

What practice effects can tell us about diagnosis, prognosis, treatment recommendations, and cognitive resilience in late life cognitive disorders

DATE: SEPT 27, 2023 PRESENTED BY: KEVIN DUFF, PHD, ABPP-CN

Disclosures

- NIH funding as PI or Co-I (P30AG066518, R01AG075959, R01AG073261, K01AG073578, K01AG075166, R01MH132218)
- Clinical trials as Co-I or rater (VIVA-MIND with Vivoryon Therapeutics N.V.; AHEAD with Eiasi)

Objectives

- Introduce concept of practice effects and how its calculated
- Instruct on value of practice effects in understanding the diagnosis, prognosis, treatment recommendations, and cognitive resiliency in older patients
- Demonstrate these points through a case example





Resilience within the Cognitive Domain

- Cognitive Reserve: better-thanexpected cognitive functioning for age or for age-related brain changes
 - Proxy: educational/ occupational attainment
- Brain maintenance: relative absence of "normal" age-related brain changes
 - Proxy: MRI/PET/spectroscopy/etc.
- Interplay of genetic and environmental factors that reduce impact of perturbation on cognition



Can studies of people with Alzheimer's disease who do better than expected contribute to an understanding of resilience?



Can studies of people with Alzheimer's disease who do better than expected contribute to an understanding of resilience?

Can studies of people with AD, MCI, other neurological diseases, and even cognitively intact older adults who do better than expected contribute to an understanding of resilience?







Case Presentation

- 78 yo WWF
 - 14 yrs education, retired bookkeeper
 - Widowed x 5 yrs, lives alone, IADLs independent
 - HTN, T2DM, osteoarthritis, depression
 - Gradually worsening memory x 2 yrs
 - MoCA = 22/30 (1/5 recall)
 - Dx of MCI? Referral to neuropsych? Order MRI of brain.

- MRI appt 2 weeks later
 - mild diffuse cerebral volume loss, mild nonspecific white matter hyperintensities
 - MoCA = 26/30 (4/5 recall)
 - No dx of MCI? Referral to neuropsych!











Practice effects (PE)

- Improvements in cognitive test performance due to repeated evaluation with the same/similar test materials
- Due to declarative and procedural memory
- Traditionally viewed as source of <u>error</u>
- May be a marker of cognitive reserve/plasticity/resiliency



HVLT-R Total Recall in healthy elders



Calculating PE

Delay Memory: $73 \rightarrow 95$

- Simple difference = T2 T1 or Ratio = T2/T1
 - Easiest, but doesn't correct for expected PE, test-retest reliability, regression to the mean, or baseline score, so not sure if it's clinically meaningful
 - 95 73 = 22, ?
 - 95/73 = 30% improvement, ?
- Standardized Regression-Based = $(T2_{OBS} T2_{PRED})/SEE$
 - Even more challenging, but does correct for all relevant variables
 - Tends to be most sensitive
 - T2_{PRED}=82.4; (95 82.4)/11.5 = z = 1.1, improved more than 86% of comp group
 - Similar to "Expected Recovery Differential" approach from Dr. Whitson

Duff, 2012 Duff et al., 2017





PE: Nuisance or Informative Marker of Cognitive Resilience?



PE inform diagnosis



NIA R01: Duff & Hoffman (Pls)



PE inform diagnosis



NIA R01: Duff (PI) Pilot work funded by CoA







PE inform prognosis





standard score

PE inform prognosis



PE across one week can tell us something about the individual's cognitive trajectory, which can inform prognosis









PE inform tx recommendations





PE inform tx recommendations



After controlling for baseline differences:

- High PE group showed more benefit post-tx
- High PE group maintained more gain at one year











PE informs cognitive resiliency



High and Low PE groups for each diagnostic group (intact, MCI, AD)





PE informs cognitive resiliency



- High and Low PE groups were all diagnosed with aMCI
 - No differences on age, education, sex, race, or ethnicity
 - High PE had significantly higher premorbid intellect
 - High PE had significantly higher RBANS Total at baseline, as well as higher scores on tests of learning and memory, attention, and processing speed
 - High PE had significantly higher scores on performance-based measures of daily activities at baseline
 - The informants of High PE rated them as more functionally intact at baseline
- In the face of the same cognitive disorder diagnosis, those with High PE appeared more cognitively resilient





Case Presentation

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 - Widowed x 5 yrs, lives alone, IADLs independent
 - HTN, T2DM, osteoarthritis, depression
 - Gradually worsening memory x 2 yrs
 - MoCA = 22/30 → 26/30
 - NP: imp memory → intact memory with large PE
 - What do PE tell us about her?

- Likely more intact than MCI (e.g., subjective cognitive decline, reverter)
- Less likely to worsen over the coming year, even if she is MCI
- More likely to respond to a cognitive intervention
- More likely to be cognitively resilient





Resilience within the Cognitive Domain

 PE may allow us to identify those with higher cognitive resilience and predict those who will have more favorable outcomes in response to cognitive insults



	Annual rainfall	# days with rain per year
Salt Lake City	18 inches	91 days
Portland	36 inches	164 days



Summary

- 1. PE are a complex cognitive phenomenon that might inform us about cognitive reserve/plasticity/resiliency
- 2. Those with higher PE are more likely to be present with no/milder cognitive disorders, less likely to progress over time, more likely to respond to interventions, and more likely to be cognitively resilient
- 3. Being aware of and using this information in clinical cases can make for more personalized diagnoses, prognoses, and treatment recommendations for our patients



Thank You

Resilient Place for Healthy Aging

Rocky Mountain Geriatrics Conference, Utah

Andy Hong | City & Metropolitan Planning, University of Utah | Sep 27, 2023

AGENDA



- 2. Built Environments for Healthy Aging: Age-Friendly Communities
- **3.** Aging in Place through the Pandemic
- 4. Resilience through Environmental Design

1





1st Case in Point: Sprawl Development


Homogenous Suburban Neighborhoods

Built Environment and Cognitive Health



Finlay et al. (2021). Preventive Medicine, 150

Aging in Place, Stuck without Options:

No Transportation Options

The New York Times

The City Looks Different When You're Older

By Andy Hong

Dr. Hong is an assistant professor at the University of Utah and the director of its Healthy Aging and Resilient Places Lab.



This article is part of "<u>Can America Age Gracefully?</u>," a series on how the country should prepare for the next big demographic shift.



2nd Case in Point: Car-oriented Neighborhoods



Walkable Place



Car-oriented Place





- 10 minute walking range
 - Major destinations



Built Environment and Obesity

ORIGINAL ARTICLE Obesity Biology and Integrated Physiology

Built environment influences on healthy eating and active living: The NEWPATH study

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Funding information Grants were provided from the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada and the Region of Waterloo to support the study.

Abstract

Objective: The Neighbourhood Environments in Waterloo: Patterns of Active Transportation and Health (NEWPATH) study examined built environment influences on travel, physical activity, food consumption, and health. This collaboration between researchers and practitioners in health and transportation planning is the first, to our knowledge, to integrate food purchasing, diet, travel, and objectively measured physical activity into a trip-destination protocol. This study simultaneously examines diet and physical activity relationships with BMI and waist circumference (WC).

Obesity O WILEY

Methods: Individual diet and travel diary data were linked to objective builtenvironment measures of walkability and retail food environments. BMI and WC were self-reported (n = 1,160). Some respondents wore accelerometers to objectively measure physical activity (n = 549). Pathways from the built environment through behavior (walking and eating) to BMI and WC were assessed using path analysis.

Results: Walkability was associated with lower BMI and WC through physical activity and active travel. Healthy retail food environments were associated with healthy eating and lower BMI and WC, whereas walkability and healthy retail food environments were insignificant (p < 0.05). Walkable neighborhoods had less healthy food environments, but active travel was not associated with healthy eating or caloric intake. **Conclusions:** Findings highlight the importance of neighborhood walkability and food environments in shaping physical activity, diet, and obesity.

