



Navigating The Brain Health And Dementia Research Landscape In Canada: Findings From A Scoping Review

Juanita-Dawne Bacsu^{1,2}, Kiana Mero^{1,2}, Alixe Ménard^{3,1}, Megan E. O'Connell⁴, Wendy Hulko^{1,2}, Sheila Blackstock², Melba Sheila D'Souza^{1,2}, Marc Viger¹, Sarah Fraser³

¹Population Health and Aging Rural Research Centre, Canada, ²Thompson Rivers University, Canada, ³University of Ottawa, Canada, ⁴University of Saskatchewan, Canada

BACKGROUND

- Dementia is a critical public health issue, with nearly 487,000 Canadians aged 65 and older living with diagnosed dementia [1].
- In 2019, Canada's first national dementia strategy was published to accelerate progress in brain health and dementia [2].
- However, there is a dearth of literature describing the current research landscape and the evidence available to advance progress in these areas.

OBJECTIVES

- To map the existing brain health and dementia research in Canada to inform strategic investments to accelerate the field forward.

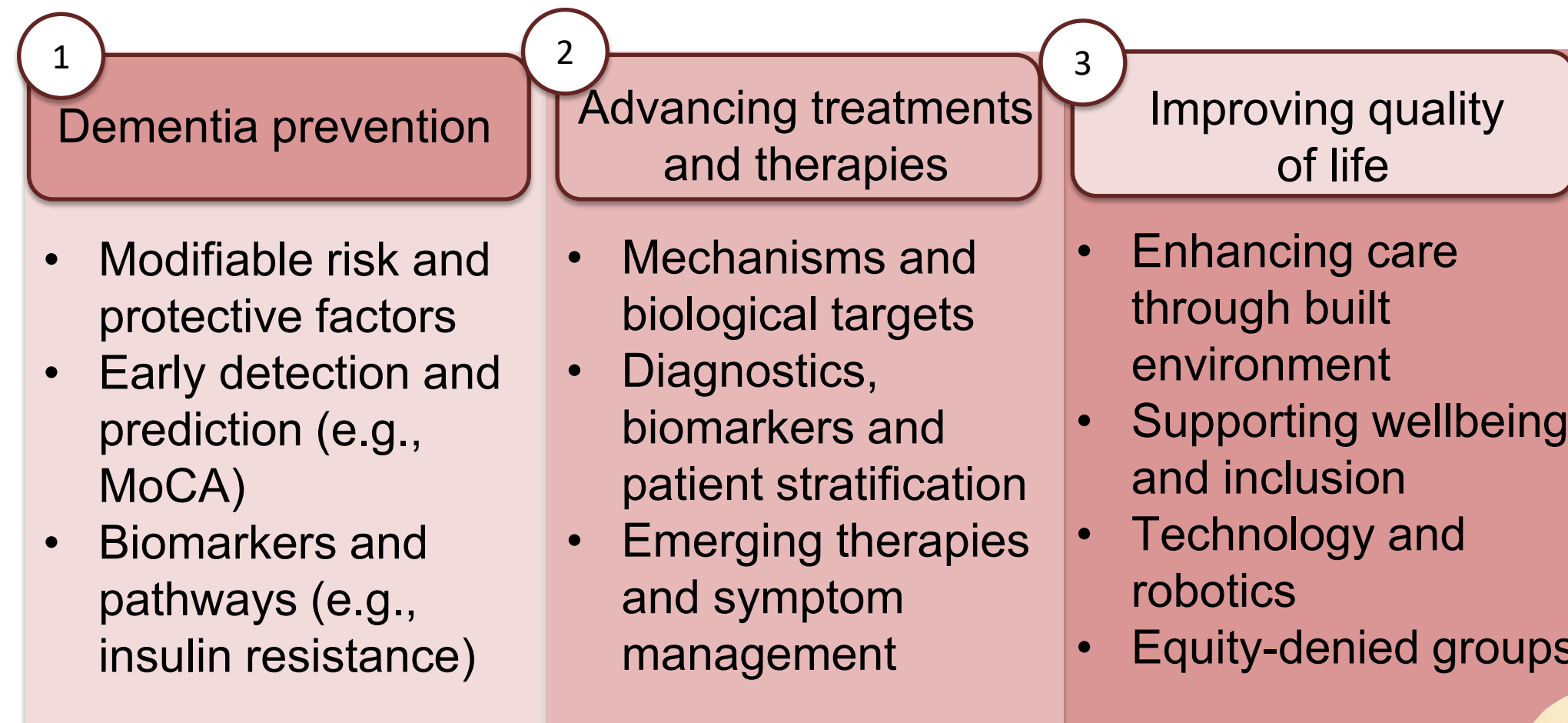


METHODOLOGY

- Due to the large number of studies, a scoping review of Canadian-led reviews was selected as the most relevant method because it enabled a comprehensive synthesis of nationally relevant research in Canada.
- Guided by Arksey and O'Malley's scoping review framework [3], we searched five databases including CINAHL, PubMed, PsycINFO, Scopus, and Web of Science for reviews published from 2020-2025.
- Our scoping review identified 7860 prospective articles, with 275 relevant reviews included in our analysis.

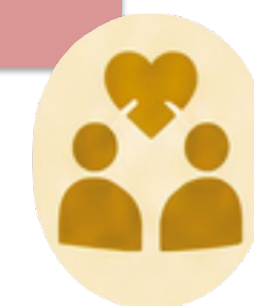
RESULTS

Drawing on the national dementia strategy's themes [2], findings were identified in three areas:



DISCUSSION

- Although substantial reviews exist, critical knowledge gaps remain fueled by factors such as insufficient participant diversity, limited collaboration efforts, and a lack of targeted implementation strategies to support research findings into action.
- Our study's findings shed light on crucial gaps and areas of innovation to drive Canada's dementia strategy forward.



References

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2. Public Health Agency of Canada. (2019). *A dementia strategy for Canada: Together we aspire*. Government of Canada. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/dementia/national-dementia-strategy.html>
3. Arksey, H. & O'Malley, L. (2005) Scoping studies: towards a methodological framework. *Journal of Social Research Methodology* 8, 19-32