



**Alzheimer's Disease
International**

The global voice on dementia

ADI webinar on *Future gazing: COVID-19 and dementia*

Wednesday 6 May

Welcome and introductions



Paola Barbarino

Chief Executive,
Alzheimer's Disease International (ADI)

ADI Emergency Appeal



**During this COVID-19 emergency period
please make a donation, however large or small,
to ensure we can continue to make a real difference.**

**ADI will continue to help people living with dementia
and their carers to live a better life during this emergency.**

DONATE NOW

<https://www.alz.co.uk/donate>



Poll

*Who is taking part in this
webinar?*



Agenda

1. *Unavailability of post-diagnostic support & social services*

2. *Political de-prioritisation of dementia*

3 minute brain gym session with DY Suharya

3. *Impact of COVID-19 on diagnosis of dementia*

4. *Impact of COVID-19 on the biopharmaceutical industry*

Speakers

1.

Dr Lee-Fay Low - University of Sydney
Nigel Hullah - 3 Nations Dementia Working Group
Glenn Rees - ADI Chair

2.

Dr Jón Snædal - Ministry of Health of Iceland
Dr Nils Dahl - Federal Ministry of Health of Germany

3.

Prof. Ricardo Allegri - Neurological Research Institute Raúl Carrea (FLENI)
Prof. Philip Scheltens - VU University Medical Center

4.

David Jefferys - IFPMA

Closing discussion – Dr Serge Gauthier, McGill Centre for Studies on Aging



Theme 1

*Unavailability of post-diagnostic
support and social services*

Dr Lee-Fay Low

Associate Professor in Ageing and
Health, NHMRC Boosting
Dementia Research Leadership
Development Fellow, University of
Sydney, Australia



@AlzDisInt

#ADlwebinar

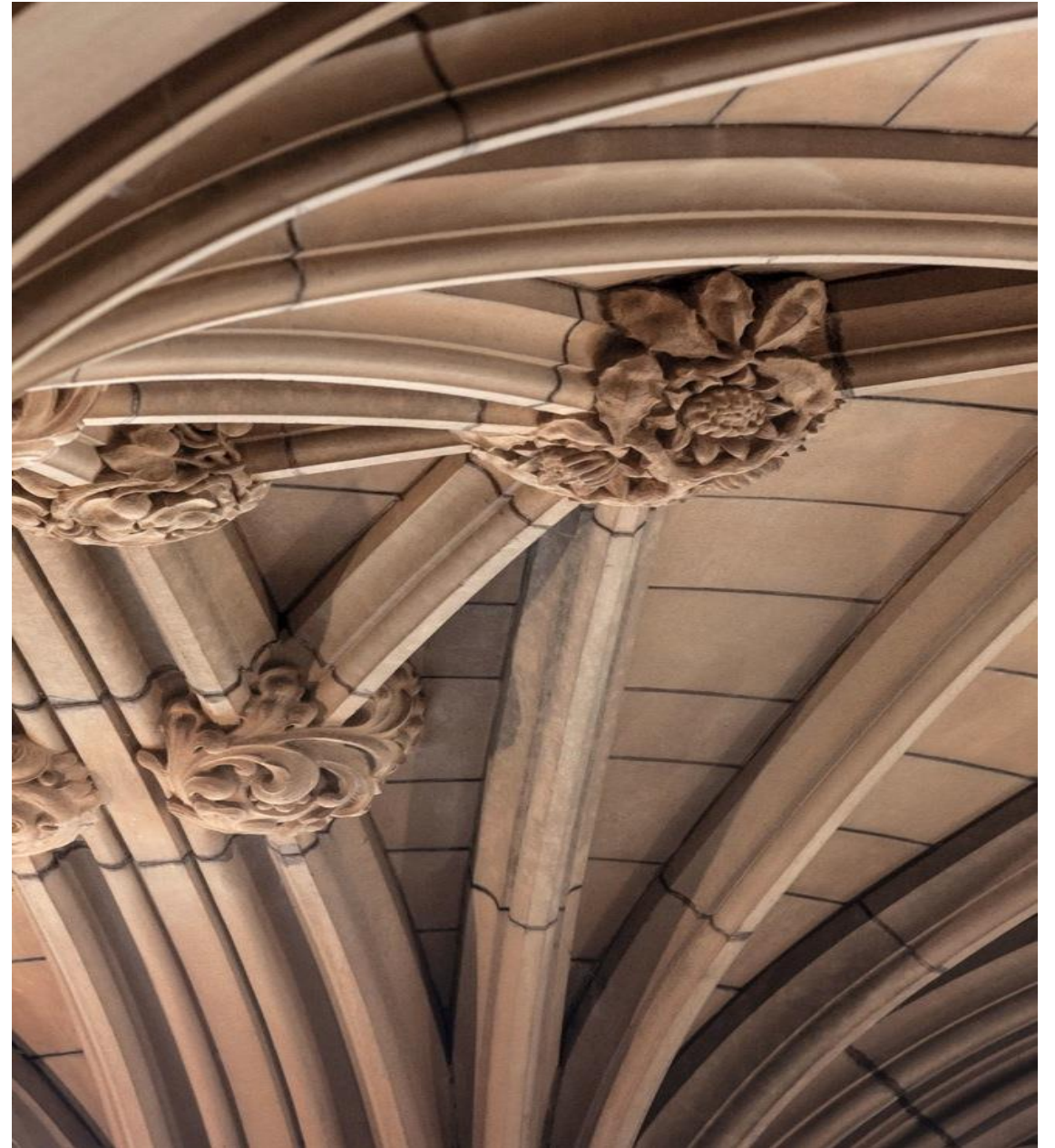
Post-diagnostic support during COVID-19

Lee-Fay Low

@leefay_low



THE UNIVERSITY OF
SYDNEY



Needs of people with dementia and families?