Region of Waterloo, Ontario, Canada





Built Environment and Obesity



Frank et al. (2022). *Obesity*, 30: 424-434



3rd Case in Point: No Place to Walk or Use Wheelchairs





Marginalization of pedestrians in the roadway space

Sidewalk **Occupancy: City Ranking**

Sidewalk occupancy ranking of 10 cities around the world



Rhoads et al. (2021). Communications Physics, 4(183)

Sidewalk Occupancy: City Ranking

Sidewalk occupancy ranking of 10 cities around the world



Rhoads et al. (2021). Communications Physics, 4(183)

Sidewalk Occupancy: Denver vs Paris



Our Next Infrastructure Crisis: Broken Sidewalks

And California moves to streamline approvals for transit, bike and pedestrian construction projects and more in this week's The Mobile City.



SANDY SMITH JUNE 17, 2020





Smith (2020) Next City

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For Smaller Towns, Paying for Sidewalks Isn't Always Simple

Missoula considers a new approach to funding walkability as demand grows







What is Age-Friendly Environment?



Age-Friendly Interventions for Health and Social Outcomes



MDPI

Age-Friendly Community Interventions for Health and Social Outcomes: A Scoping Review

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Abstract: To address the numerous challenges associated with aging, increased attention has been given to the development of age-friendly cities and communities (AFCC) to promote healthy aging and social participation. However, limited evidence exists for addressing both health and social needs through the AFCC framework. We address this gap by conducting a scoping review of the interventions that target both health and social outcomes within the purview of the AFCC framework. The results showed that many of the successful interventions used a partnership model and behavioral change theories to inform the program design and implementation. The results also indicated that social participation and engagement played a key role in making the interventions successful. However, the results revealed that the literature is dominated by person-focused approaches. Future research should focus more on evaluating environmental-focused approaches. Future research should not be person- and environment-based approaches to healthy aging.

check for updates

Citation: Hong, A.; Welch-Stockton, J.; Kim, J.Y.; Canham, S.L.; Greer, V.; Sorweid, M. Age-Friendly Community Interventions for Health and Social Outcomes: A Scoping Review. Int. J. Environ. Ros. Pathie Haulth 2023, D. 2554. httms://

Keywords: age-friendly cities and communities; age-friendly intervention; health outcomes; social outcomes

Age-Friendly Interventions around the World



Figure A1. Interactive story map showing some of the key age-friendly community interventions around the world (https://www.harp.utah.edu/storymaps) (accessed on 2 January 2023).

Age-Friendly Interventions for Health and Social Outcomes



- Tai Chi program ٠
- Exercise program ٠
- Healthy ageing program ٠
- Peer-led education
- Comedy improvisation program ٠
- Family-based empowerment program
- Health promotion program

- NORC supportive service •
- Health education and exercise
- Multi-center health promotion

Online social network and technology training

Hong et al. (2022). IJERPH, 20(30): 2554



'HAPPY' Program from Singapore



Objectives:

- O Observe improvements to cognition
- O Observe overall health and social outcomes
- Population: Older adults 60+
- Intervention: 3-month community-based exercise program
- **Results**: Significant improvements in cognitive, social, and physical functions



Free Bus Pass Program from England

- **Objectives**: Analyze the impact of free bus passes on the mental health of older people in England
- **Population**: Older adults in England
- Intervention: Free bus passes for qualifying older adults
- **Results**: Overall decreases in depressive symptoms and feelings of loneliness







Photovoice Study of Older Adults during COVID-19

Ageing & Society (2023), 1-24 doi:10.1017/S0144686X23000211



ARTICLE

Shifting perspectives: outlooks on ageing in place in the COVID-19 era

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(Accepted 6 March 2023)

Abstract

Given the significant impact the pandemic has had on the lives of older adults, research is needed to understand how conceptions of ageing in place and attitudes about living independently may have shifted during a time marked by significant environmental change. There is a gap in knowledge about how older adults characterise positive support for ageing in place in response to rapid changes in physical and social environments, including home confinement, reduced social interaction and greater barriers to resources. To fill this knowledge gap, we conducted a photovoice study with community-dwelling older adults (N = 17)



Participant 6: This is on the street that I live on. And it just is, this is my very own neighborhood and this is looking east. And I took this picture because there are a lot of single women on my street. And we kind of help each other out, were sort of varying ages. And that just reminded me how important that is to have a little cohort of little old ladies. There's one little old man, he's 98. We'd like to adopt him too.

Interviewer: And how does this support or not support your idea of aging in place?

Participant 6: I think it helps, you know. I mean, having some people you know, you have to ... Veah, and people you know are going to help you. Wherever you are is important. So, I think it supports having a nice little neighborhood to be in.

Interviewer: And then how has the pandemic changed how you value this?

Participant 6: I think that it helped even more because I think we all got to hnow each other a little bit more because we've talked from across the street, it it not a street you... I nean you can stead it the middle of the street for a while there before anybody comes, but we would, you know, holler across when we are each other and stuff like that, and I think that's been really, that increased the closeness of us.



Participant 7: That's my workout, front room. And that just represented my online class that I took last summer through the senior center that I belong to they had; they (had a program) giving credit for teaching seniors, um, routines and exercises. So I got to do that on zoom last summer.

Interviewer: What does that mean to you?

Participant 7: Um, it was; it was actually not bad for all, all of us. I had two trainers because there weren't enough older people to do it. So I had two young women that were teaching me, they'd take turns, and it worked out really good because they didn't have to leave their apartment. I didn't have to leave the house. We, we had lots of fin doing exercises and talking, and it was, it was actually waite fun.

Interviewer: That's cool. What about this photo supports or doesn't support your ability to age in place?

Participant 7: Well, of course, exercise is always good for everyone, but especially at your age, because your body goes down the tube faster, if you, and so I really try to exercise every day, just a little bit. And just to keep my muscles as strong as I can.

Interviewer: How has the pandemic changed the way you view your value what you captured here?

Participant 7: Well, it really made me value the computer, and the internet and the technology really gave me another way to keep in touch with the world. That's cool.

Photovoice Study of Older Adults during COVID-19



Figure 2. Example of initial mapping of categories on Miro board.

Table 3. Coding and thematic analysis

Theme	Key points
 'Staying close to people who are close to you' 	Ability to maintain in-person contact with 'close others', <i>i.e.</i> friends and family; physical proximity or a sense of closeness is defined via micro-, meso- and macro-scales; adaptations noted to spaces and/or routines that enable gathering
 Balancing social connectivity with safety 	Experiences of interconnectivity are described with positive and negative associations; a common aspect to positivity is new-found/improved relationships with friends and neighbours; a negative aspect to connectivity is being in unmasked/crowded places where people appear to disregard health and safety
 'To get outside and just breathe fresh air' 	Outdoors is revalued as an outlet for maintaining physical and mental health; open spaces are 'go to' destinations because physical distancing is easily maintained; diversity in types of open spaces range from urban to rural; descriptions of physical exercise activities range in intensity
4. Openness to new ideas	Creative and intellectual pursuits are linked to learning, growing and pursuing goals; activities in this category include hobbies and crafts, reading, cooking, gardening, music and arts; discovery and engagement with meaningful activities are cited as sources of renewal and positivity during the pandemic
5. Nurturing perspective through inner beliefs	Inner belief systems, values and personal outlooks on life are a framework for making sense of change and disruption; keeping hardship in perspective; source of connection to inner beliefs is often place-based, and ranges from physical settings, e.g. church/temple, to outdoor or natural phenomena, e.g. clouds

Greer et al (2023). Ageing & Society.

