



Five Stages of Alzheimer's

Asymptomatic

At the earliest end of the continuum are asymptomatic (i.e., without symptoms). This means that they may have biological changes of the disease in their brain but do not show any cognitive symptoms.

Mild cognitive impairment (MCI) due to Alzheimer's

Mild cognitive impairment (MCI) is an early stage of memory loss or other loss of cognitive ability in individuals who can still independently perform activities of daily living. MCI can develop for multiple reasons, and some individuals living with MCI may go on to develop dementia while others will not. MCI can be an early stage of Alzheimer's disease if hallmark changes in the brain, such as beta-amyloid buildup, are present.

Mild dementia due to Alzheimer's disease (early)

If hallmark changes in the brain are present, the person may progress into dementia due to Alzheimer's disease. A person with mild dementia due to Alzheimer's (sometimes referred to as the early stage) will typically start to experience symptoms that interfere with some daily activities.

Moderate dementia due to Alzheimer's disease (middle)

For those with moderate dementia due to Alzheimer's disease (sometimes referred to as the middle stage), biological changes in the brain continue to progress, and symptoms are more pronounced and will interfere with many of the person's daily activities. This is typically the longest stage of the disease and can last for many years.

Severe dementia due to Alzheimer's disease (late)

In this stage (sometimes referred to as the late stage), biological changes in the brain continue to progress. Symptoms are severe and will interfere with most daily activities. People in this stage lose the ability to carry on a conversation, respond to the environment, and, eventually, control movement. Assistance or supervision is required to complete most daily personal care.