- Social distancing layered over living with dementia
- Dealing with significant personal changes + dealing with significant world changes
- Adjustment to diagnosis?? (self identity, relationships with others)
- Planning?? (legal, financial, lifestyle)
- Reduced opportunities to maintain/minimise decline in function, independence
- Might find it more challenging to talk by phone or videochat
- Need more support from family and friends (increased stress)
- Stay at home routine may support cognition and function, or lead to frustration/boredom
- Social distancing may exacerbate social isolation, or make it less apparent

Unavailability of post-diagnostic services



- Pre-COVID, low level of available supports
- Public clinical appointments cancelled, or conducted by phone or videochat
- Cognitive retesting difficult by telehealth
- Unavailability of driving assessment
- Groups cancelled – social support, exercise, cognitive stimulation
- Day programs cancelled
- Less opportunity to be prompted to help-seeking
- Withdrawal from home care services because of fear of infection
- **LESS therapeutic, practical, emotional and informational support**
- ?? Negative consequences on long-term trajectory

Nigel Hullah

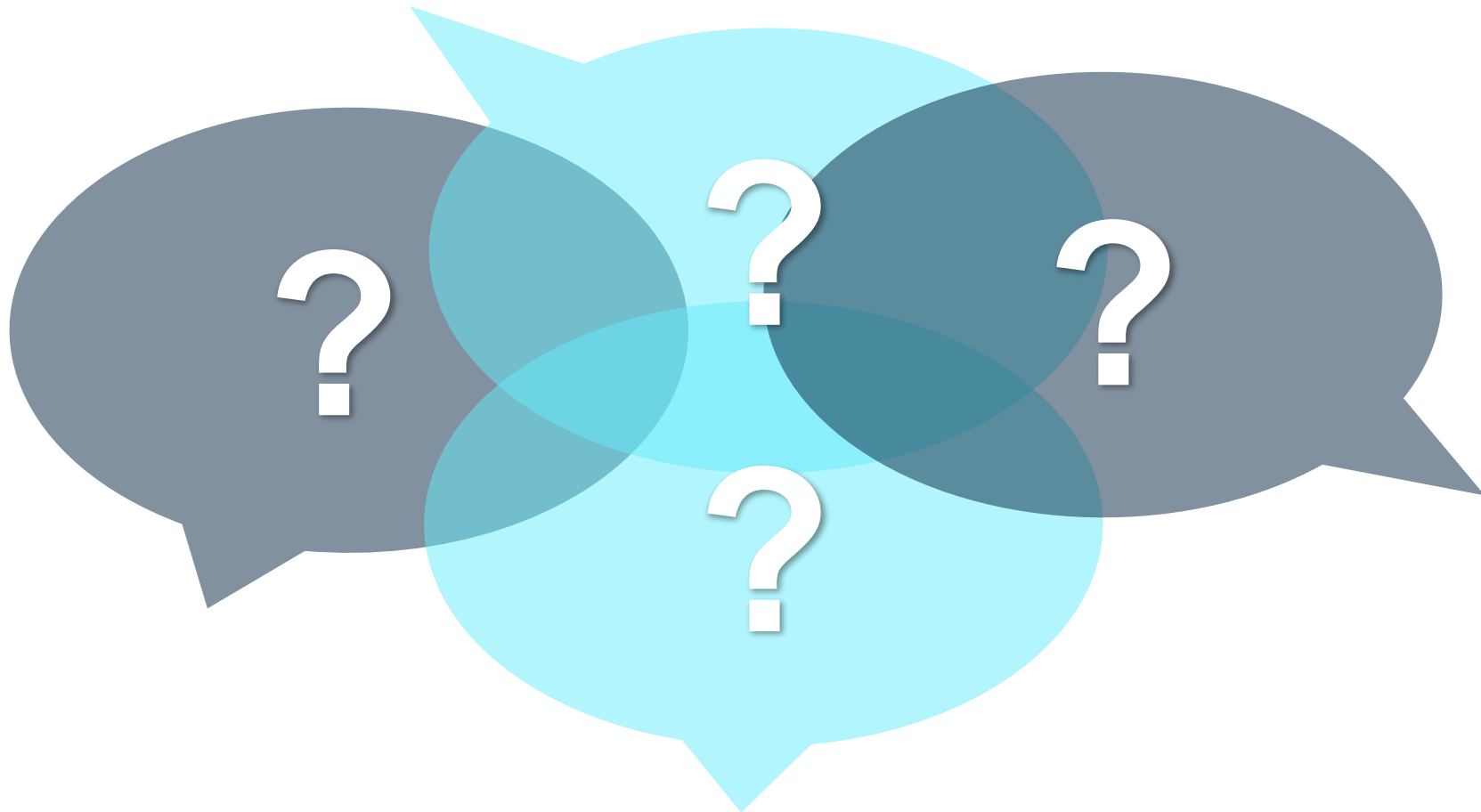
Dementia advocate

Chair, 3 Nations Dementia
Working Group



@AlzDisInt @3NDWG @nigel8812922

Question and answer



@AlzDisInt
#ADlwebinar

Theme 1

Glenn Rees

Chair, Alzheimer's Disease
International

Former CEO of Alzheimer's
Australia



@AlzDisInt

#ADlwebinar

PROBLEM OR OPPORTUNITY?