From Sheltered in Place to Thriving in Place

The Gerontologist, 2023, XX, 1–11 https://doi.org/10.1093/geront/gnad087 Advance access publication 7 July 2023 Research Article



GERONTOLOGICAL OXFORD

Places of Aging

Valerie Chang Greer, AlA, MArch, ^{1,4,} Andy Hong, PhD, ^{1,2} Sarah L. Canham, PhD, ^{1,3} James Agutter, MArch, ¹ Ivis Garcia, PhD,⁴ Jess M. Van Natter, BA,² and Natalie Caylor, BA⁵

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Decision Editor: Andrea Gilmore-Bykovskyl, PhD, RN

Abstract

Background and Objectives: Response to the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic required rapid changes to physical, social, and technological environments. There is a need to understand how independent-living older adults are adapting to pandemic-borne transformations of place and how environmental factors may shape experiences of aging well in the context of a public health emergency response.

Research Design and Methods: We conducted a photovoice study to examine the characteristics associated with aging in place. Our study investigated how independent-living older adults characterized aging in a "right" place approximately 1 year after the onset of the pandemic.

Results: Six themes categorized into 2 groups capture how older adults describe a "right" place to age. The first category, "places as enactors of identity and belonging," describes the significance of places contributing to intimate relationships, social connections, and a sense of personal continuity. The second category, "places as facilitators of activities and values," recognizes environments that promote health, hobbles, goals, and belief systems. Participants reported modifying their daily living environments with increased use of technology and more time outdoors.

Discussion and implications: Our findings emphasize older adults' active engagement with place and strategies used to maintain healthy aging despite public health restrictions. The results also identify place-based characteristics that may help overcome stressful circumstances from older adults' perspectives. These findings inform pathways to pursue to facilitate resiliency for aging in place.

Keywords: Aging in place, Covid-19, Older people, Photovoice







"A Great Companion"

"A Love of Adventure" "A Rare Socializing Opportunity" "A Space of My Own"







"A Welcoming Place"

"All Kinds of Possibilities" "Beehive Docent"

Person-place dynamics that characterize aging in a 'right' place during the pandemic

"A Wonderful Place to

Re'



Figure 3. Characteristics of aging in a "right" place during the pandemic.

Aging in Place: Perspectives from Aging Service Providers

Ongoing Repercussions of COVID-19

GERONTOLOGICAL

Aging in Place Through the COVID-19 Pandemic: Perspectives from Aging Service Providers

ournal of Applied Gerontology 2023, Vol. 42(7) 1530-1540 C The Author(s) 2023 00 Article reuse guidelines ub.com/journals-permis DOI: 10.1177/07334648231159375 ournals say coub.com/home/lay S Sage

Valerie Greer¹, Sarah L. Canham^{1,2}, Andy Hong^{1,3}, James Agutter¹, Ivis Garcia Zambrana⁴, and Jess M. Van Natter²

Abstract

Formal and informal networks of resources are critical to supporting the growing number of older adults aging in place (AIP). Data are needed from aging-service providers about assets and barriers that impact their abilities to support AIP during the pandemic, as well as emergent needs resulting from response measures. A series of World Cafe workshops were conducted with aging-service providers in Salt Lake City, Utah, to understand supportive factors, service gaps, and future needs. Novel domains to support AIP in the context of the pandemic were identified: digital access and literacy, social isolation and mental health, and emergency preparedness. Issues related to access, equity, and affordability were identified as overarching themes across domains. Issues reflect concern over how the pandemic exacerbated socioeconomic and cultural disparities impacting older adults who benefit from aging services. Networks of advocacy and support are needed to bolster resources for older adults, caregivers, and aging-service providers.

Keywords

successful aging, home- and community-based care and services, caregiving, technology, mental health

Social Isolation and Mental Health

Emergency

Home Safety

Technology

Access and

Digital Literacy

Technology is a two-edged sword; for many people, (it) expanded options [...], but the individuals who don't have technology...that is obviously a bigger issue 99

"

Seniors who were receiving services in offices for mental health support were cut off [they] are low-income, struggle with technology and isolation

Preparedness and

"

So many people didn't have situations in place where they could be home and be safe without being connected to resources ...

Greer et al (2023). J. Applied Gerontology



Domains of Resilience in Aging

"





Ability to bounce back from adversity

"

Abadir et al. (2023). J Am Geriatr Soc.

Urban Resilience Framework

Systems-Level Urban Resilience Framework (ACAT): A Continuum Driven by Resilience Characteristics



World Bank (2019) Building Urban Resilience. https://ieg.worldbankgroup.org/evaluations/urban-resilience

The New York Times

MIND

Why Older People Managed to Stay Happier Through the Pandemic

New surveys over the last year show that the ability to cope improves with age.





Carey (2021). *New York Times* ³⁷

Resilient Place

A place that enables individuals to <u>identify</u> and <u>withstand</u> challenges while helping them to <u>adapt</u> and <u>transform</u> their environment

47

Four Approaches to Resilient Place

"

"

A place that erables individuals to identify and withstand challenges while helping them to adapt and transform their environment 1 Increasing awareness

2 Developing coping mechanims

- **3** Providing adapting strategies
- 4 Enabling transformation
1. Resilient Place through Increasing Awareness





2. Resilient Place through Coping Mechanims

Nature Rx Pilot Study

This pilot project focuses on identifying older people's unique challenges and needs when designing nature-based mental health interventions

Collaborating Partners



Madsen Health Center





Mindfulness Training



Nature Walking

https://www.harp.utah.edu/projects/nature-rx-pilot-study

3. Resilient Place through Adaptation

CAPABLE Study

A national study combining handyman services with nursing and occupational therapy to improve mobility and decrease healthcare costs



35 locations across the country



https://capablenationalcenter.org



4. Resilient Place through Transformation

Cobblestone Mat Walking Study

3-month cobblestone walking program led to increasing physical function and decreasing blood pressure compared to conventional walking



Table 2. Outcome Scores by Group at Baseline and Postintervention			
	Postintervention		
	Mat Walking (n = 54)	Regular Walking (n = 54)	Destat Course
Endpoint	$\text{Mean} \pm \text{SD}$		P-value Group × Time Interaction
Primary			
Functional reach, inches	12.89 ± 2.67	11.17 ± 2.68	.01
Static standing (range 0-4)	3.87 ± 0.39	3.57 ± 0.60	.009
Chair stands, seconds	9.40 ± 2.62	10.98 ± 3.99	<.001
50-foot walk speed, seconds	10.60 ± 2.45	11.62 ± 2.32	.01
Up and Go, seconds	5.87 ± 1.23	6.62 ± 1.65	.14
Systolic blood pressure, mmHg	125.98 ± 13.17	130.97 ± 11.45	.01
Diastolic blood pressure, mmHg	72.83 ± 10.63	74.89 ± 7.63	.008
Secondary			
SF-12 physical component	66.32 ± 23.77	65.05 ± 19.97	.80
summary score (range 0–100) SF-12 mental component summary score (range 0–100)	$\textbf{73.75} \pm \textbf{18.52}$	$\textbf{73.42} \pm \textbf{19.25}$.87
Vitality Plus Scale (range 9-45)	$\textbf{36.00} \pm \textbf{5.69}$	$\textbf{36.26} \pm \textbf{5.62}$.70

Thank You!

