

# Dementia Care Pathway

This care pathway will provide you suggestions on workflow with quick links to the relevant assessment tools and resources

## QUICK LINKS

↓ Patient Visits

↓ Patient Info

↓ Patient Services

↓ Medication

↓ Billing

## ASSESSMENT TOOLS

[Alzheimer's Questionnaire](#)

[Clock Drawing Test](#)

[MOCA](#)

[SMMSE](#)

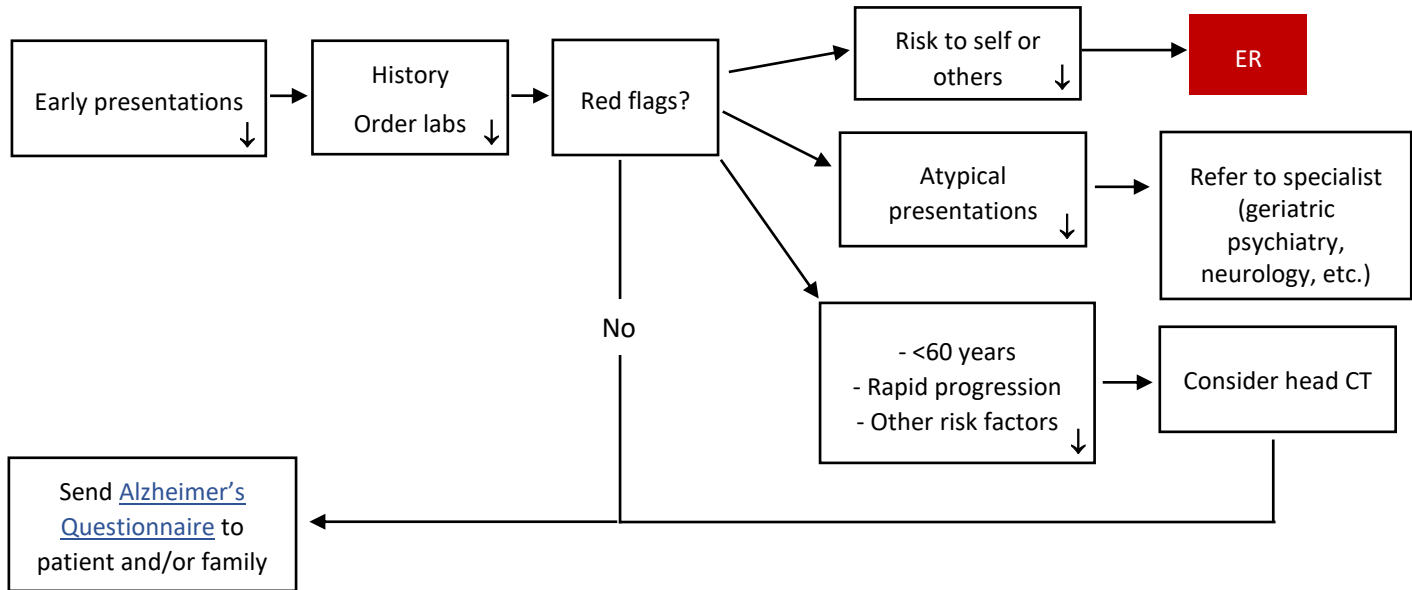
[RUDAS](#)

[Mini-COG](#)

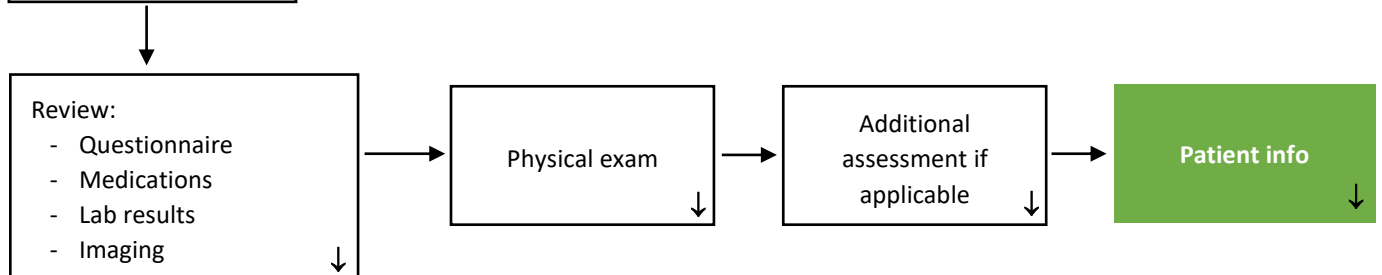
[Blind MOCA](#)