**Alzheimer's Disease
International**

The global voice on dementia

- **Advocacy is about empathy AND relevance**
- **The crisis is an opportunity to be relevant – stories, guidelines, advice**
- **New language and context – crisis, planning, social isolation, evidence**
- **Well positioned – GDP, WHO policy brief on older persons**
- **Be ready for the door to open on dementia plans and be strategic e.g.**
 - Strengthen primary care and long-term care (community-based services) and social and legal frameworks and increase dementia training and carer support



Theme 2

Political de-prioritisation of dementia

Dr Jón Snædal

Professor in Geriatric Medicine,
Landspítali University Hospital,
Reykjavik, Iceland

Main editor of the Dementia strategy
for Iceland 2020

President of the International College
on Person Centered Medicine



@AlzDisInt

#ADIwebinar

National dementia strategy in Iceland in the shadow of Covid-19

Jon Snaedal

Professor in Geriatric Medicine



National strategy for dementia in Iceland

- » The parliament (Althingi) asked the Minister of Health to produce national strategy in 2017
- » The work started late 2018 and a draft was ready in mid 2019 following consultations with major stakeholders.
- » The Ministry worked on an Action plan 2019-2020.
- » The Dementia strategy and Action plan was released in mid-covid pandemic on 8 April 2020 – a few major points:
 - To establish Dementia friendly societies.
 - Experience of individuals with dementia and their relatives should guide actions.
 - The role of the Icelandic Alzheimer Association was stipulated
 - The right of timely diagnosis was confirmed.
 - Quality indicators should be used in all parts of the service chain.



Covid-19 pandemic and dementia

- » As Test,Track and Trace was established from the beginning in Iceland, the social bans were not as rigorous as in many other countries.
- » >10% of the population had been tested by end of April.
- » Death rate of Covid-19 is low: 3/100.000 inhabitants
- » No excess overall death rate in the country jan-april 2020.

- » However, ban on visits to nursing homes was issued early, a heavy burden for individuals with dementia.
- » Some restrictions were on day care centers but generally, they were not closed.
- » However, many stayed home with their families for fear of the virus.

Financial implications of the pandemic for the Dementia strategy not clear at this point in time.



Dr Nils Dahl

Technical Officer, Division for
Long-Term Care, Federal Ministry
of Health, Germany



@AlzDisInt

#ADlwebinar



Germany's National Strategy on Dementia

Nils Dahl, Division for Long-term care insurance, Federal Ministry of Health, Germany

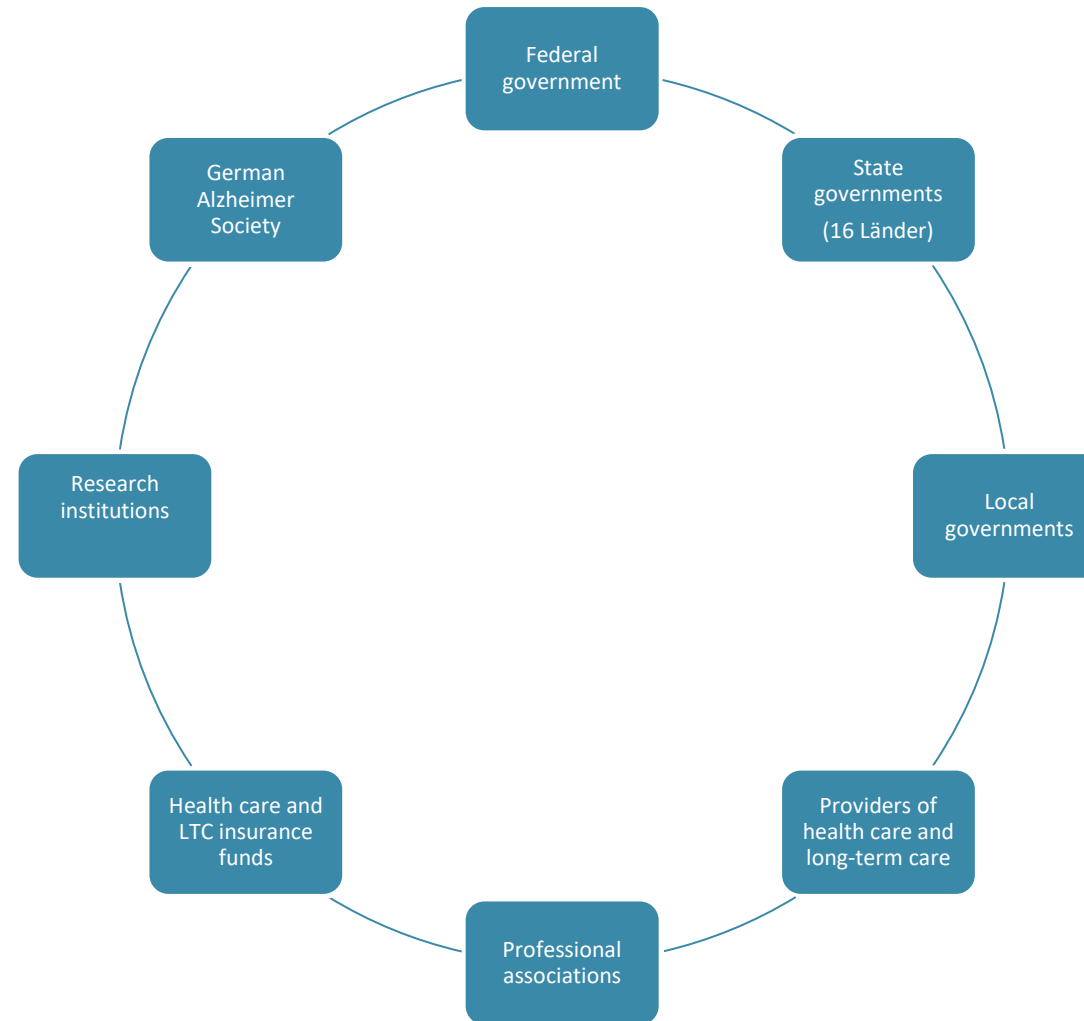
Presentation at Alzheimer's Disease International Webinar „Future gazing: COVID-19 and dementia“, 06 May 2020



Germany's National Strategy on Dementia: Background

- Developed 2019 and 2020
- The final draft is scheduled to be adopted by the federal cabinet in June
- Based upon Germany's „Alliance for people with dementia“ (2014-2018)
- Existing measures of state governments and non-governmental organisations, dementia strategies of other countries, and international action plans were considered