Let's Connect



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https://harp.utah.edu



NEIGHBORHOODS AND RESILIENCE AMONG OLDER ADULTS RECOVERING FROM DISABLING INJURIES AND ILLNESSES

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Rocky Mountain Regional Geriatrics Conference, 2023

Current Funding

As a Principal Investigator:

- NIA R01AG083173
- NIA K76AG074926 (Paul B. Beeson Emerging Leaders Award)
- NIA P30AG028747 (UMaryland Pepper Center Pilot)
- Donaghue Foundation

As a Co-Investigator:

- NIH/NHLBI R01 HL160822-01
- PCORI

Some work in this talk was also supported by:

- Yale NIA T32AG019134 (PI: Gill, T)
- UMB Institute for Clinical & Translational Research (ICTR) and the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS) Clinical Translational Science Award (CTSA) grant number 1UL1TR003098
- Wadsworth Grant (Internal UMB Funding)
- Foundation for Physical Therapy Research

Disclosures

No other financial disclosures



ENhancing Rehabilitation to Improve Community Health (ENRICH) Lab

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Beeson K76 Mentors:

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Ongoing Work

• Quantitative analysis of neighborhood deprivation and outcomes after fall trauma

 Qualitative evaluation of facilitators and barriers to community mobility among older adults with a new catastrophic disability

Mechanisms of Catastrophic Disability Among Older Adults

• Fall-related hip fracture or head injury

Critical Illness

Amputation

Outcomes of Catastrophic Disability Among Older Adults

 Incidence of catastrophic disability among older adults is 9.7% (Gill, 2019)

 38% of non-disabled older adults who experience catastrophic disability do not regain independence (Gill, 2020)

Home Time As a Marker of Resilience

- Days spent at home after injury may be a marker of resilience
- High priority outcome for patients
 - As few as 7 days difference in home time considered meaningful between two hypothetical treatments (Auriemma et al, 2023)
- May prefer to go home with elevated needs versus an institution

From Clinical Outcomes to Community Outcomes

Alive and a't Home Instead of a Nursing Home or Other Facility

Home but homebound is not good enough!

Community Mobility as a Marker of Resilience After Traumatic Injury

Non-community level mobility

Community level mobility



Community Mobility Demands of Older Adults

Average Distance Walked to Important Destinations Among Older Adults

Doctor: 38 to 64 meters Pharmacy: 82 to 216 meters Religious Facility: 48 to 212 meters Hospital Visitation: 171 to 749 meters

Compare this to 150 foot goal common in post-acute and home health care for older adults



Brown et al, 2010; https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/20718384/

Community Mobility Demands of Older Adults

Favorite Activities of Community-Dwelling Older Adults

- Walking/jogging (14%)
- Outdoor maintenance (13%)
- Playing sports (8.9%)



https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0197457214004133#! @JRayFalvey

Value of Community Mobility to Older Adults with a New Disability

What was one thing outside your home that you were really excited to get back to outside the house?

<u>Participant:</u> "Going to the stores without calling on children. Able to get back on MTA bus without being afraid that I'm going to fall. Just being mobile again is very important to me."



Value of Community Mobility to Older Adults with a New Disability

Okay. How did you feel about getting out to the mobility bus...how did it feel? Did you feel ready to do that?

"I had no other choice. I was not going to stay in the house and pop pills all day. I was not going to become a basket case. I had to get up, I had to get out. I had to do what I had to do" -Participant 3



Community Mobility

25% of older adults cannot walk 2-3 blocks outside unassisted

• 17% can't with a device

1 in 10 older adults lose the ability to walk community distances each year



Hardy, 2004; Mathis et al, in preparation



Implications of Limited Community Mobility

- Inability to walk ¼ mile (2-3 blocks) associated with — ~3 fold increase in mortality rates over 1 year
 - 22 more hospitalizations per 100 people
- Limited ability to access public transportation, visit family and friends, attend medical appointments, participant in religious services or clubs

Hardy, 2004; Falvey et al, in preparation

Implications of Limited Community Mobility

- Less able to relocate during disasters/public health emergencies
 - COVID-19, natural disasters, wildfire smoke*
- Increasing disability, need for caregiver support, and risk for institutionalization
- Social isolation and loneliness (Kuang, 2023)

Precipitants for Community Mobility Loss







Hospitalization

144% increase in risk

621% increase in risk

Suggests we do not do a great job of helping people restore community ambulation after acute admissions

Shrinking Life-Space Increases Social Isolation for Older Adults



Impact of Neighborhood Environment on Disability Recovery

OV

HAMILTON

GOVANS





Major Neighborhood Factors Influencing Resilience

- Built Environment
- Social and Economic Environment
- Access to Healthcare



Built Environment Quality and Mobility



Living in neighborhoods with broken sidewalks, cracks, or curbs: ~4.5 times the odds of mobility disability (inability to walk 2-3 blocks)

https://usa.streetsblog.org/2021/07/28/why-city-sidewalks-still-miss-the-ada-mark/

https://academic.oup.com/aje/article/168/5/506/92998 @JRayFalvey

Built Environment Quality and Mobility



Lack of continuous sidewalks: <u>27% increase</u> in the odds of being a recurrent faller (Okoye, 2021)

https://usa.streetsblog.org/2021/07/28/why-city-sidewalks-still-miss-the-ada-mark/

https://academic.oup.com/aje/article/168/5/506/92998 @JRayFalvey

Squats Don't Address Social Determinants of Health!



Older Adult Perspectives on How Built Environment Impacts Community Mobility

"I go 10 blocks out the way on a bus to get to a sidewalk that I can walk on that's not raggedly and that's even. So, yes, I do dumb stuff like that.

I'll get on a bus and I'll go 10 blocks away so that I can come down on this side of the street instead of walking up on the side of the street that's raggedly."



Neighborhoods and Recovery from Disability

Drew data from Yale Precipitating Events Study (Gill, PI)

Critically ill patients (n=239 admissions) followed for monthly 1 year after admission

Living in a disadvantaged neighborhood: **15% higher** disability burden over 1 year



Falvey et al, 2021; Critical Care Medicine

Neighborhoods and Recovery from Disability

Drew data from VALIANT, a cohort study of older COVID survivors (Ferrante/Cohen, mPI)

Older COVID-19 survivors followed for 6 months

Persistently higher symptom burden for older adults



Falvey et al, under review

Neighborhood Social Environments

The true meaning of life lies in the connections we forge with others -James Joyce



Neighborhood Social Environments and Resilience After New Disability

- Social connectedness is a critical aspect of recovery after developing a new disability
- Low individual level social connections associated with more post-hospitalization disability (Falvey et al, 2021)
- Low neighborhood cohesion and trust also associated with poorer outcomes

Social Isolation Impedes Recovery From Disabling Hospitalizations

119% elevated risk for death between most and least socially isolated



Falvey et al, JAMA Internal Medicine (2021)
Social Isolation and Disability



Falvey et al, JAMA IM (2021)

Older Adults Unable to Walk 3 Blocks Independently in the United States, NHATS 2015-2020



Falvey et al, in prep

Low Neighborhood Social Cohesion Impacts Community Mobility



Falvey et al, in prep

Social Cohesion Impacts on Mobility

"I think that my neighbors are great. Luckily I've been in the neighborhood for quite a while and thank goodness. When you build a rapport, I think that's almost essential....So I think that my neighbors have been wonderful."

"If I need a little help coming in the house, if I have too many bags, they're very helpful. I live in a big building with a lot of people, so someone is always there to help."



Importance of Neighborhood Safety

Study Participant #1

"It's just this atmosphere of Baltimore. I'm scared that a bullet don't have no name on it, so I'm just scared"

Falvey et al, in preparation



Importance of Neighborhood Safety

Study Participant #3

"I don't feel like ducking bullets outside. Like I tell people I can't get down no more. I can't run."

Falvey et al, in preparation



Importance of Neighborhood Safety

Study Participant #9

"The store's probably two and a half blocks at least. I can't walk that distance. I'm afraid really to walk that much, because things go on around this block....I'm not in position that where if I was to go out there, that if something, happened I would be a sitting target. There would be no escape for me."

