

Early Detection Of Alzheimer’s Disease: Investigator And Community Perspectives On Research, Recruitment, And Translational Barriers

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INTRODUCTION

- Early Alzheimer’s detection supports earlier intervention and management of symptoms.
- Advances in care planning, research, and decision-making require timely and informed access.
- Despite advances, many remain undiagnosed after severe neurodegeneration.
- This poster examines early detection and research recruitment from investigator and community perspectives.

METHODS

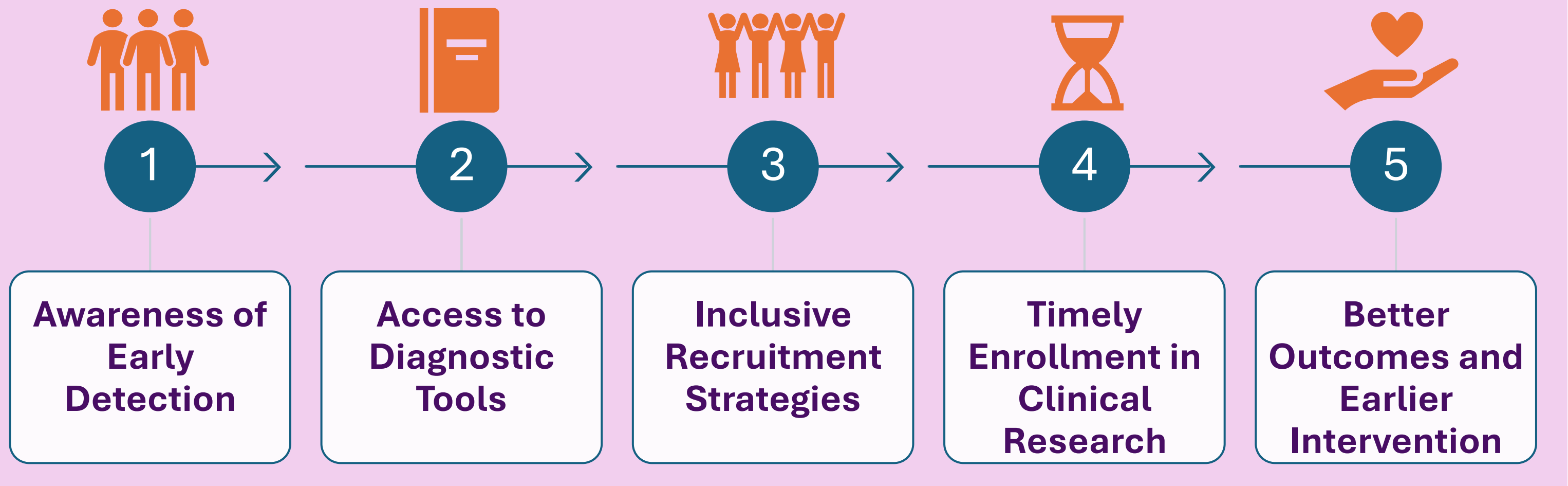
This work synthesizes findings from:

- Observational insights from investigator oversight of Alzheimer’s clinical research and recruitment activities.
- Community outreach and engagement efforts.

RESULTS

- Early-stage Alzheimer’s trial recruitment is hindered by limited awareness, stigma, female underrepresentation (awareness below 65%), and couples living together (Okamura et al., 2024).
- Early diagnosis improves affordability, access, and clinical outcomes.
- Our outreach and education coordinator had success in fighting against stigma and fear of testing by targeting caregivers who had at least one person in their family who had experienced dementia. These individuals were more likely to continue testing, especially when provided with free testing every 6 months, which supports early detection.

INVESTIGATOR & COMMUNITY PERSPECTIVES



BARRIERS TO EARLY DETECTION & RESEARCH RECRUITMENT

- Limited awareness
- Stigma
- Female underrepresentation (awareness below 65%)
- Couples living together are resistant to diagnosis
- Access and affordability challenges
- Delayed diagnosis reduces time for planning and intervention

SOLUTIONS & OPPORTUNITIES

- ✓ Expand community education and awareness
- ✓ Reduce stigma through targeted outreach
- ✓ Address gender and diversity gaps
- ✓ Support caregivers and couples
- ✓ Improve affordability and access
- ✓ Foster trust and transparency
- ✓ Enable earlier intervention, care planning, and research participation