Involved actors



Four priority fields of action

1) Building Dementia-inclusive Communities

2) Improving Support for People with Dementia and their Family Caregivers

3) Improving Medical Care, Nursing Care and Long-term Care for PwD

4) Promoting Research and Innovation



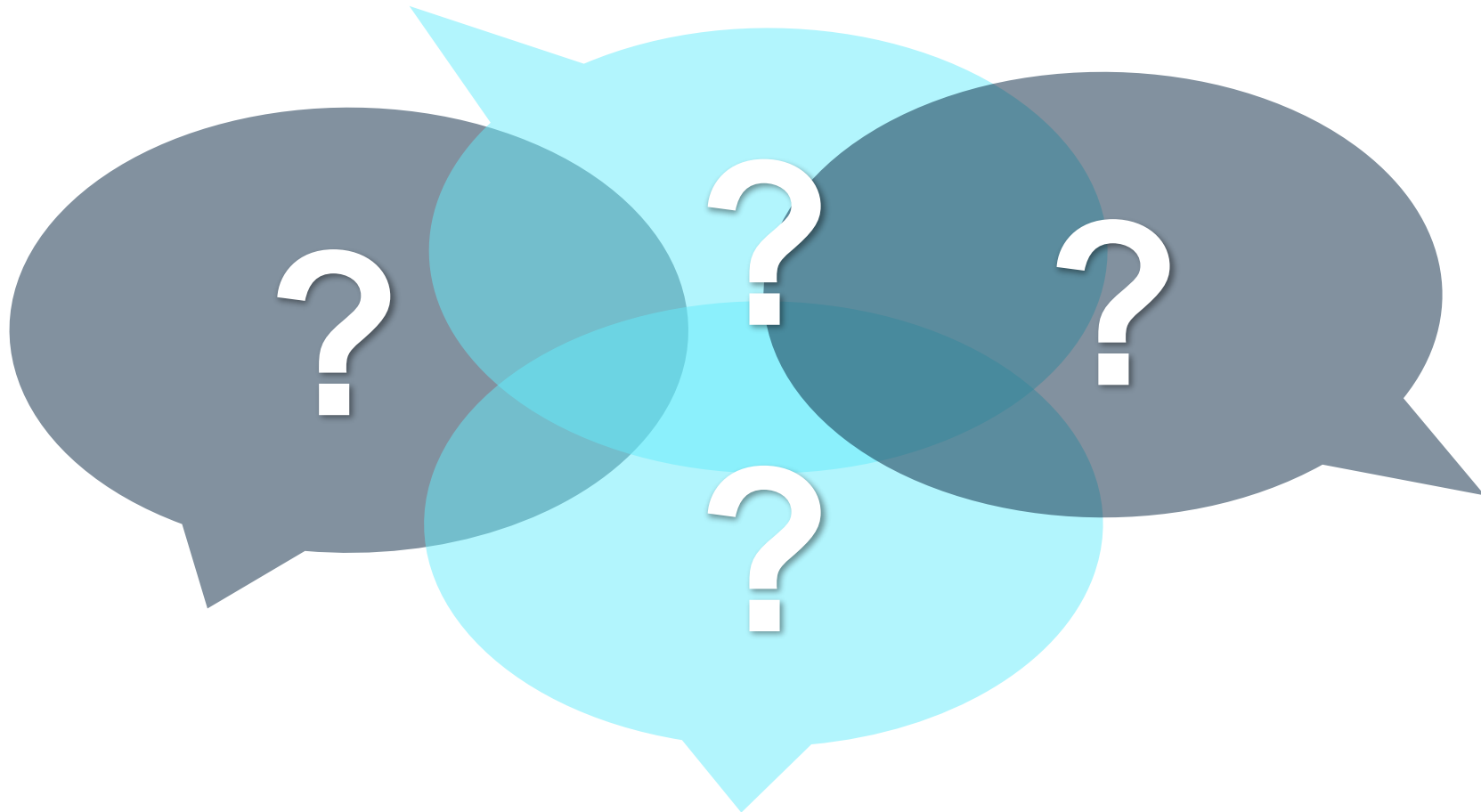
Implementation and Monitoring

- **27 goals** and **162 measures** to substantially improve the living conditions of people with dementia and their families.
- Ongoing monitoring until 2026 (first comprehensive monitoring report)
- As the strategy was developed before the outbreak of the COVID-19-pandemic, some measures may need to be adapted to the new situation
- All involved actors will take into account that persons with dementia can be particularly affected by COVID-19-related restrictions

COVID-19 and Dementia

- Multiple COVID-19-related measures aim at protecting and supporting people in need of care, family and professional caregivers, and can help to stabilize care arrangements of persons with dementia, for example:
 - Increased testing capacities in LTC homes and other care settings
 - Providing possibilities for flexible solutions if care arrangements cannot be organized as usual
 - Easier access to financial support for short-term carers' leave etc.
- Information, Guidance and Recommendations through Robert-Koch-Institute, MOH, German Alzheimer Society and others
- **Implementation of national strategy on dementia will remain a priority for the federal government**