Falvey et al, in preparation



his Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under <u>CC BY-NC-ND</u>

Lower Access to High-Quality Care

Residents of high-poverty zip codes tabulation areas receive lower quality homebased and nursing home care

- Increase in those living in poverty associated with lower quality in SNFs (Park, 2018)
- Readmission rates higher for home health agencies serving a high proportion of patients in low-income areas (Joynt Maddox, 2017)



https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6056600/

Lower Access to High-Quality Care

Preliminary work from collaborative work with NYU School of Nursing (Co-PIs Travers/Falvey)



Jasmine Travers, AGPCNP-BC, CCRN, PhD, RN



Staffing in Nursing Homes Located in Disadvantaged Areas



Difference in Hours Worked Relative to More Advantaged Facilities, per 100-patient days

Falvey et al, Journal of the American Geriatrics Society, 2022

Accessing Outpatient Care Harder in Disadvantaged Neighborhoods

- Nearly 10% of older adults regularly use public transportation (Gimie et al, 2022)
 - 600,000 use public transportation regularly to get to their doctor

Transit Access

Population Commuting by Public Transit (CT)

~20% of older adults in some urban areas must walk >500 meters to access fixed-route public transit (Clarke et al, 2011)

More transit stops in a neighborhood is associated with better mobility for older adults (Hirsch, 2014)



https://americanhealth.jhu.edu/sites/default/files/2021-09/JHU-016%20Transit%20Equity%20Report-FINAL_0.pdf https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0277953611001882; https://academic.oup.com/aje/article/180/8/799/2739277

Transit Access

Population Commuting by Public Transit (CT)

In Baltimore, low transit density is more common in the most economically deprived neighborhoods







Gimie et al (2022); JAGS 2022

Current Gaps in Rehabilitation Care to Promote Community Mobility

Acute Care and

Rehabilitation Settings:

- Minimal outside ambulation for older adults, minimal practice navigating environmental hazards
- Functional outcome tools <u>max out</u> <u>at 150 feet</u>
- Rehab not as available in facilities in high-poverty areas

Home Health Care:

- Homebound requirement for older adults, often leads to artificial barriers on community mobility practice
- Gaps between home health outcomes and demands for outpatient care are high

Outpatient Care:

- Rarely focuses on community mobility, transit access, or other barriers
- Requirements for seeing multiple patients at one time does not allow optimal care
- DME requirements only allow devices for use in home, not community



Moving for Mobility Equity



Engaging Community and Municipal Stakeholders to Promote High Quality Aging In Place After Hip Fracture

Take-Home Points

- Community mobility is important to older adults, but not often prioritized in rehabilitation
- Failure to recover community mobility impacts minoritized and vulnerable older adults most
- Interventions should address physical limitations and structural barriers to be maximally effective



Questions

End of Life Care: Transition from CG to Survivorship



Kara Dassel, PhD, FGSA, FAGHE Rocky Mountain Geriatrics Conference September 26th, 2023

DISCLOSURES & FUNDING

- I have no business or financial conflicts to disclose.
- Research Funding
 - Center on Aging Pilot Grant
 - Burton Foundation
 - Alzheimer's Association
 - National Institute on Aging

ALZHEIMER'S **SASSOCIATION**



National Institute on Aging





OBJECTIVES

- Importance of advance care planning (ACP)
- Unique aspects of ACP in Alzheimer's disease and Alzheimer's disease-related dementias (AD/ADRD)
- Creation of a dementia ACP planning guide
- Preliminary intervention results & next steps
- Additional ACP resources



ADVANCE CARE PLANNING

ACP is a communication process that empowers adults of any age and any state of health to articulate and share their personal

- values
- life goals, and
- preferences regarding future medical care.³

Components:

- Conversations
 - 5 D'S (death, decline, diagnosis, divorce, decade)
- Documentation
 - Medical Advance directive
 - Values & preferences
- Revisiting and revising
 - Not static!



BENEFITS OF ACP

Patient

- Reduce unnecessary medical interventions¹⁵⁻¹⁶
- Lower rate of hospital readmissions¹⁵⁻¹⁶
- Fewer transitions between health care settings, 15-16
- Lower end-of-life health care costs^{6,17}

Caregiver

- Decreased physical pain and emotional distress
 - Improve subjective wellbeing²⁶
 - Lower burden¹⁹⁻²⁰
 - Lower anxiety²⁴⁻²⁵
 - Higher levels of decisionmaking confidence²⁷⁻²⁸
 - Greater ACP congruence³²⁻³⁴



ACP WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF AD/ADRD

Important!

End-of-life health care decisions rely on the substituted judgment of caregivers^{5,6} after the PWD loses decision-making abilities.7-9

But...less likely to:

- complete an advance directive,^{10,11}
- appoint a surrogate decision-maker, 12,13
- or engage in ACP conversations with family.14





ACP CAN HELP AVOID STRESS





NEED FOR DEMENTIA FOCUSED ACP TOOLS

- Designed for use in specific healthcare settings: - primary care, 14, 49-52 nursing homes, 13, 53-57 & hospitals 46, 58, 59
- Many require a third party to facilitate^{51, 52, 60}
- Not theoretically developed or psychometrically validated⁶¹⁻⁶³
- Don't promote active engagement in meaningful conversations^{60, 64, 65}
- Don't focus on increasing knowledge and competence of the caregiver^{40, 42, 66-68}
- Don't focus on decisions across the disease trajectory^{24, 69}



MAKING A CASE...





The Influence of Hypothetical Death Scenarios on Multidimensional End-of-Life **Care Preferences**

Kara B. Dassel, PhD¹, Rebecca Utz, PhD², Katherine Supiano, PhD, LCSW¹, Nancy McGee, MS, MBA¹, and Seth Latimer, MStat¹





American Journal of Hospice & Palliative Medicine® 1-8 © The Author(s) 2016 Reprints and permission: sagepub.com/journalsPermissions.nav DOI: 10.1177/1049909116680990 journals.sagepub.com/home/ajh



THE LEAD GUIDE

<u>Part 1</u>: End-of-life documents

- Living will/advance directive
- DNR
- Medical power of attorney
- Part 2: Values
 - Quality vs. length of life
 - Burden (financial, emotional, physical)
 - Decision-making (autonomy vs. shared)

Part 3: Preferences

- Location for ongoing care
- Life-prolonging measures
- Location of death
- Control over the timing of death





Special Issue: Translational Research on Caregiving: Original Research Article

Development of a Dementia-Focused End-of-Life Planning Tool: The LEAD Guide (Life-Planning in Early Alzheimer's and Dementia)

Kara Dassel, PhD,^{1,*} Rebecca Utz, PhD,² Katherine Supiano, PhD, LCSW, FT,¹ Sara Bybee, LCSW,^{1,} and Eli Iacob, PhD¹

¹College of Nursing and ²College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, University of Utah, Salt Lake City.

Available at: <u>utahgwep.org</u> under *Resources*

Innovation in Aging cite as: Innovation in Aging, 2019, Vol. XX, No. XX, 1–12 doi:10.1093/geroni/igz024 Advance Access publication August 2, 2019



FOUR WAYS TO COMPLETE THE LEAD GUIDE

- 1. By yourself
- 2. With the person you have named or wish to name as your medical power of attorney
- 3. Use it to guide general conversations about your future care
- 4. Use it to help your healthcare providers understand your endof-life wishes



There are many ways to use the LEAD Guide:

1. You can use it by yourself. The LEAD Guide will take you through a series of questions about values and preferences associated with what types of care you want or do not want at the **end of life**. *Note: Even if you complete the LEAD Guide by yourself, it is a good idea to share it with your family, friends, or healthcare provider (doctor, nurse practitioner, physician assistant, etc.).*

2. Use the LEAD Guide with the person you have named or wish to name as your medical power of attorney. Using the guide will help your medical power of attorney understand what care you want to receive if you develop dementia.

