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Chartered Insurance Institute

# The Insurance Institute of London

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# DEMENTIA: HOW CAN WE INSURE OUR FUTURES?

In partnership with

Insurance  
**united  
against  
dementia**



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Standards. Professionalism. Trust.

Thursday 05  
October 2017

# Dementia research and why it matters

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Diane Hanger

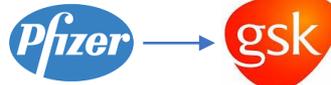
King's College London  
Denmark Hill Campus



# My research story

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Pharmaceutical industry research



GlaxoSmithKline

PhD



Dementia research

Postdoctoral fellow



Independent Research Fellowship



Senior Lecturer



Reader  
Professor



# Who does dementia affect?

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**850,000** people living  
with dementia in the UK

Predicted to increase to  
**1,000,000** people  
with dementia by 2021

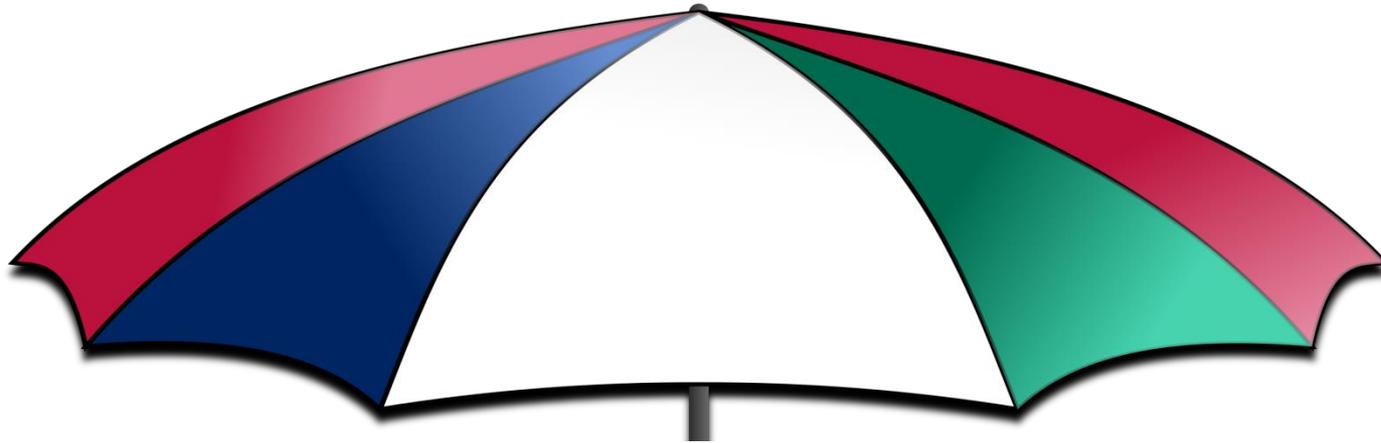
**1 in 3 people** have a friend  
or family member with dementia

**700,000** informal carers

**£26 billion/year**  
cost of dementia  
to the UK economy

# What is dementia?

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More than 50 different conditions can cause dementia:

Alzheimer's disease (>50% of all dementia)

Vascular dementia

Dementia with Lewy bodies

Frontotemporal dementia

Motor neuron disease

Parkinson's disease

Huntington's disease

Creutzfeldt-Jacob disease

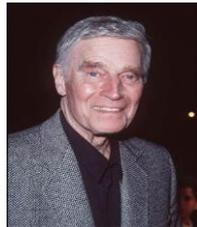
# What is dementia and who is affected?



James "Scotty" Doohan



Prunella Scales



Charlton Heston



Rita Hayworth



Terry Pratchett



Iris Murdoch



Harold Wilson



Enid Blyton



Ronald Reagan

**Dementia doesn't discriminate**  
**Dementia is caused by disease of the brain**  
**Dementia results in loss of nerve cells**  
**Dementia is not a normal part of ageing**