ABBREVIATIONS

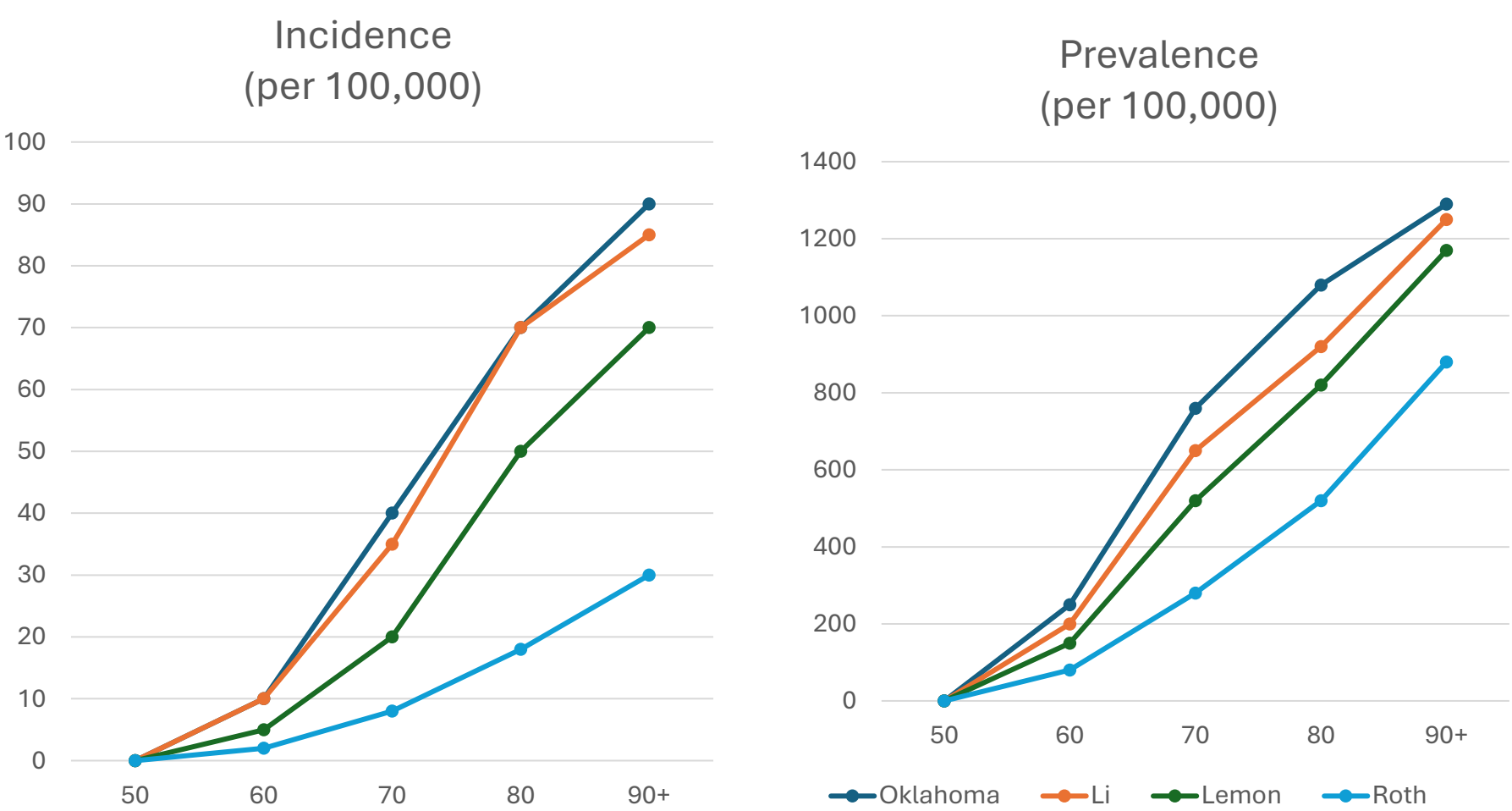
- **AD** = Alzheimer’s Disease
- **DX** = Diagnosis
- **MCI** = Mild Cognitive Impairment



