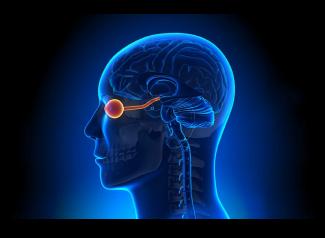
# Sensory Health, Dementia, and Delirium



#### Josh Ehrlich, MD, MPH

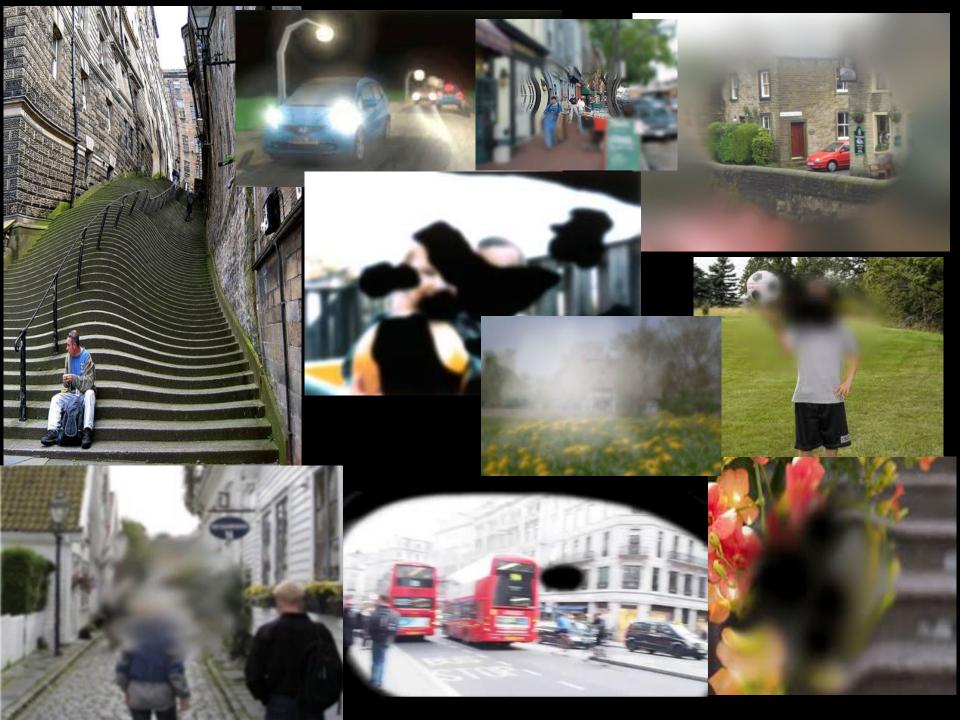
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### Financial disclosures

No conflicts of interest or financial disclosures relevant to the material in this presentation

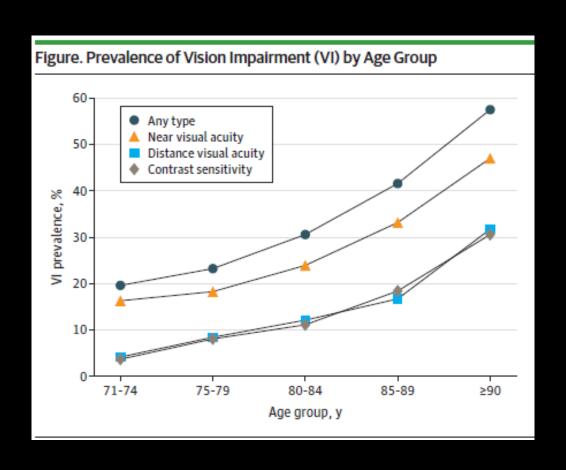


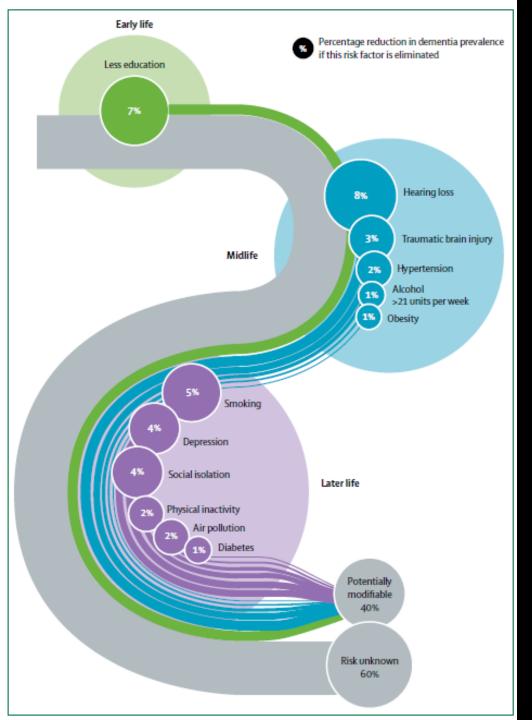
# VI prevalence with age

JAMA Ophthalmology | Brief Report

Objectively Measured Visual Impairment and Dementia Prevalence in Older Adults in the US

