

elderly vascular geriatrics  
Alzheimer's environment  
cognition early onset  
fronto-temporal research  
memory old age  
dementia  
lewy bodies support



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Community and Mental Health Services

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## Cochrane Clinical Answers

[In people with dementia, does music-based therapy improve outcomes?](#) This paper looked at evidence in which people with dementia received music therapy for a minimum of six sessions given over sixteen weeks. The study found that this resulted in small improvements in symptoms of depression, overall behavior problems, emotional well-being (including quality of life), anxiety, and social behaviour, but had little or no effect on agitation/aggression or cognition at the end of treatment. Music therapy had little or no effect on all longer-term outcomes measured at four or more weeks after the end of treatment.

[What are the effects of pharmacological interventions for apathy in adults with Alzheimer's disease?](#) Cochrane Clinical Answers found that In adults with Alzheimer's disease (AD), evidence suggests that cholinesterase inhibitors, atypical antipsychotics, or methylphenidate may result in minor improvements in apathy compared with placebo. Mibampator and antidepressants may also lead to a modest reduction in apathy. Semagacestat seems to result in worse apathy than placebo, but the effect was too small to be clinically significant. RCTs assessing other interventions found no clear differences between groups, but sample sizes were very small. However all the available evidence was of low certainty and analyses included few participants; therefore no firm conclusions can be drawn.

[How does donepezil 10 mg per day compare with placebo for adults with Alzheimer's disease?](#) Cochrane clinical answers examined the evidence and found compared with placebo adults with mild, moderate or severe Alzheimer's disease demonstrated better cognitive function at 24-26 weeks on 10mg/d donepezil. However by 24-26 weeks more people experienced an adverse event and withdrew from treatment with donepezil than with the placebo.

## Resource

[New resource launched to improve dementia care](#) [Managing Success in Dementia](#) is a resource commissioned by Health Education England (HEE) and developed by Skills for Care, Skills for Health and Leeds Beckett University to support leaders and managers working across health and social care to implement the training outcomes of the [Dementia Training Standards Framework](#) - in particular those responsible for implementing training at [Tier 2](#) level. Tier 2 training provides additional skills and knowledge for people who regularly work directly with people living with dementia.

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