

Determining Clinical Suspicion of Alzheimer's Disease (AD)



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Early AD:

Early AD includes mild cognitive impairment and mild dementia due to AD pathology



Mild Cognitive Impairment:

Characterized by cognitive impairment that **does not affect function**



Mild Dementia:

Characterized by cognitive impairment that **causes mild functional impairment**



Individuals with **early AD dementia** may be eligible **for amyloid-lowering treatments**

AD-Related Symptoms:

AD-related symptoms include consistent and progressive forgetfulness and other cognitive changes



Consistent and progressive forgetfulness



Other cognitive changes that represents a clear decline from past function



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AD biomarkers:

AD biomarkers reflect AD pathology



A biomarker is a measure of biological processes

Biomarker is short for **biological marker**



Biomarkers can detect:

- Normal or pathological processes
- Responses to pharmacological intervention



AD biomarkers measure aspects of AD pathology:

Certain proteins in the blood & Cerebrospinal fluid characterize hallmark pathological processes of AD

Biomarker testing:

Biomarker testing may be performed following an initial workup if a clinician suspects a patient has symptoms caused by AD pathology



If a clinician/healthcare provider suspects a patient has symptoms caused by AD:

- Based on a history of **functional decline** AND
- After a **work-up** including a **cognitive assessment**



Then biomarker testing may be performed to determine whether the patient has AD pathology