Olivia J. Killeen, MD, MS; Yunshu Zhou, MS; Joshua R. Ehrlich, MD, MPH





# 2020 risk factor model

Dementia prevention, intervention, and care: 2020 report of the *Lancet* Commission.

## High prevalence

# 1.1 billion people

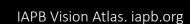
are living with
vision loss
because they
do not have access
to basic
eye care services



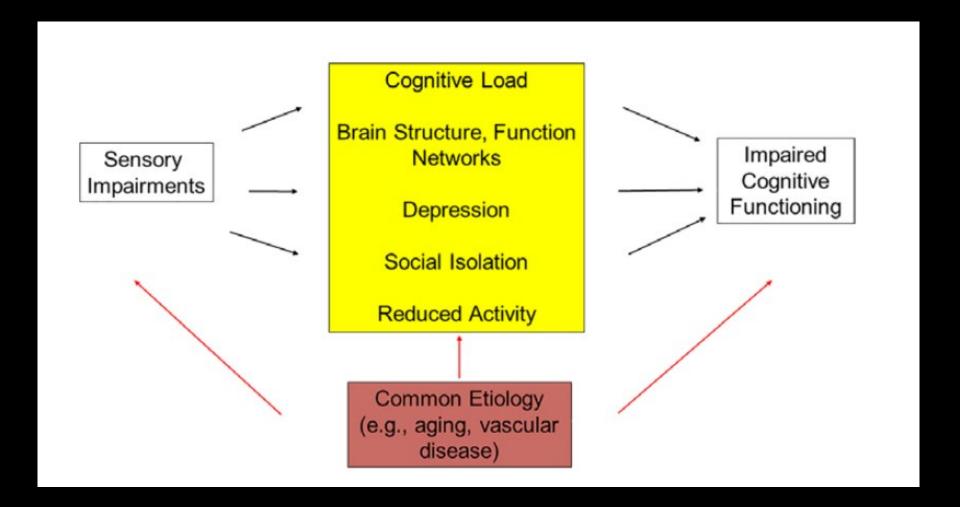


# Visual impairment is largely preventable or correctable

Top five causes of blindness and moderate to severe vision loss Uncorrected refractive error 161M Cataract **100M 8M** Glaucoma Age-related macular degeneration 8M Diabetic retinopathy

