

# How Does Diagnostic Subtype Affect The Quality Of Primary Care For People With Dementia?

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While patients with non-Alzheimer’s dementia subtypes often receive better access to care planning and medication reviews, they face a significantly higher likelihood of experiencing potentially inappropriate prescribing across compared to those with Alzheimer’s disease.

| INTRODUCTION                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | METHODS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | RESULTS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | CONCLUSIONS                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | REFERENCES                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
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| <p>This study investigated the association between <b>dementia diagnostic subtype</b> and the <b>likelihood of receiving guideline-consistent primary care</b>, addressing an underexplored determinant of inequity in dementia healthcare.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Study Design:</b> A retrospective cohort study using the Clinical Practice Research Datalink database (2006-2024)</li><li>• <b>Statistical Methodology:</b> Cox-regression models, adjusted for demographics and comorbidities, analysed eight dementia subtypes across six care quality indicators</li><li>• <b>Outcomes:</b> Care planning, medication review, and potentially inappropriate prescribing (PIP).</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Compared to those with AD, patients with mixed, vascular, Lewy-body and unspecified dementias were more likely to receive care plans and medication reviews.</li><li>• Conversely, people with non-AD subtypes had significantly higher risk of experiencing PIP across high-anticholinergics, anti-psychotics, z-drugs and benzodiazepines.</li></ul> | <p>These results reveal a significant disparity in care quality, suggesting that while non-AD patients receive better routine monitoring, they are more frequently exposed to potentially inappropriate medication regimens.</p> | <p>Morris, C., Mok, P. L. H., Robinson, L., Ashcroft, D. M., Blakeman, T., &amp; Kontopantelis, E. (2026). How does diagnostic subtype affect the quality of primary care for people with dementia? A retrospective cohort study in 1490 English general practices. <i>Age and Ageing</i>, 55(4), afag101.<br/><a href="https://doi.org/10.1093/ageing/afag101">https://doi.org/10.1093/ageing/afag101</a></p> <div></div> <div> <b>ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION</b>   <b>AAIC&gt;26</b></div> |