3. You may also use it for a more general conversation with your family and friends. This way, the people you trust will understand what care you want to receive if you develop dementia. Using the LEAD Guide will help your family and friends have a shared understanding of your preferences and may prevent conflict in the future.

4. You may use it to help your healthcare providers understand your preferences for your end-of-life care. This information will help them honor your preferences for endof-life care if you develop dementia.

2

No. The LEAD Guide is an end-of-life planning tool that supplements legal documents such as an advance directive, do-not-resuscitate order, or medical power of attorney. The LEAD Guide does not replace those documents. We recommend completing both legal documents and the LEAD Guide.



5. Regularly revisit the LEAD Guide as your circumstances and preferences

Is the LEAD Guide the same as an advance directive?

may change.

document?

No. An advance directive is a legal document that broadly states what care you want to receive at the end of your life. It also says whom you want to make decisions for you if you cannot do so for any reason. While important, advance directive documents do not cover all the end-of-life decisions that can arise with dementia. We advise everyone to complete advance directive documents in their home state. The advance directive documents are available on your state government's website.

Is the LEAD Guide a legally binding

THREE WAYS THE GUIDE FACILITATES ACP

INSTRUCTIONS

Please note that all words in red are in the glossary.

What is dementia?

Dementia is a general term for loss of memory, language, problem-solving, and other thinking abilities that are severe enough to interfere with daily life. There are many types of dementia, such as Alzheimer's disease, vascular dementia, and Lewy body dementia. Alzheimer's disease is the most common type of dementia. This document uses the term "dementia" to include all types of dementia.

What is the LEAD Guide?

The LEAD Guide (Life-Planning in Early Alzheimer's and Other Dementias) was created to help persons with **dementia** (or at risk for dementia) think about, document, and share their preferences for their end-of-life care. The LEAD Guide also lets you specify how and with whom you want to make your decisions about your care. The LEAD Guide asks whether your preferences and values may change if you develop dementia or your dementia worsens.

The LEAD Guide is a set of questions to help you prepare for future healthcare needs. It helps you:

1. Review what you have done about planning for end-of-life care, such as naming a decision-maker or filling out advance directive documents.

2. Share your values about how you foresee the end of your life. For example, if you develop **dementia**, do you prefer to live longer or desire a shorter time with a better quality of life?

3. Share your preferences for your care; for example, where you wish to live and who will care for you.

1. Review what steps you've taken regarding preparing for your future end-of-life care

2. Share your **values** about how you envision your endof-life

3. Share your **preferences** for your care at the end of life



PART 1: END-OF-LIFE DOCUMENTATION

- Review End-of-Life Documents
- 1. Advance Directive
- 2. No Not Resuscitate Order
- 3. Medical Power of Attorney



Please note that all words in red are in the glossary.

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3. Share your preferences for your care; for example, where you wish to live and who will care for you.



PART 2: END-OF-LIFE VALUES



Burden

- Financial, emotional, physical Quality vs. Length of Life
- Importance of each
- Conditional responses
- Open-ended response to define "quality of life"
- Decision Making
- Self, family, doctor
- Situation specific



onal, physico th of Life ach onses ponse to f life'' g

PART 3: END-OF-LIFE PREFERENCES

AD/ADRD Trajectory

- 1) Today, when you can make decisions for yourself
- 2) Later stages of dementia when decision-making abilities are lost





PART 2: END-OF-LIFE PREFERENCES

Location of care

- Nursing home, home, hospice, or hospital
- Life-Prolonging Measures
- Feeding tube, ventilator, brain • dead, and pain

Controlling the Timing of Death*

VSED, self-directed, or MAID

	END-OF-LIFE PREFERENC	ES		
END-OF-LIFE PREFERENCES	Below is a series of statemen toward end-of-life care. The on your circumstances. You information based on two s	nte roaandina	uour mofor	
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What are your end-of-life care preferences tod		∐ Yes	L No	L Und
		I would v	vant to live as	long as pos
17. If you were to where is your pr	require 24-hour care and supe ferred location to receive care	CONTRO	DLLING WHEN	
□ In my home		19. Wha	t are your p	reference
□ In someone else's home (specify):		I would c	onsider ending	g my own li
□ In a residential hospice center, if available		□ Yes	🗆 No	🗆 Une
□ In a hursing nome		I would c	onsider indep	endently e
□ Uncertain at this time		□ Yes	□ No	□ Un¢
	MEASURES	I would c physiciar	onsider taking 1 (if legal in m	g a prescrip y state and
18. What are you today?	r preferences if you were to ree	□ Yes	□ No	Une
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□ In a nursing home □ In a hospital □ Uncertain at this tim



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ain at this time
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ain at this time
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y not eating or drinking.
ain at this time
g my own life through self-directed means.
ain at this time
medication to end my life under the supervision of a were deemed competent).
ain at this time
the ability to understand, make decisions, and vill need <u>someone else</u> to make decisions for you
vould you like <u>someone else</u> to make for you when 1entia and cannot express your care preferences?
a, where is your preferred location to receive and supervision for medical needs? (check one)
vailable
11

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

- Summary of wishes
- Additional preferences
- Glossary
- Next steps
 - Share with family & healthcare provider(s)
 - Complete a medical advance directive
 - Update regularly

		GLOSSARY	express th
	NEXT STEPS: SHARING		Attitude
Please add any additional ir	It is critical that this shared with the pers your end-of-life care	Cardiopulmonary F procedure performed v	typically i Resuscitation when the he
example, grooming instruct music preferences, or peopl involved in your end-of-life	This section will hely documentation you	are chest compressions electric shock to the he	and mouth art is used.
	Place a checkmark next	hasten death or assista and seek help in control	die – volun nce provide olling the tir
	☐ Send to my healthcar	Domontia ugually a	progracin
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	Fill in below any additic legal documents.	(CPR). This order help treatment at the end of form (Provider Order f	s prevent u life. This o or Life-Sus
		Emotional burden - stress due to a variety o	- a situatior of reasons s
		End of life –refers to medically apparent tha	the final pe it death is fo
Please summarize your wisl		End-of-life care – is surrounding death.	the term us
		Feeding tube – a flex area to provide nutrien stomach or small intes not getting enough nut	ible tube is its by delive tine. This is rition throu
	UPDATING YOUR LEAD	Financial hunden	in the conte
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L			
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Advance Directive/Living Will – a legal document describing a person's desires regarding their medical care in situations where they can no longer express their preferences.

Attitudes – a settled way of thinking or feeling about someone or something, typically reflected in a person's behavior.

suscitation (CPR) – is an emergency life-saving en the heart stops beating. Common CPR methods nd mouth-to-mouth breathing. Sometimes an



e – voluntarily stopping eating and drinking to

e provided by a healthcare provider. This care is for patients who are going to die ing the timing of their death through medical intervention.

rogressive condition (such as Alzheimer's disease) that is associated with multiple skills, such as memory, language skills, and the inability to plan and initiate

rder (DNR) – is an order that informs medical attempt to restart your heart if it stops beating prevent unnecessary and unwanted invasive fe. This order may be a part of your state's POLST Life-Sustaining Treatment).

situation where a person experiences emotional reasons such as guilt, obligation, or difficulty making decisions.

e final period of hours, days, weeks, and months in a person's life in which it is death is forthcoming.

15

e term used to describe the support and medical care given during the time

le tube is inserted through the nose or stomach by delivering liquid nutrition directly into the ne. This is used when a person does not eat or is tion through eating.

the context of healthcare, this term describes a ems related to the cost of medical care that may

13


NEW SPANISH LEAD GUIDE!