## ↓ Patient Visits Workflow

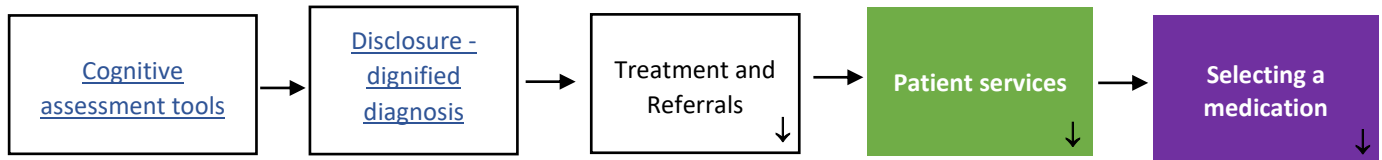
### 1<sup>ST</sup> VISIT



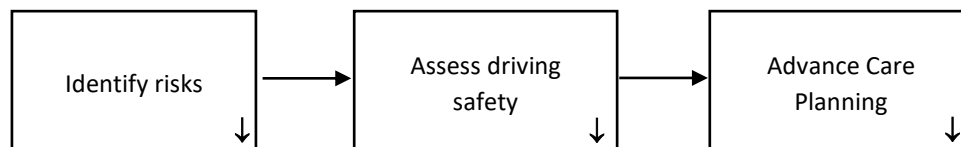
### BEFORE 2<sup>ND</sup> VISIT



### 2<sup>ND</sup> VISIT



### 3<sup>RD</sup> VISIT



### 4<sup>TH</sup> VISIT

## APPENDIX:

### 1st Visit


*Virtual or in person*

<b>Early Presentations</b>  <a href="#">Basic Screening Questionnaire (Alzheimer Society)</a>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Symptoms of cognitive impairment</b> such as:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Missed appointments</li> <li>Frequent or inappropriate calls to office</li> <li>Medication issues</li> <li>Repetitive in conversation</li> <li>Repeatedly misplacing items</li> <li>Unable to recall treatment instructions</li> <li>Defers to family members in answering questions</li> <li>Presents with signs of declined self-care</li> <li>Frequent visits to the emergency room</li> <li>Late life depression or anxiety</li> <li>Motor vehicle accidents</li> </ol> </li> <li><b>Areas of difficulty in ADLs/IADLs</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Obtain collateral history from family and caregivers</li> <li>Identify imminent safety concerns: car accidents, fire, flood, medication neglect</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
<b>Medical History</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Comorbidities</li> <li>Medication list (assess for polypharmacy)</li> <li>Substance use/smoking</li> <li>Education and employment history</li> <li>Family history</li> <li>Pain</li> <li>Psychiatry review</li> <li>Brain trauma</li> </ul>
<b>Lab Investigations</b>	Rule out secondary causes: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CBC, B12, UA, FBG, A1C, TSH, electrolytes, Albumin, Calcium, Creatinine/eGFR, ECG</li> <li>Other risk factors: liver enzymes, syphilis, HIV, drug toxicity levels (digoxin, phenytoin)</li> </ol>
<b>Red flags requiring the ER</b>	Risk to self or others
<b>Red flags consider head CT</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&lt;60 years</li> <li>Rapid progression or abrupt onset</li> <li>Recent head injury</li> <li>History of cancer (especially breast and lung)</li> <li>Suggestion of stroke</li> <li>Patient is on anticoagulation or has a bleeding disorder</li> <li>Urinary incontinence and gait disorder</li> </ul>
<b>Red flags to consider referral to specialist (geriatric psychiatry, neurology, etc.)</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Urinary incontinence, gait dysfunction               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider normal pressure hydrocephalus (NPH)</li> </ol> </li> <li>Rigidity bradykinesia, postural instability, tremor               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider Parkinson's Disease Dementia (PDD)</li> </ol> </li> <li>Early Falls, eye movement abnormalities               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider progressive Supranuclear Palsy (PSP)</li> </ol> </li> <li>Early psychosis and REM sleep disorders               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider Dementia with Lewy Bodies (DLB)</li> </ol> </li> </ol>