Question and answer



@AlzDisInt
#ADlwebinar

Theme 2

Brain Gym session



DY Suharya

Regional Director - Asia
Pacific, ADI



Theme 3

*Impact of COVID-19 on diagnosis
of dementia*

Prof. Ricardo Allegri

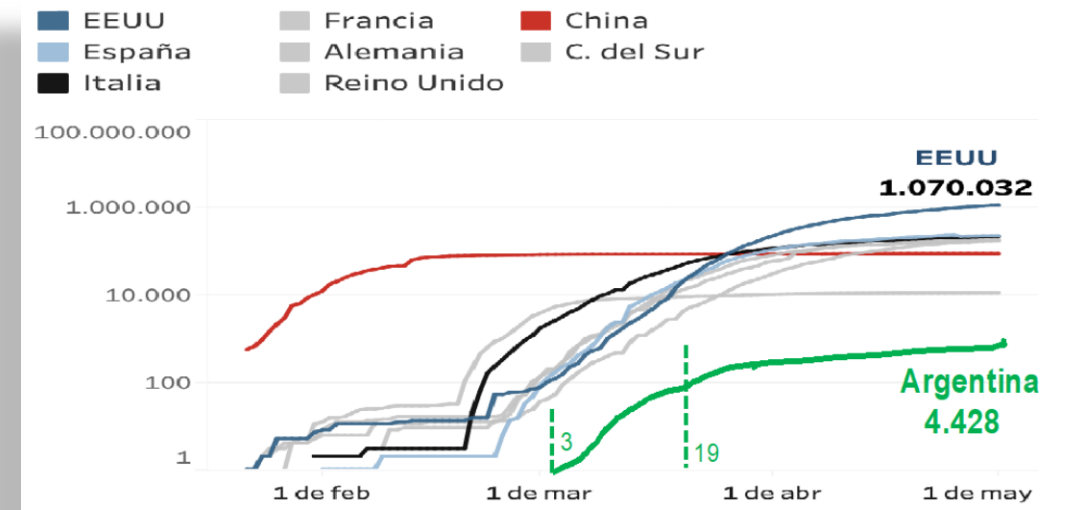
Head of Cognitive Neurology,
Neuropsychology and
Neuropsychiatry, Fundación para
la Lucha contra las Enfermedades
Neurológicas (FLENI)



@AlzDisInt

#ADlwebinar

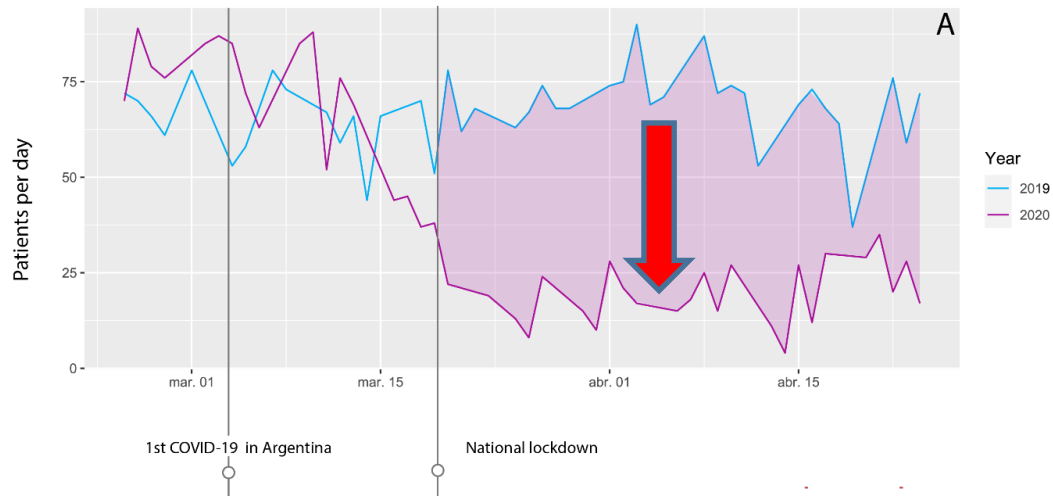
COVID-19 Pandemic in Argentina



COVID-19 LOCKDOWN in Argentina March 19th

COVID-19 Pandemic LOCKDOWN

EMERGENCY CONSULTATIONS:



HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS:

Stroke Unit	2019-2020
Ischemic stroke	- 53%
Transient ischemic attack	- 80%
Intracerebral hemorrhage	- 30%

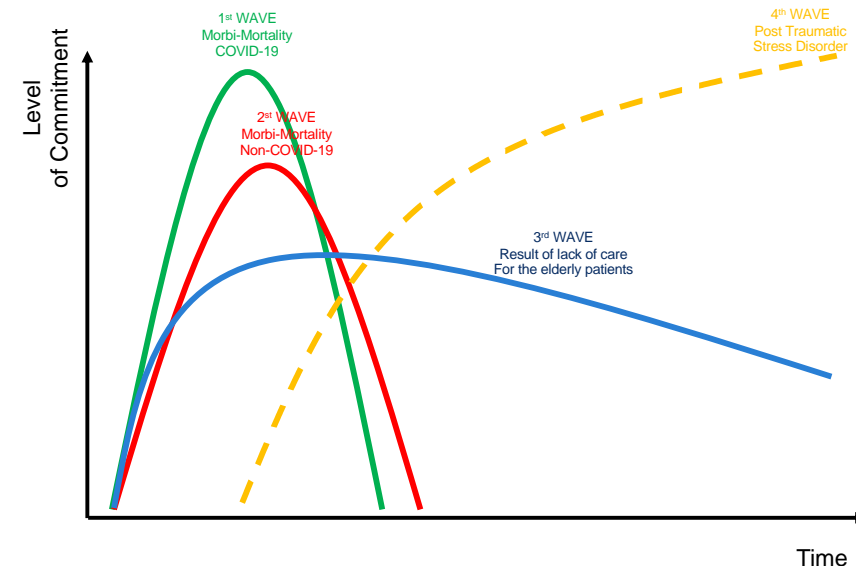
DEMENTIA:

The strictest social isolation was recommended
Discontinuation of family visit, assistance and rehabilitation.