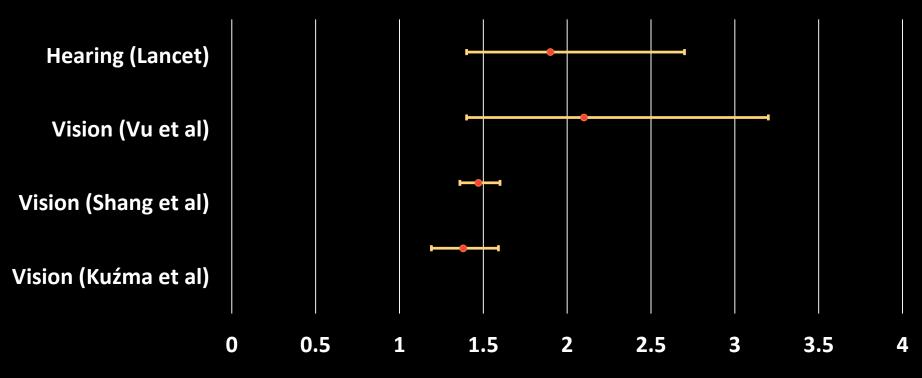


# Hypothesized pathways

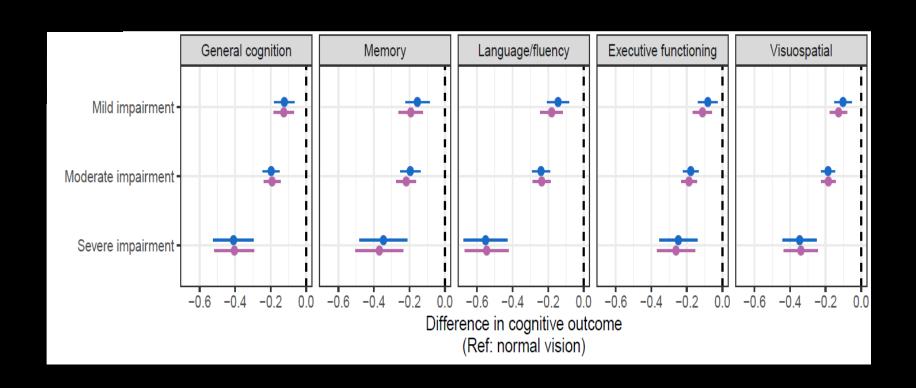


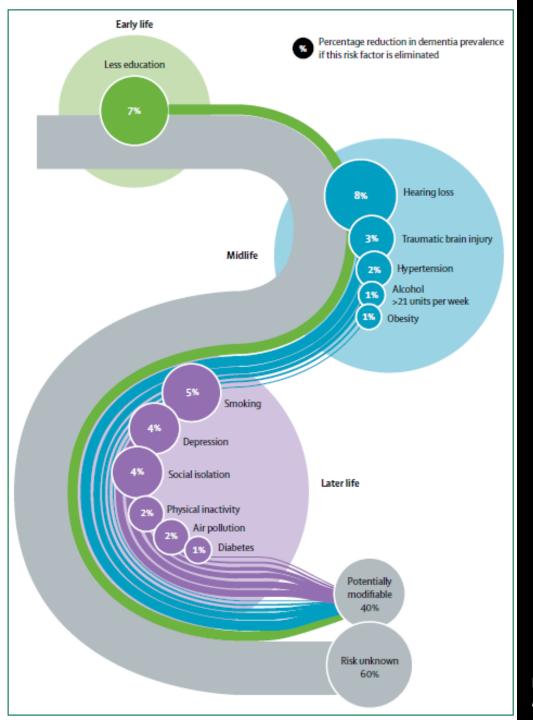
### **Effect sizes**

# Vision Impairment, Hearing Impairment, and Dementia: Effect Sizes from Meta-Analyses



# Are we measuring what we think we are?





# Building on the 2020 risk factor model

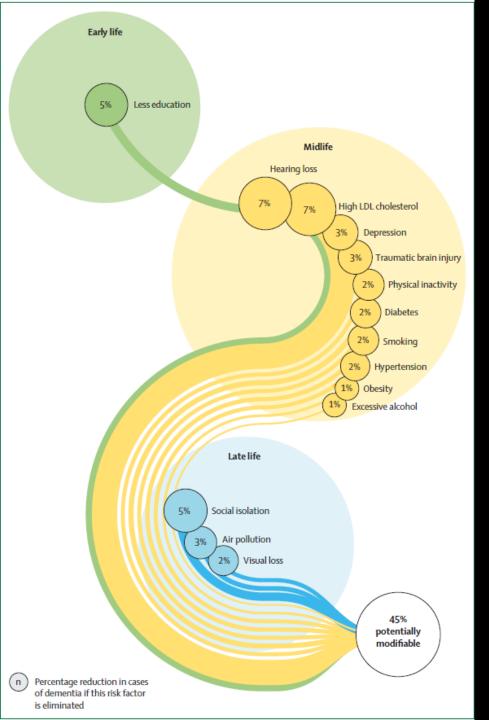
Dementia prevention, intervention, and care: 2020 report of the *Lancet* Commission.

JAMA Neurology | Brief Report

Addition of Vision Impairment to a Life-Course Model of Potentially Modifiable Dementia Risk Factors in the US

Joshua R. Ehrlich, MD, MPH; Jenna Goldstein, BA; Bonnie K. Swenor, PhD, MPH; Heather Whitson, MD, MHS; Kenneth M. Langa, MD, PhD; Phillip Veliz, PhD

- PAF (2%) comparable to social isolation, >alcohol
- 100,000 cases of dementia in U.S. preventable w/ good vision
- TPAF with The prevalence of VI (e.g., 6x more VI in India)



# 14 potentially modifiable risk factors

Dementia prevention, intervention, and care: 2024 report of the *Lancet* Commission.

