



# Welcome to the 2024 Ballina Dementia Symposium

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# Today we aim to enhance and provide a holistic approach to Dementia



- Risk Factors
- Impact of Ageing and Head Injuries
- The impact of ageing for Aboriginal & Torres Strait people  
GP roles with Dementia  
Diagnosis
- Managing Co Morbidities
- Environmental factors contributing to Dementia
- Ongoing cognition health

# What is important to people suffering from Dementia and their Carers

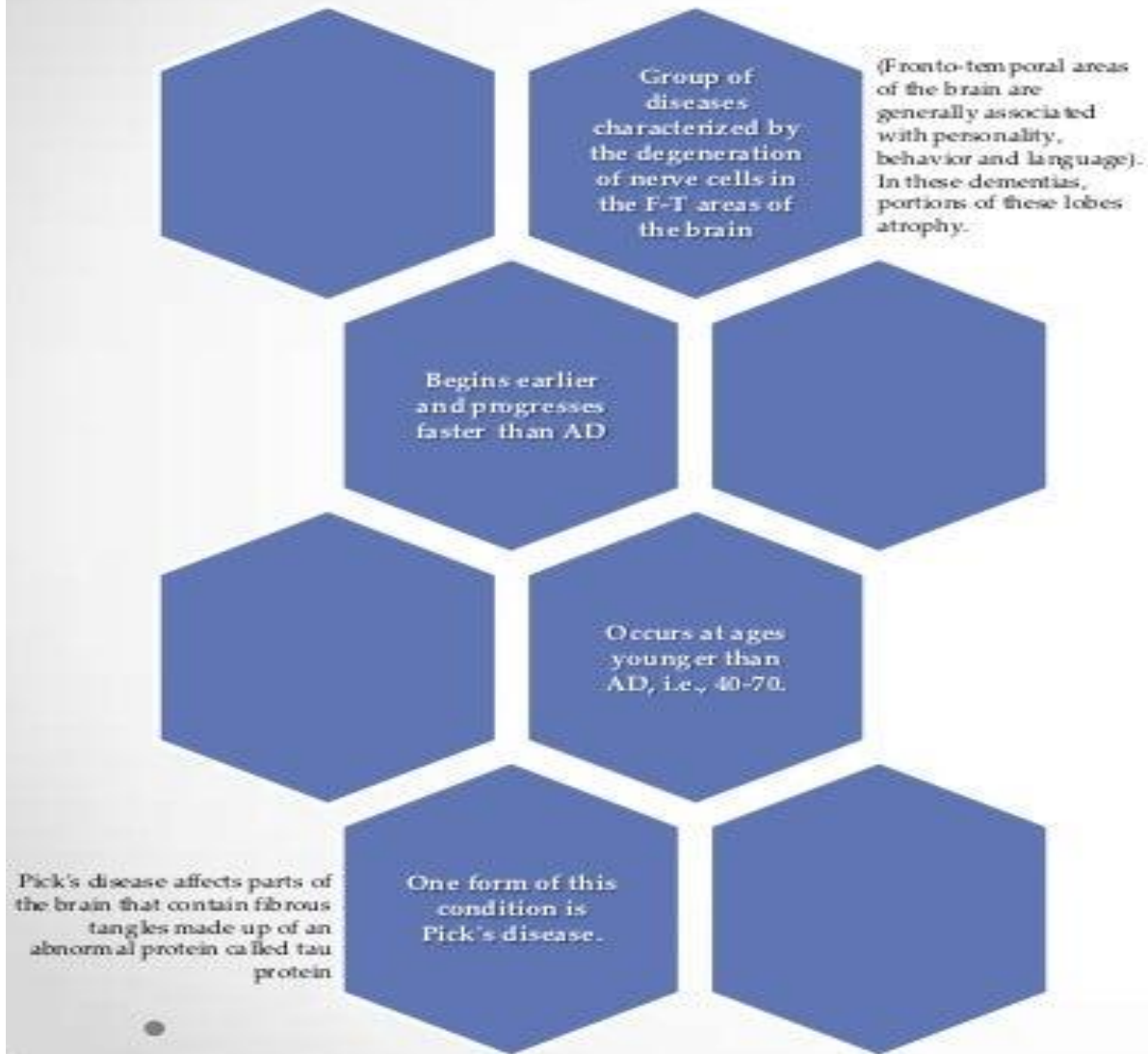
Both Chris and I have been invited to provide an insight into the real world in what happens to a relationship and persons living with dementia.

We hope our experience can be related to the information that will be presented today.





# FRONTOTEMPORAL DEMENTIA



## CAUSES:

- Unknown
- Possible genetic mutations.

## ASSOCIATED SYMPTOMS:

- socially inappropriate behaviors
- loss of mental flexibility
- decline in personal hygiene
- language problems, and
- movement disorders
- difficulty with concentration and thinking.

## TREATMENT:

- Irreversible dementing process
- Agitated symptoms respond to antipsychotic meds
- Compulsive symptoms respond to SSRIs (antidepressants)
- Some patients also benefit from ADHD meds to stimulate frontal lobe function
- Behavioral interventions may be effective to encourage behavioral control whenever possible

# What is important to Chris and I and others suffering with Dementia !

- ❖ The importance of identifying young onset Dementia and provide more resources to look after younger patients
- ❖ Early Diagnosis
- ❖ Early intervention with family support
- ❖ Family role with Death planning, carer support, power of Attorney, enduring guardianship and documenting a will.
- ❖ Early coordination of services, NDIS that provides funding and a pathway forward....
- ❖ Need for funding for **DEMENTIA CARE NURSES**
- ❖ Understanding that we are living the dreaming and nightmare at the same time...
- ❖ More Education and awareness of Dementia.



# FACT CHECKS

- Myth , That Dementia is the part of Ageing .....It is a disease and can be stopped and treated like cancer....
- Dementia is the second leading cause of death in Australia second to Coronary Heart Disease. But soon to over take!
- Currently approximately 421,000 Australians live with Dementia and this will grow to over 820,000 by 2054.
- More than 1.6 million people in Australia are involved in the care with someone living with Dementia .
- **Also more money is spent on Boob jobs and Viagra medication than on Alzheimer's research . So by 2040 we will has a significant elderly population with perky breasts and rampant erections and having no idea WHY! Which is scary.**

I'm so Lucky to have the support from friend and family which is so important

But what happens to people that do not have the support and living with Dementia. They become revolving doors in our mental health and hospitals systems.....

I hope you enjoy your day and both Chris and I will be here all day. So please come and have a chat .