In collaboration with Alliance Community

- Culturally adapted
- Translated
- Next steps
 - Pilot intervention in Hispanic/Latino communitybased AD/ADRD population



ORIGINAL RESEARCH

Health Disparities in Advance Care Planning: Development of a Spanish-Language LEAD Guide (Life-Planning in Early Alzheimer's and Other Dementias)

Kara Dassel,^{1,*} Rebecca L. Utz,² Ana Sanchez-Birkhead,¹ Sara Carbajal-Salisbury,³ Jeannette Villalta,³ Moroni Cajavilca,¹ Lauren Solkowski,² Nancy Aruscavage,¹ Kathie Supiano,¹ and Eli Iacob¹



Health Equity

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Open Access

DOES THE LEAD GUIDE "WORK"?

- N=51 dyads
- Decision-making selfefficacy scores improved
- Relationship strain declined
- ACP concordance improved

The LEAD Intervention is a **feasible** and effective platform to promote ACP planning in community-based AD/ADRD dyads



NEXT STEPS: WEB-BASED CLINICAL TRIAL

- 5-year clinical trial
- 20-week self-administered webbased ACP intervention
- + Outcomes: subjective wellbeing and anxiety
- Community-based AD/ADRD dyads
 - Recruitment begins January 2024
 - lead@utah.edu





IN SUMMARY, THE LEAD GUIDE

- Assesses end-of-life values that we believe to be static and representative of the individual's wishes
- Evaluates end-of-life care **preferences** that may be malleable as caregiving situation AD/ADRD progression
- Has strong psychometric validity and reliability - Utility in research & practice
- Applicable for <u>all</u> older adults
- Improves ACP concordance & decision-making self-efficacy
- Reduces relationship strain



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OTHER ACP RESOURCES









Helping people share their wishes for care through the end of life.



			Q	\equiv
EFFORTS	MEDIA	CALENDAR		
POLS Important conversati the POLST Sustaining	guidance or ons includir form (Provi Treatment)	rsation Guide a conducting end of life g the completion of der Order of Life		
PO	DLST CONVE	RSATION GUIDE		
nts	Utah Camille	POLST with Dr. collett, MD, MPH		
on 19				0

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UTAH GERIATRIC EDUCATION CONSORTIUM

The **goal** of UGEC is to improve long-term health care through education of the workforce

- Utahgwep.org
- Education & Trainings
 - Motivational interviewing
 - Goals of care Conversations





The Utah Geriatric Education Consortium

What is UGEC?

The UGEC was established in July, 2015 in collaboration with the Health Resources Services dministration (HRSA) and is funded by the Geriatri Norkforce Enhancement Program (GWEP) initiative The UGEC's purpose is to improve long term healthcare through the education of the workforce oviding associated services. We are housed in the University of Utah College of Nursing (nursing.utah.edu). Read further about our program on the About Us page!





THANK YOU!

KARA.DASSEL@NURS.UTAH.EDU

OFFICE: 801-646-4667

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Resilience in Aging Brain Research:

How does the Aging Brain Respond to Stressors?

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National Institute on Aging: P30AG028716-11, UH3AG056925, P30-AG064201-02, R01-AG062623-01A1, U13 AG054139, R33-AG057806, P30AG072958-01

Veterans Administration – Durham VA GRECC

AGS Board of Directors



- 1) The importance of **resilience to stressors** in overall human health and aging
- 2) Frameworks and semantics in resilience research Friends, not Foes
- 3) Linking my Concept of Resilience to My Love of the Aging Brain
 -Case Example: Vision loss and the aging brain
 -Case Example: Vascular insults and the aging brain

One Patient's Story



Mrs. M A widow in Durham, North Carolina, USA She was diagnosed with colon cancer about 6 weeks before I met her.

Mrs. M's Story

She is 91 years old

- -Independent in caring for herself, lives alone
- -Teaches Sunday school and sings in the choir, "spry"
- -Has 3 daughters, 1 son
- "Mama is still large and in charge."

Past medical history:

<u>Vascular</u>: Type II diabetes, hypertension, hyperlipidemia, obesity <u>Non-vascular</u>: Arthritis, H/o Breast cancer in 1996

Went to see her primary doctor for rectal bleeding -> Diagnosed with colorectal cancer

A hard decision: Surgery or no surgery?



Day 1: Blood pressure dropped (78/50); Bleeding from surgical site -Transfused 2 units of blood and received medicines to keep blood pressure normal

<u>Day 2:</u> Massive Heart Attack. Emergency cardiac catheterization shows many blockages. Because of the damage from the heart attack, the heart was failing as a pump.

Unable to immediately open the clots in her heart, in setting of surgical site bleeding.

She was placed on a **ventilator** to support breathing and a "**balloon pump**" was inserted to support her heart.

She remained lucid; giving "thumbs up" sign

"A Week of Hellish Uncertainty"



My team is consulted on Day 3 to assist with decision-making and prognosis in this older and now critically ill patient.

Multiple conversations about family and patient preferences and expectations

Questions I asked myself all week

- How much stress can she take and still regain homeostasis/equilibrium?
- What reduced state will the system be in, when or if it regains stability?
- Is the system showing signs of impending tipping points? Have we reached the point of critical failure (no return)?
- What can we do NOW to best support a system that is in distress and flux?
- Are there tests we could do NOW (or should have done BEFORE) to predict her outcome?

Mrs. M's Course

<u>Day 9:</u> Surgery site bleeding is finally under control enough to undergo cardiac catheterization and removal of clots in heart arteries. Balloon pump removed. Remains lucid: smiling, nodding appropriately Slowly weaning from ventilator (a good sign)

<u>Day 11:</u> Ventilator requirements increase; diagnosed with **vent-associated pneumonia**. Self-extubates in early a.m., and had to be re-intubated within hours. First sign of confusion.

<u>Day 12:</u> Cardiac Arrest, resuscitated; IV medications to maintain blood pressure have to be restarted, a sign that her heart is failing. Holiday weekend – family wants to wait to make decisions until full team can participate in conversations.

Mrs. M's Course

Day 14: Kidney function worsens.

<u>Day 16</u>: Patient is confused again (alert, trying to communicate, unable to use alphabet board)

Status Changed: Do Not Attempt Resuscitation

<u>Day 17-20:</u> Some signs of improvement – a little more lucid; kidneys are improving; blood pressure more stable; slow weaning from the ventilator

Mrs. M's Course

<u>Day 21:</u> Sudden pulmonary hemorrhage and cardiac arrest. Mrs. M died with family at her bedside.



In real patients, one stressor often leads to another, and subsystems do not always exhibit the same resilience.



Functional Status

Time

Interconnected Systems and Sub-systems constantly moving, transitioning, and adapting to changing environments and new stressors



With age, our ability to respond briskly and adaptively to perturbation declines.







A vicious cycle

Diseases can diminish biologic resilience...



and lower resilience makes us vulnerable to the next disease...

Geroscience: Biological resilience has a molecular basis



...and all of these molecular pathways exhibit decline with age (over time), even in the absence of serious disease.

Adapted from Kennedy et al. *Cell* 159; 2014

But the rate of decline is not the same for everyone. Why?





And sometimes our patients really surprise us...



What influences recovery of function after any health stressor? Attitude & Mindset Biological Response to

Stress







Resilience is Everywhere in Medical Research



Chair: LaVerne L. Brown, Ph.D in Office of Dietary Supplements



Resilience is Everywhere in Medical Research



GOAL

The Collaboratory on Research Definitions for reserve and resilience in cognitive aging and dementia has provided a platform for the exchange of ideas towards developing a **framework**.



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A cosmopolitan appreciation of "resilience" in health research



DOI: 10.1111/jgs.18388

SPECIAL ARTICLE

Journal of the American Geriatrics Society

An overview of the resilience world: Proceedings of the American Geriatrics Society and National Institute on Aging State of Resilience Science Conference

Peter M. Abadir MD¹ | Karen Bandeen-Roche PhD¹ | Cindy Bergeman PhD² David Bennett MD³ | Daniel Davis PhD, MRCP⁴ | Amy Kind MD, PhD⁵ | Nathan LeBrasseur PhD, MS⁶ | Yaakov Stern PhD⁷ | Ravi Varadhan PhD¹ | Heather E. Whitson MD, MHS^{8,9}



1) Brain Connectivity in Age-related Macular Degeneration

How does the aging brain respond to the stressor of AMD?