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## Before 2<sup>nd</sup> Visit

<b>Prepare for 2<sup>nd</sup> Visit</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Send the <a href="#">Alzheimer's Questionnaire</a> to the family – click  to email to patients</li> <li>Ask patient to bring family member to next appointment</li> </ul>
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## 2<sup>nd</sup> Visit In person

<b>Review the <a href="#">Alzheimer's Questionnaire</a> and get insight from family member</b>	
<b>Review labs, imaging and medication review</b>	
 Rule out medication side effects like benzodiazepines or <a href="#">anticholinergic medications</a> that can cause confusion	
<b>Physical Exam</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rule out visual or hearing defects</li> <li>Any neurological signs, consider referral to <a href="#">neurologist</a>  (i.e. neuro defects, gait issues, Parkinson's)</li> <li>Cardiovascular or cerebrovascular disease</li> </ul>
<b>Additional Assessments if Applicable</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Geriatric Depression Scale</a>   <a href="#">Depression care pathway tool</a> </li> <li><a href="#">Cornell Depression Scale for Dementia</a></li> <li><a href="#">Delirium assessment tools</a></li> <li>Alcohol dependence</li> <li>Adverse drug effects and polypharmacy (narcotics, benzodiazepine's, HS sedation) ⇒ Consider referral to a <b>PCN Pharmacist</b>    <a href="#">Click here</a> for a list in your region</li> <li>Co-morbid disease (including sleep apnea)</li> <li><a href="#">Anticholinergic burden calculator</a></li> </ul>
<b>Patient Information</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Mild Cognitive Impairment Handout – Alzheimer Society</a>   Click  to email</li> <li><a href="#">Lifestyle Factors to Reduce Risk (Short)</a>   Click  to email</li> </ul>

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Visit In Person

<b>Cognitive Assessment Tools</b>	 <a href="#">Click here for the full list</a> of assessment tools on Pathways <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Clock Drawing Test</a></li> <li><a href="#">MOCA</a> - Use the <a href="#">Alternative Versions</a> of the MOCA if administered repetitively</li> <li><a href="#">SMMSE</a></li> <li><a href="#">Mini-COG</a></li> <li><a href="#">RUDAS</a> – For language, cultural or education barriers</li> <li><a href="#">Blind MOCA</a> – Verbal only, for virtual assessments</li> </ul>
<b>Dignified Diagnosis</b>	<a href="#">Tips on disclosing to patients – Alzheimer Society</a>
<b>Treatment &amp; Referrals</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refer to <a href="#">GPAC Diagnosis and Management Guidelines</a></li> <li>Refer to the available <a href="#">Patient Services</a> ↓</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Selecting a Medication Table</a> ↓</li> </ul>
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## 4<sup>th</sup> Visit

*Virtual or in person*


<b>Identify Risks</b>	<b>Patient Information:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Dementia Risk Factors and How to Reduce Risk (Long)</a>   Click  to email</li> <li>• <a href="#">Understanding Wandering - Video</a>   Click  to email</li> </ul>
<b>Assess Driving Safety</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Reporting Unfit Drivers Algorithm</a> - RoadSafetyBC</li> <li>• Make a report to RoadSafetyBC for assessment/cancellation using this form <a href="#">here</a></li> <li>• You may be requested for further information including filling out a <a href="#">DMER</a> (Driver's Medical Examination Report)</li> <li>• Patient Handout: <a href="#">Dementia and Driving</a>   Click  to email</li> </ul>
<b>Advance Care Planning</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advance Care Planning   <a href="#">Care pathway tool</a> </li> <li>• <a href="#">Serious Illness Conversation Guide</a></li> </ul>

<i>i</i> Patient Info <a href="#">Click for List of ALL Pathways Available Dementia Patient Info</a>			
Initial Diagnosis Info	Email	Risk Management Info	Email
<a href="#">Dementia - Getting a Diagnosis</a>		<a href="#">Dementia and Driving</a>	
<a href="#">Dementia – Patient and Caregiver Guide</a>		<a href="#">General Overview – Locating Devices for Wandering</a>	
<a href="#">Video – Understanding Alzheimer's</a>		<a href="#">Understanding Wandering - Video</a>	
<a href="#">Video – 5 Things to Avoid When Caring for Persons with Dementia</a>		<a href="#">Lifestyle Factors to Reduce Risk (Short)</a>	
		<b>Email all of the above together</b>	
		<a href="#">Dementia Risk Factors and How to Reduce Risk (Long)</a>	
		<a href="#">GPS Locater Devices – Cost and Review</a>	