KEY FINDINGS

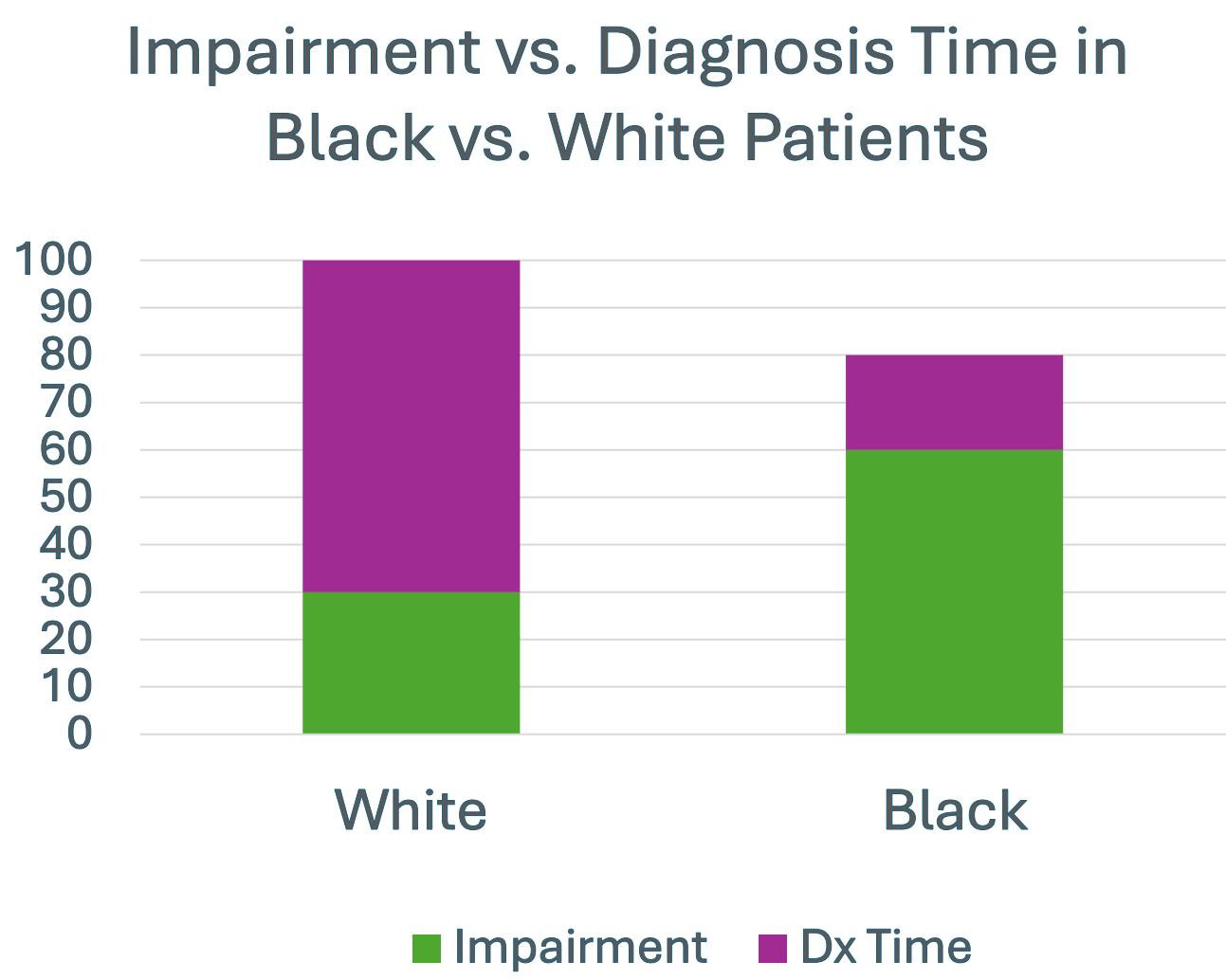
Alzheimer’s Disease is More Common Than Cancer in Older Adults

Globally, Alzheimer’s disease nearly doubles every five years after age 50-55, starting at 67, peaking at 85; consistent across countries (Major et al., 2026).



Diagnosis Often Occurs Late in Black Patients

Black patients are diagnosed approximately two years later than White patients (Roth et al., 2023).



CONCLUSIONS

- Progress in Alzheimer’s disease research remains constrained by delayed diagnosis, limited awareness, stigma, and gaps in access, affordability, and inclusion.
- Inclusive recruitment strategies and stronger integration of early detection into care can help bridge gaps between research and clinical practice.
- Earlier detection and engagement can improve patient outcomes and strengthen the impact of Alzheimer’s research.

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