Results:

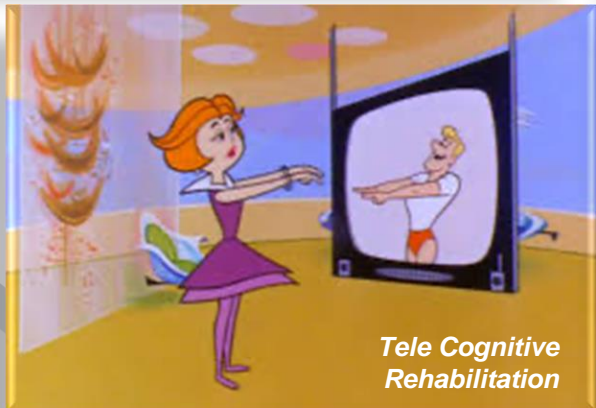
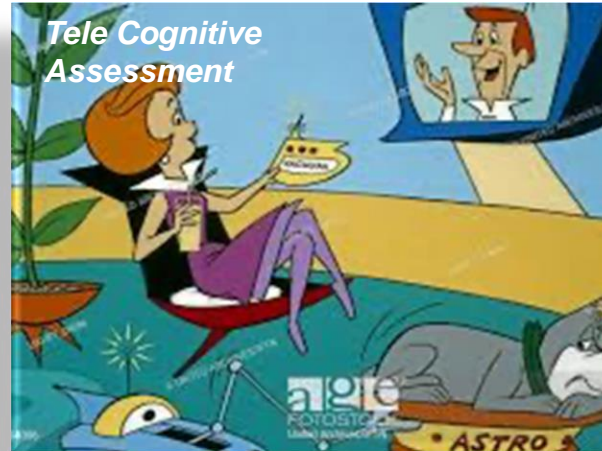
1. Negative **psychological impact**: anxiety, irritability, etc
2. Deterioration of existing **cognitive symptoms**
3. Irrational management of the patients and caregivers