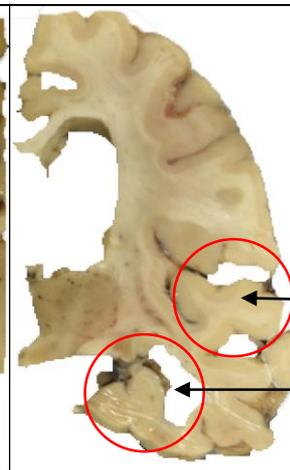
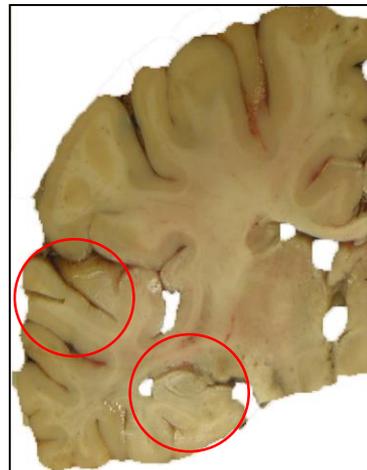
# Brain changes in dementia

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Healthy



Dementia

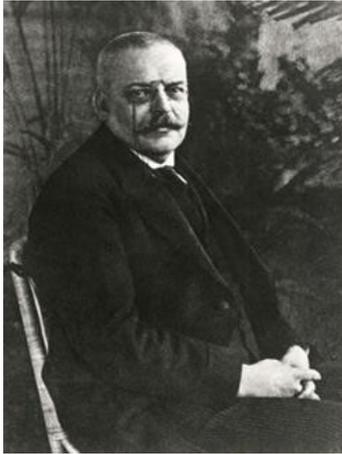


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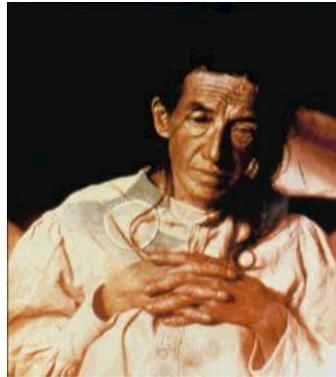
Memory

**There are no cures for dementia and  
no effective disease modifying treatments**

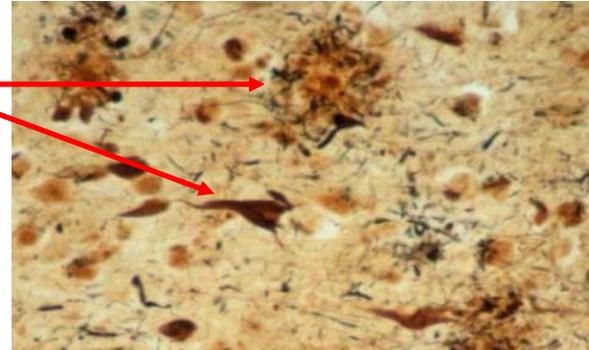
# Microscopic changes in the brain



Alois Alzheimer 1906



Auguste Deter



Brain slice

Plaque  
- **Amyloid**

Tangle  
- **Tau**

**Tau**



Abnormal tau can damage  
nerve cells

We need more research to  
discover why this happens

# What needs to be done?

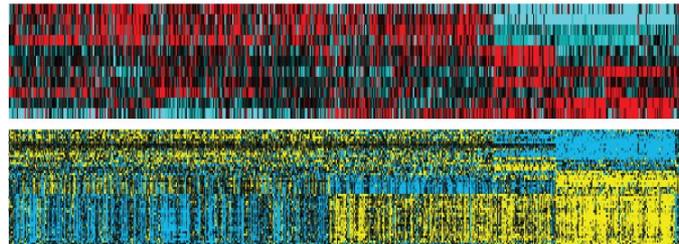
## Understand disease mechanisms

How are nerve cells damaged?  
New drug targets are urgently needed



## New biomarkers

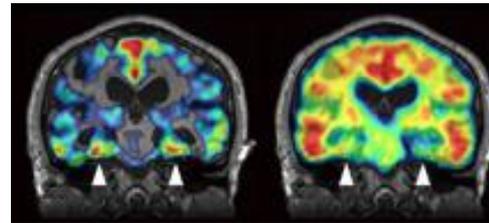
To measure disease progression  
and effects of drugs



Recognising  
disease  
patterns

## New diagnostic tests

For early diagnosis and treatment



## Drug discovery

To identify new treatments  
that stop disease progression



**Many drugs have failed in clinical trials  
More research is needed to find effective treatments**

# Investing in dementia research

Pharmaceutical industry research



GlaxoSmithKline

PhD



Dementia research

Postdoctoral fellow



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Independent Research Fellowship



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Senior Lecturer



Reader

Professor



What's next?

**Find out more:**

**[alzheimers.org.uk/iuad](https://alzheimers.org.uk/iuad)**

**[iuad@alzheimers.org.uk](mailto:iuad@alzheimers.org.uk)**

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