations classified by age or other risk factors. The pace of change depends on what both science and health systems can deliver.

But, as with other disease areas, cardiovascular and cancer being examples, effectively managing the impact disease has on a population involves effectively treating disease (therapeutics and timely diagnosis) and preventing disease. Research is evolving but the evidence is increasingly individuals (and public policy) can keep their brain health and reduces the risk of cognitive decline. The summit will address:

- How to maintain brain health and prevent disease
- How to diagnose earlier and treat better contributing to keeping people as well as possible for as long as possible

Practicalities

The one-day meeting will be held at the Francis Crick Institute in London, United Kingdom. The meeting will run from 9 a.m. until 5.30 p.m. and be followed by a reception. It will be in-person only.

Audience

An invitation only event. The meeting will be a combination of policymakers, academics, industry, regulators, funders and advocates. It will be approximately 350 people.



Photo credit: Dave Guttridge, The Photographic Unit Ltd

Programme

Plenary Sessions

There will be three plenary sessions over the day. Each session will be opened by a keynote speaker and there will be a panel of respondents with different perspectives. The sessions will be moderated with audience questions/interventions.

Maintaining brain health; a science and public policy challenge

Overview: Preventing disease is a desirable public policy outcome. In other disease areas, public health strategies, and public behaviour, place disease prevention at the centre, preventing heart attacks being an obvious example. Is this the future for dementia policy over the next decade?

Keynote and plenary participants will be confirmed in autumn 2023.

Future developments in therapeutics

Overview: The likelihood is the next decade will see treatments for more targets, at different stages of disease and using different mechanisms. The interaction of science, industry, funders, regulators and payers will set the pace.

Keynote and plenary participants will be confirmed in autumn 2023.

The landscape for patients in the decade ahead

Overview: International leadership is key to making advances and to delivering advances to patients. Governments, regulators and funders all have a role to play. What can they expect and what can they deliver?

Keynote and plenary participants will be confirmed in autumn 2023.



Programme

Parallel Sessions

There will be six parallel sessions over the course of the day each addressing a question that flows from the plenary sessions. Each session will have opening remarks from the panel and discussion.

Is it time for screening?

Panel participants will be confirmed in autumn 2023.

No one left behind? Will health systems fund new treatments?

Panel participants will be confirmed in autumn 2023.

Do we have effective pre-symptomatic interventions?

Panel participants will be confirmed in autumn 2023.

Can we do trials quicker and cheaper?

Panel participants will be confirmed in autumn 2023.

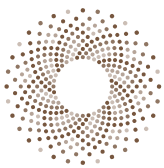
Clinical meaningfulness: do we know what we are aiming for?

Panel participants will be confirmed in autumn 2023.

Is data the answer?

Panel participants will be confirmed in autumn 2023.





World Dementia Council

Leading the Global Action
Against Dementia

The World Dementia Council (WDC) is an international charity. It consists of senior experts and leaders drawn from research, academia, industry, governments and NGOs in both high-income and low- and middle-income countries, including two leaders with a personal dementia diagnosis. The WDC has an executive team based in London, UK.

worlddementiacouncil.org

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