IMPACT ON HEALTH SYSTEM

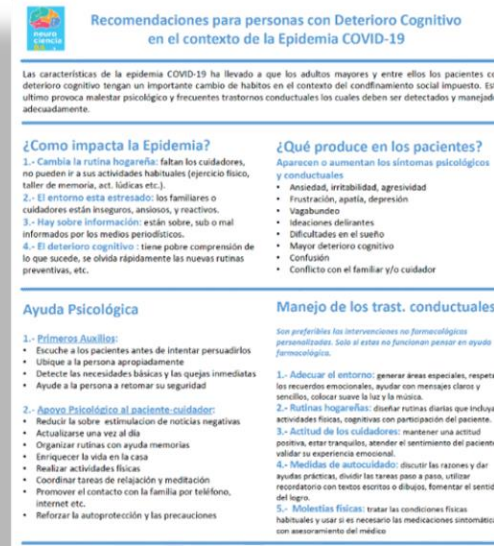


COVID-19 Pandemic ACTIONS

Our Patients



General Population



Public Health



Neurology Blogs

COVID-19 (coronavirus) R & F Innovation

Without Borders

COVID-19 (coronavirus) Without Borders

Invited Commentary: The elusive paradox: The woods behind the trees

April 17, 2020 | By Ricardo Allegri | COVID-19 (coronavirus), Without Borders

Prof. Philip Scheltens

Director of the Alzheimer Center,
Amsterdam, Netherlands

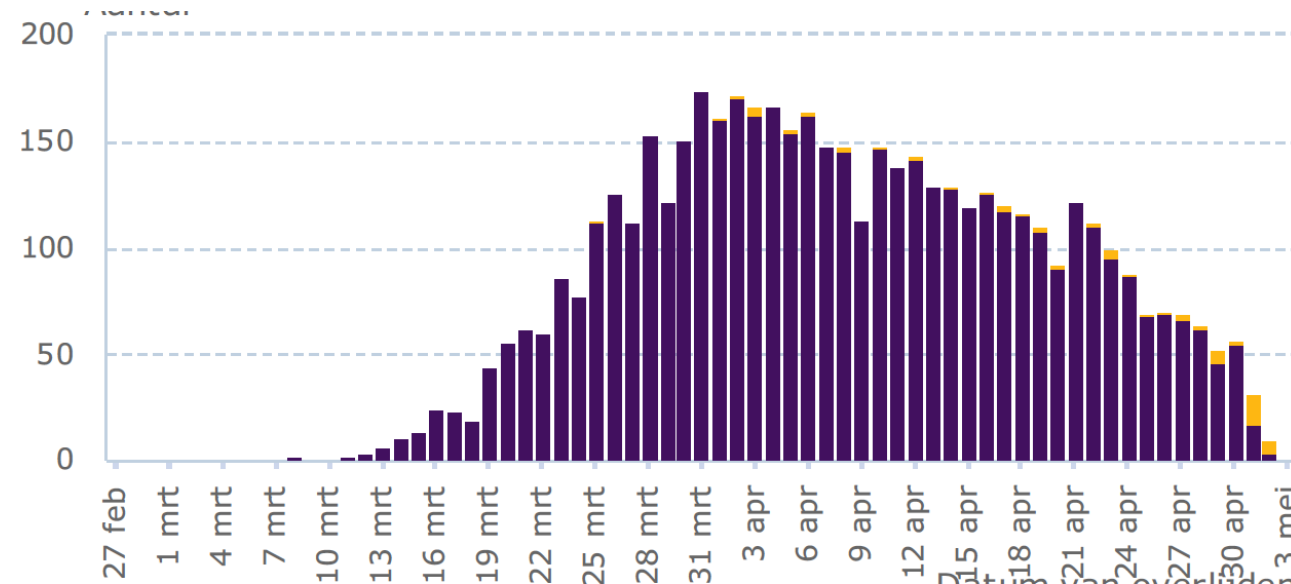
Chair of the National Dementia
Plan



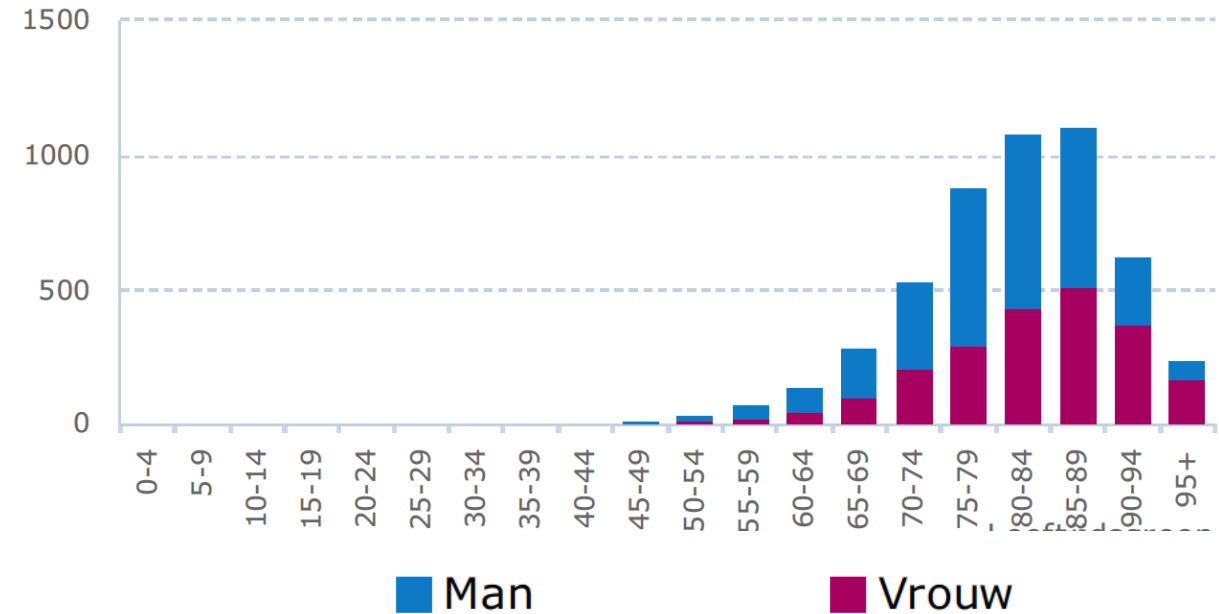
@AlzDisInt

#ADlwebinar

Covid hit the NL as well




Amount of deaths per day

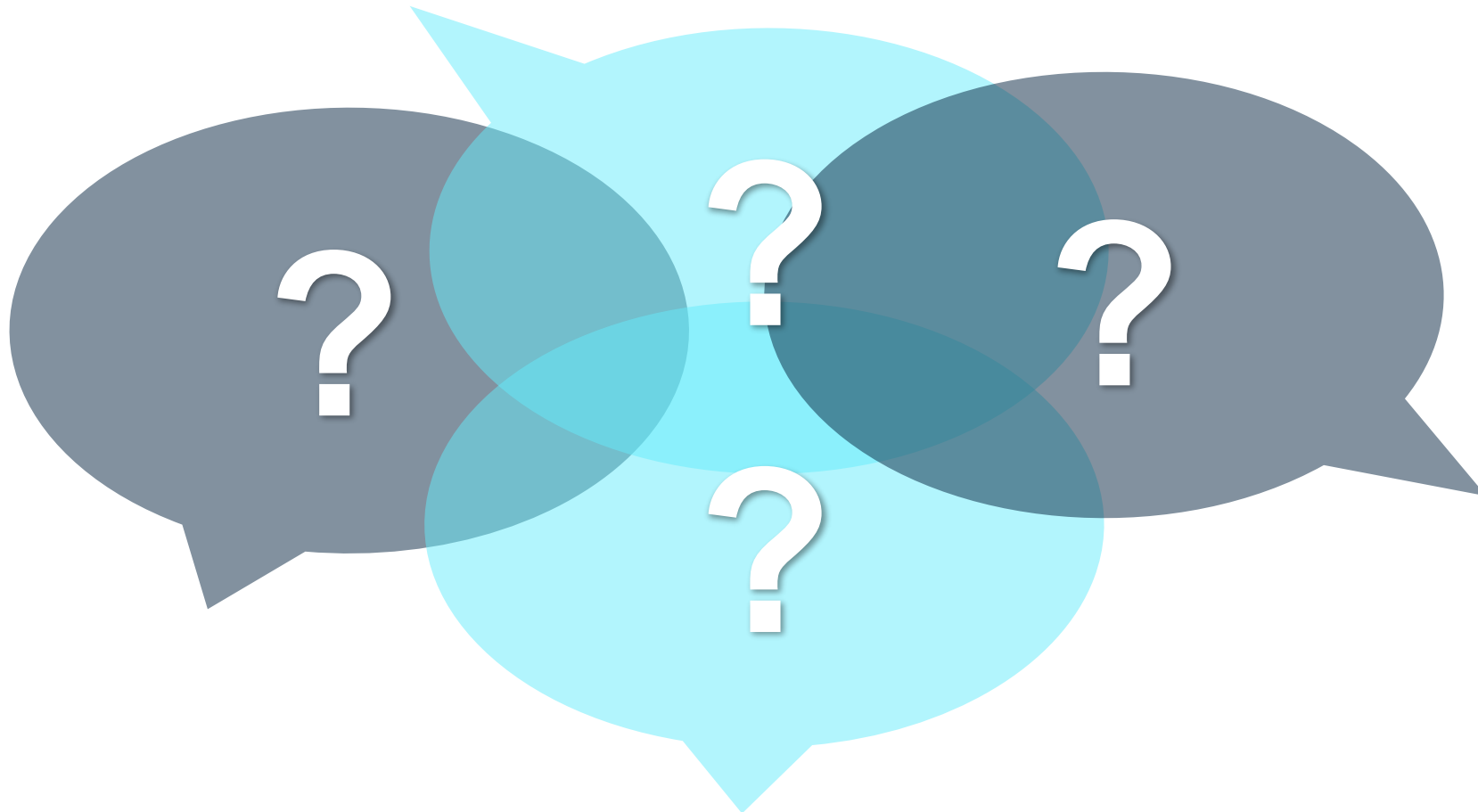


Deaths ranked on age and gender

Consequences for dementia patients

- Closure of all daycare facilities
 - Lockdown forces patients to stay in
 - Nursing homes closed for visitors
 - Increased death rates in nursing homes; staff under pressure
 - Almost complete shut down of outpatient physical visits; decrease in diagnostic activities; longer waiting lists; increase anxiety in families
 - Almost complete switch to telemedicine; positive feedback in >90%; patients afraid to come even if possible
 - From May 4 gradual upscaling back to 25-50% of historical production
- 
- increase in caregiver burden