2) Stressors across the lifespan and risk of Alzheimer's Disease

The example of cerebrovascular disease



How does the aging brain respond to the stressor of age-related macular degeneration?
Sensory impairments are linked to dementia, but why?



American Geriatrics Society and National Institute on Aging Bench-to-Bedside Conference: Sensory Impairment and Cognitive Decline in Older Adults



Whitson et al., J Am Geriatr Soc 66:2052–2058, 2018

Cognition and Brain MRI in People with and without AMD



81 AMD patients

85 age-matched controls

Mean age 75.5 years



Data collected at baseline and 2-year follow-up:

Neurocognitive Testing: Verbal fluency, working memory, episodic memory, processing speed, semantic integrity, attention-switching **Health/Life surveys**

Audiometry – Pure-tone, Speech-in-Noise, word recognition **Ophthalmol. Data**: Dx/Rx, visual acuity, visual function, OCT/photos

Brain MRIs <u>in eligible participants</u> - functional MRI (fMRI) & diffusion tensor imaging (DTI) (n=33 AMD patients, 39 controls)

As expected, AMD group under-performed on cognitive tests



	AMD N=81	Controls N=85	P value
Episodic Memory			
Wechsler Logical Memory	24.4	25.1	0.53
Item Recall	5.6	5.6	0.96
Working Memory			
Digit Span Backwards	3.9	3.9	0.98
Verbal Fluency			
Letter Fluency (FAS)	34.3	38.5	0.05
Animal Naming	17.7	19.4	0.05
Semantic Tasks			
Warrington Synonyms	19.0	20.3	0.01
Semantic Decision Speed	1754 ms	1601 ms	<0.01

KEY DISCOVERIES

1) AMD group has worse white matter integrity in certain tracts: **splenium** and several **left-sided ventral and cerebellar** tracts

AMD group has worse White Matter Integrity, compared to Controls, especially in splenium





Group Connectometry Analysis Zhuang et al. *Neuroimage: Clinical* 2021

KEY DISCOVERIES (SO FAR)

2) AMD group has a faster rate of deterioration in white matter tracts, especially on the left side

Comparing Change in White Matter (FA) over 2 Years: Decrease is greater in AMD group vs. Controls



p = 0.01

[unpublished, in revisions]

KEY DISCOVERIES

3) We observed a resting-state **functional connectivity pattern** associated with cognitive resilience in AMD

Cognitive resilience defined here as intact/good cognition, despite AMD or despite AMD-associated differences in white matter integrity

Are brain-behavior relationships different in people with AMD-related vision loss vs. age-matched controls?

We were especially interested in how functional connectivity within language-relevant networks might be associated with performance on verbal fluency tasks.

Bilateral Fronto-temporal network



In AMD patients, but not controls, better verbal fluency was associated with stronger connectivity in rightsided regions of the fronto-temporal network

AMD patients with better cognitive performance were: -Better educated -Exhibited stronger connectivity in right-sided frontotemporal regions



P < 0.05 for AMD vs. control interaction

Zhuang et al. 2018 Neurobiol Aging 2018

Summary of these findings



- The group with age-related macular degeneration (AMD) tend to under-perform on several cognitive tasks, particularly related to language/semantics
- AMD patients had worse structural integrity in tracts that are involved in vision and semantic processing.
- Higher connectivity within right-sided regions of a frontotemporal brain network was associated with <u>cognitive resilience</u> in AMD.

Working Hypothesis: Efficient recruitment of supplemental brain regions may support cognitive performance in the face of structural brain deficits.

Underlying neuropathology (e.g., amyloid/tau) may make it more difficult to cope with vision loss, and *vice versa*

Example #2:

The Duke/UNC Alzheimer's Disease Research Center views Alzheimer's disease as a disease that reflects age-related changes in the brain's resilience to stressors







National Institute on Aging Designated Alzheimer's Disease Research Center

In early 2020, Duke and UNC established a new partnership to apply jointly for an Alzheimer's Disease Research Center.



Related to prevention of dementia

Lancet Commission **Conclusion**: Modifying 12 risk factors across the lifespan can prevent or delay up to 40% of dementia cases.



Livingston et al Lancet 2020

Figure 7: Population attributable fraction of potentially modifiable risk factors for dementia

Interconnected Systems and Sub-systems constantly moving, transitioning, and adapting to changing environments and new stressors





Our participants are younger and more diverse

- Under-represented groups: Black, NA/AI, and people from rural North Carolina
- Biofluids and data across early and mid-life
- Peri-menopausal women

We collect novel data and biomarkers

- Retinal imaging
- Digital biomarkers
- High resolution, advanced MRI techniques
- Sensory and mobility measures

<image>





Actively recruiting!

~20% UREGs; ~30% from rural zip codes; > 80% donated CSF

Dementia represents a heterogeneous mix of pathologies



Kwon S et al., Neurotherapeutics 17, 935–954 (2020)

Targeting changes in the brain's resilience to **vascular insults** across mid- to late-life



Retired statistics professor 2-3 years of subjective executive dysfunction, memory loss PMH: HTN, prostate cancer

Montreal Cognitive Assessment (MoCA): 22/30

Over the next 3.5 years:

- Progressive cognitive decline
- Multiple episodes of delirium
- Worsening balance, multiple falls





"One side of my mouth has been funny since I left the gym this morning."

Symptoms developed ~10 hours earlier

- Left-sided peri-oral numbness
- Hyper-salivation



MRI:

Punctate acute or subacute infarct in the right frontal corona radiata.

Diagnosis: Subcortical ischemic stroke



Post-stroke: Patient is now 49





- Residual symptoms very minor; no functional limitations
- Remains attentive to diet and exercise; gave up cigars
- NEW MEDICATIONS; SBP target <120



Hypertension management: the SPRINT-MIND trial



Effect of Intensive vs Standard Blood Pressure Control on Probable Dementia



- 9361 participants age 50+ with SBP > 130 + CVD risk factor
- Randomized to
 - Standard BP control (target SBP <140)
 - Intense BP control (target SBP <120)

Intense BP control over 5 years lowered risk of MCI/dementia

SPRINT research group. JAMA. January 2019.



- Risk of dementia is lower in people who do <u>not</u> have
 - Obesity
 - Type 2 diabetes
 - Hyperlipidemia
- Does treatment of these risk factors in mid- or late-life lower dementia risk or amyloid/tau?
- At the molecular level, how do these risk factors interact with amyloid/tau pathology?
- Or do ischemic injuries simply reduce a brain's ability to maintain cognition when amyloid and tau proteinopathies are present?





An Invitation to Get Involved

Conference #2 will focus on **mechanisms and predictors** of resilience to health stressors.

It will occur in DC area in March 2024

WANT TO BE PART OF IT?

Look for a call late November for applications for Rising Star travel awards to attend!!

DOI: 10.1111/jgs.18388

SPECIAL ARTICLE

Journal of the American Geriatrics Society

An overview of the resilience world: Proceedings of the American Geriatrics Society and National Institute on Aging State of Resilience Science Conference

Peter M. Abadir MD¹ | Karen Bandeen-Roche PhD¹ | Cindy Bergeman PhD² | David Bennett MD³ | Daniel Davis PhD, MRCP⁴ | Amy Kind MD, PhD⁵ | Nathan LeBrasseur PhD, MS⁶ | Yaakov Stern PhD⁷ | Ravi Varadhan PhD¹ | Heather E. Whitson MD, MHS^{8,9}

Thank you and Questions

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