Let's Chat About Thinking: Mild Cognitive Impairment

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Descriptions of FUNCTION

Normal Cognition

MILD COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENT

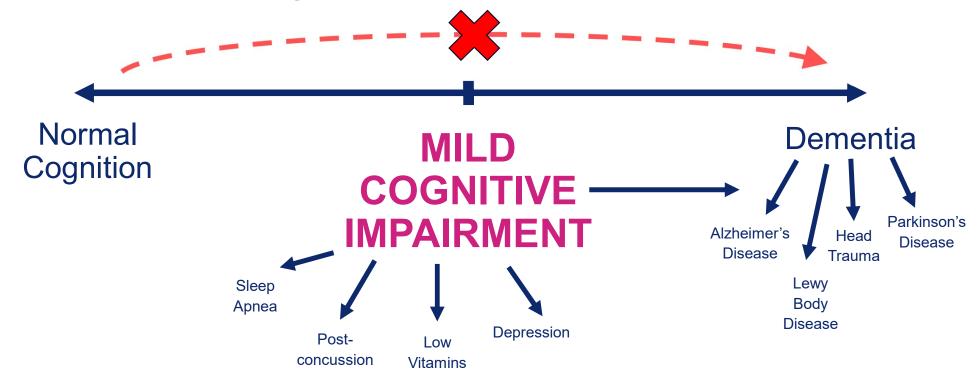
My brain has some cognitive change, but compensates and can survive on its own

Dementia

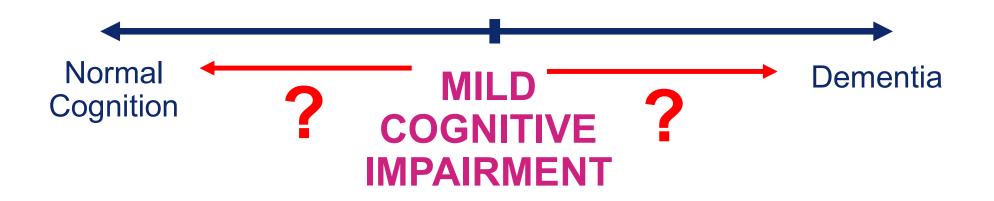
My brain needs help surviving independently



None of these words are DIAGNOSES! They can be caused by multiple different diseases.

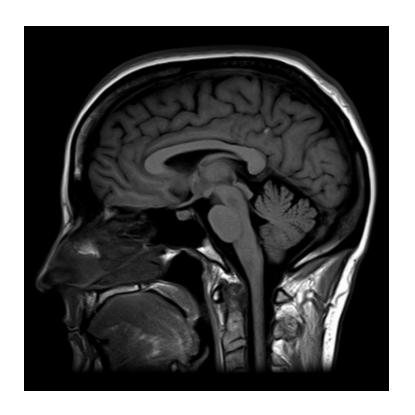


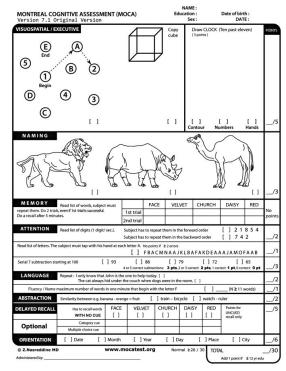
Sometimes mild cognitive impairment is the first stage of a disease that can progress to dementia, so always ask what is the cause of my MCI? Is it expected to improve?

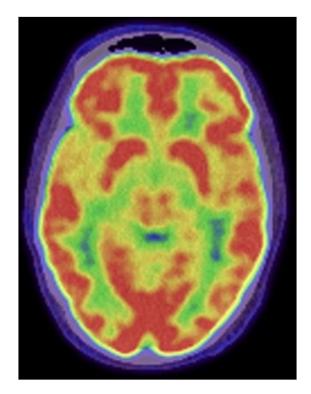




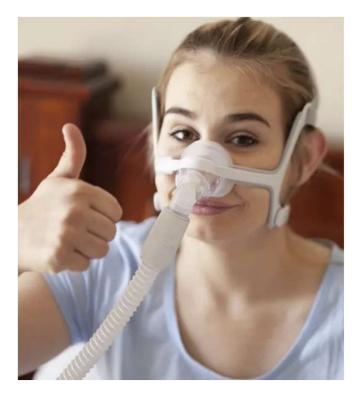
Doctors can use various tools to figure out the type of MCI you may have and predict if it may progress. Often there are overlapping variables.







Depending on the cause, we have therapies that can reverse MCI! In other cases, we have to focus very hard on preserving our brain health.







Here are the best ways to keep your brain healthy and treat your mild cognitive impairment:



- 1. Keep your body physically fit

 Aim for at least 30 minutes of daily moderate exercise
- 2. Eat nutritious brain healthy foods

 Low in processing, high in fruits, vegetables and
 antioxidants, MIND diet
- 3. Treat your medical risk factors

 Tight control of glucose, blood pressure, cholesterol
- 4. Get enough rest and sleep

 Aim for at least 7-8 hours of uninterrupted sleep, at night
- 5. Keep your brain sharp and engaged Find challenging tasks and hobbies that interest you
- 6. Keep socially connected

 Be part of a community, reduce stress, be happy

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