Question and answer



@AlzDisInt
#ADlwebinar

Theme 3



Theme 4

Impact of COVID-19 on the biopharmaceutical industry

- 1. Halting of clinical trials***
- 2. Development of vaccinations for COVID-19***

David Jefferys

IFPMA Regulatory and Scientific
Committee Chair

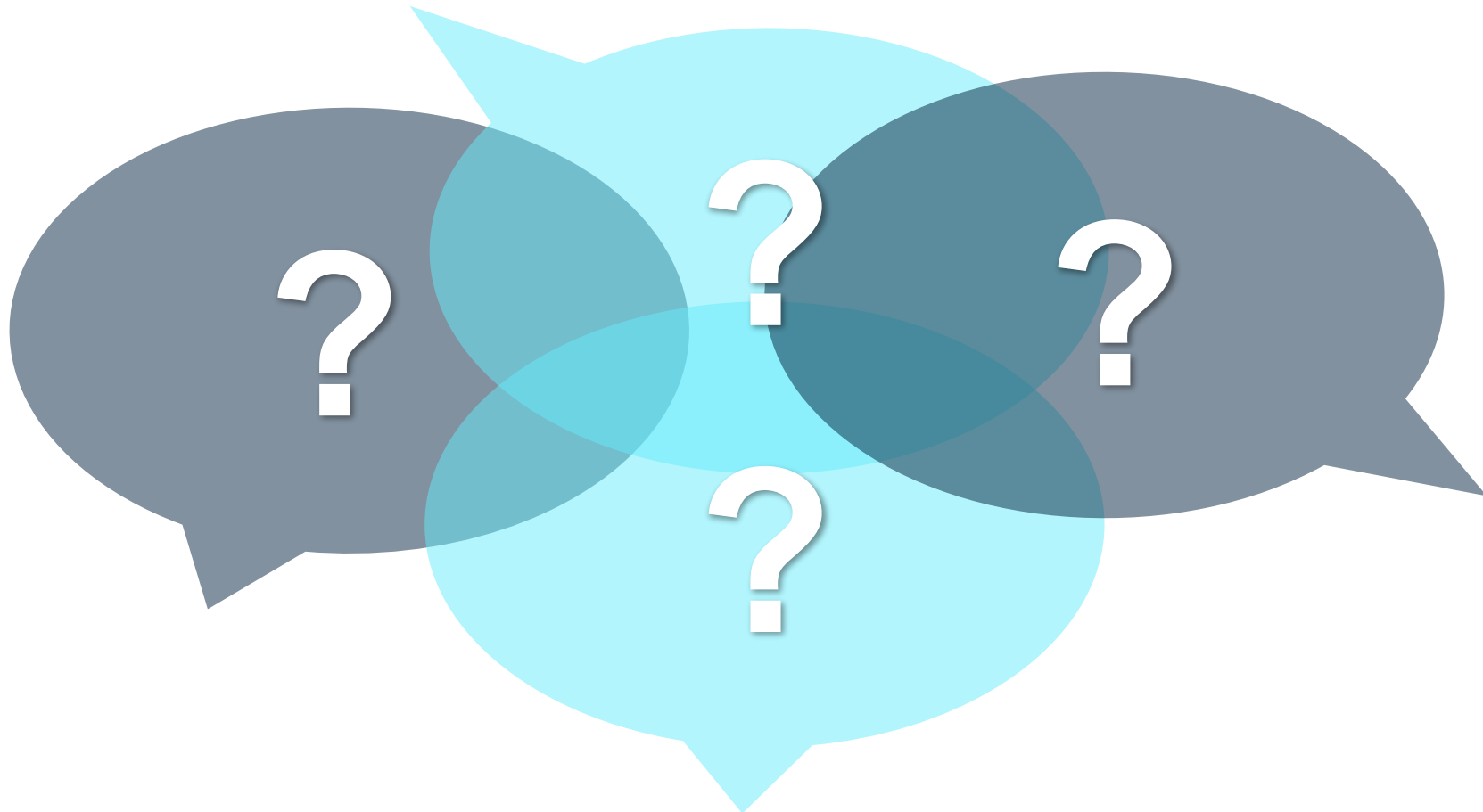
Senior Vice President for Global
Regulatory, Healthcare Policy and
Corporate Affairs, Eisai Europe



@AlzDisInt

#ADlwebinar

Question and answer



@AlzDisInt
#ADlwebinar

Theme 4

Closing discussion



Paola Barbarino

Chief Executive, ADI



Dr Serge Gauthier

Director, Alzheimer's Disease Research
Unit at McGill Center for Studies in Aging

Closing discussion

Examples of the impact of COVID-19

Clinical care

- Telehealth follow-up rather than hospital visits after the initial diagnostic assessment
- Blood tests such as ptau181 to screen for AD pathology
- Increase in caregiver education on line
- Increase use of advance directives about management in later stages
- More home care, less nursing homes

Clinical research

- Cognitive assessments done on line
- Follow-up using phone and on line
- Experimental medications sent home
- Cognitive and physical stimulation modules done online

Epidemiology

- Increased deaths in later stages of dementia may change prevalence figures
- Role of dementia as a specific factor in deaths from infections need clarification
- Shifts from long term institutional care to home care will change costs estimates



Poll

Where do we go from here?

ADI Emergency Appeal



**During this COVID-19 emergency period
please make a donation, however large or small,
to ensure we can continue to make a real difference.**

**ADI will continue to help people living with dementia
and their carers to live a better life during this emergency.**

DONATE NOW

<https://www.alz.co.uk/donate>



**Alzheimer's Disease
International**

The global voice on dementia

THANK YOU.



Follow ADI on Twitter and Instagram @AlzDisInt | Like us on Facebook /alzheimersdiseaseinternational

Visit our website: www.alz.co.uk