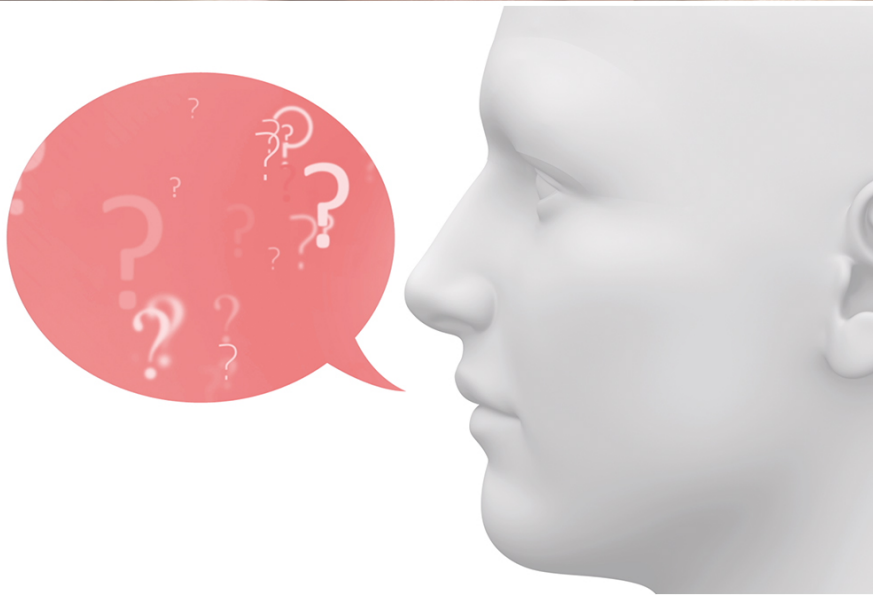




Dementia



Overview

This brain problem affects things like thinking, memory and language. It makes it hard for you to do simple daily tasks. It may also make it hard for you to control your emotions.

Causes

What causes dementia? In some people, it's linked to a buildup of abnormal proteins in the brain, like those that cause Alzheimer's disease. Dementia may be from other changes in the brain, too. It's linked to brain disease or injury. It's also linked to problems with your brain's blood supply. For example, you could develop dementia after a stroke.

Risk Factors

Your risk for dementia gets higher as you age. Your risk is higher if you're a smoker, or if you drink too much alcohol. High blood pressure raises your risk. You have a higher risk if you have diabetes that isn't under control. And, you have a higher risk if dementia runs in your family.

Symptoms

What are the symptoms? Well, they can be different for different people. You may find yourself forgetting the names of friends and loved ones. Old memories may fade. You may have trouble finding the right words as you speak. You may start to get lost in familiar places. The symptoms of dementia can start gradually, but eventually you may need help with everyday tasks.

Treatment

How do we treat dementia? There is no cure, but we can help slow down its progression. We can manage your symptoms with medications and various types of therapy. We may recommend lifestyle changes to keep you safe and healthy. Your doctor will create a plan that's right for you.