<i>i</i> Patient Services <a href="#">Click for a list of ALL Pathways Available Dementia Services</a>		
	Email	Referral Forms
<a href="#">Caregivers Support Network - Personalized Dementia Solutions Inc.</a> 1:1 support for family caregivers		
<b>Alzheimer's Society of BC</b> – list of all services available <a href="#">here</a> ⇒ <a href="#">First Link Helpline</a> – Provides access to services and supports for dementia ⇒ <a href="#">Minds in Motion</a> – Exercise Program	 	<a href="#">PDF</a>



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 Medication <a href="#">Click here for more details from BC Guidelines</a>			
Class	Selected Agents	Coverage	Contraindications
AcetylCholinesterase Inhibitors	Donepezil 10 mg/day Start 5mg or 2.5mg	<a href="#">Special Authority Request Form – Donepezil, Galantamine, Rivastigmine</a>	- Avoid use in patients with <b>cardiac conduction abnormalities</b> (except RBBB), such as sick sinus syndrome, bradycardia, AV block, or unexplained syncope.  - Use cautiously in patients with obstructive urinary disease, asthma, seizures disorder or those at risk of upper GI bleeds
	Galantamine ER 16-24mg/day Start 8mg		
	Rivastigmine 10mg bid Start 2.5 BID		
	Rivastigmine Patch 5mg or 10mg or 15mg	No coverage	
Memantine		No coverage	

\$ Billing		
<b>KEY POINT</b> <b>Ensure you have read all the fee details of any fee before billing it.</b> Click on the <a href="#">blue links</a> below to read the full fee descriptions on the <a href="#">BC Family Doctors website</a> . <a href="#">(Membership required for log in)</a>		
Code	Description	Value
14043	<b>Mental Health Planning Fee</b> This fee is payable upon the completion and documentation of a Care Plan (as defined in the GPSC Preamble) in the patient's chart for patients with a confirmed eligible mental health diagnosis when the effect on the patient is significant enough to warrant the development of a Care Plan. Neurocognitive disorders such as dementia are eligible. <i>Read the details on the BC Family Doctors website <a href="#">here</a> (log in required)</i>	≈\$100.00
14077	<b>FP Conference with Allied Care Provider and/or Physician</b> Per 15 minutes or greater portion thereof, documentation of time and care plan required <i>Read the details <a href="#">here</a></i>	≈\$40.00
14067	<b>FP Brief Clinical Conference with Allied Care Provider and/or Physician</b> Less than 8 minutes, no time documentation required <i>Read the details <a href="#">here</a></i>	≈\$18.00
14075	<b>Annual Complex Care Planning &amp; Management Fee - Frailty</b>	≈\$315.00

	14075 is payment for developing a care plan and managing the conditions of patients of any age who require assistance with instrumental (IADL) and non-instrumental (NIADL) activities of daily living. <i>Read the details <a href="#">here</a></i>			
Age	<a href="#">00120 Counselling</a> (in office) <a href="#">13*38 Telehealth Counselling</a> <i>Max 4x/yr/patient any combo of above</i>	<a href="#">1404* MH Management</a> <i>Use once 4 x00120 series and/or telehealth counselling is used up</i>	Value	
2-49	<b>00120</b> or for telehealth <b>T13438</b>	<b>14044</b>	\$56.41	
50-59	<b>15320</b> or for telehealth <b>T13538</b>	<b>14045</b>	\$62.05	
60-69	<b>16120</b> or for telehealth <b>T13638</b>	<b>14046</b>	\$64.86	
70-79	<b>17120</b> or for telehealth <b>T13738</b>	<b>14047</b>	\$73.32	
80+	<b>18120</b> or for telehealth <b>T13838</b>	<b>14048</b>	\$84.60	

#### Sources:

- [Fraser Health Pathway for Recognition, Diagnosis, and Management of Early Dementia in Primary Care, 2018](#)
- [Centre for Effective Practice resource - Use of Antipsychotics in BPSD Discussion Guide, 2016](#)
- [Cognitive Impairment GPAC Guidelines, 2016](#)

*Draft of the Dementia Care Pathway created by the Geriatric Psychiatry Committee at the Fraser Northwest Division of Family Practice*