### 2024 risk factor model

	RR for dementia (95% CI)	Risk factor prevalence, %	Communality, %	Unweighted PAF, %	Weighted PAF, %	Weighted PAF rounded to nearest whole number, %
Early life						
Less education	1-6 (1-3-2-0)300	23-2%303	0-608	12-2%	4.5%	5%
Midlife						
Hearing loss	1-4 (1-0-1-9)*	59-0%34	0-609	19-1%	7.0%	7%
High LDL cholesterol	1-3 (1-3-1-4)36	76-5%†	0-469	18-7%	6.9%	7%
Depression	2-2 (1-7-3-0)*	7-2%305	0-452	8-3%	3.0%	3%
Traumatic brain injury	1.7 (1.4-1.9)17	12-1%306	0-423	7-8%	2.9%	3%
Physical inactivity	1.2 (1.2-1.3)*3	27-5%397	0-567	6-4%	2.4%	2%
Smoking	1-3 (1-2-1-4)148	22-3% <sup>308</sup>	0-650	6-3%	2.3%	2%
Diabetes	1.7 (1.6-1.8)309	9-3%310	0-493	6-4%	2.3%	2%
Hypertension	1-2 (1-1-1-4)311	31-1%312	0-595	5-9%	2.2%	2%
Obesity	1-3 (1-0-1-7)206	13-0%313	0-622	3-8%	1.4%	1%
Excessive alcohol consumption	1.2 (1.0-1.5)213	13-3%213	0-772	2.6%	1.0%	1%
Late life						
Social isolation	1-6 (1-3-1-8)221	24-0%34	0-408	12-6%	4.6%	5%
Air pollution	1-1 (1-1-1-1)335	75-0%335	0-341	7-0%	2.6%	3%
Untreated vision loss	1.5 (1.4-1.6)22	12-7%260	0-553	6-0%	2.2%	2%
Overall PAF for all risk factors		-		-	45.3%	45%

RR=relative risk. PAF=population attributable fraction. \*Calculated by the authors in this Commission. †Prevalence derived from 37 000 participants aged ≥45 years from the Norwegian HUNT study.36

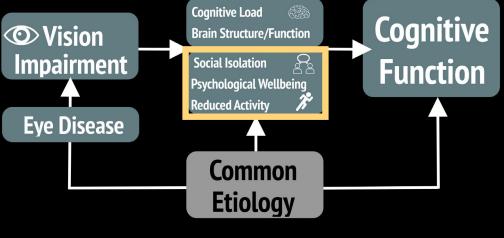
# CORRECTABLE VISION LOSS

#### **INTERVENTION**

Refractive error
Presbyopia
Cataract

Eyeglasses
Cataract surgery





# CLEVER



Cognitive Level Enhancement through Vision Exams and Refraction



Visual and Hearing Impairment Are Associated With Delirium in Hospitalized Patients: Results of a Multisite Prevalence Study

Alessandro Morandi MD, MPH<sup>a,b,c,\*</sup>, Marco Inzitari MD, PhD<sup>c,d</sup>, Cristina Udina MD<sup>c,d</sup>, Northell MD, PhD<sup>c</sup>, Miriam Mota MSc<sup>c</sup>, Elena Tassistro MS<sup>e</sup>, Anita Andreano MSc<sup>e</sup>, Antomo Cherubini MD, PhD<sup>f</sup>, Simona Gentile MD<sup>a,b</sup>, Enrico Mossello MD<sup>g</sup>, Alessandra Marengoni MD, PhD<sup>h</sup>, Anna Olivé MD<sup>i</sup>, Francesc Riba MD<sup>j</sup>, Domingo Ruiz MD, PhD<sup>k,l</sup>, Elisabet de Jaime MD, PhD<sup>m</sup>, Giuseppe Bellelli MD<sup>n,o</sup>, on behalf of the Italian Study Group of Delirium<sup>1</sup>

- Sensory loss common in delirium; among 3038 adults 65+ admitted to hospital:
  - Hearing (31% vs 18%)
  - Vision (24% vs 16%)
  - Dual sensory (16% vs 8%)
- Dual sensory loss independently associated with development of delirium



Systematic review of delirium risk factors						
Acute admission	>4 alcoholic drinks/day					
Cognitive impairment	ADL impairment					
Age >75	Prior delirium					
≥ 5 medications	>2 morbidities					
Male	Hearing and/or vision problem					

European Geriatric Medicine (2020) 11:307–314 https://doi.org/10.1007/s41999-019-00287-w

RESEARCH PAPER



#### Development and validation of the delirium risk assessment score (DRAS)

Ralph Vreeswijk¹ ○ · Imke Kalisvaart³ · Andrea B. Maier²,⁴ · Kees J. Kalisvaart¹

Received: 21 September 2019 / Accepted: 27 December 2019 / Published online: 18 January 2020 © European Geriatric Medicine Society 2020

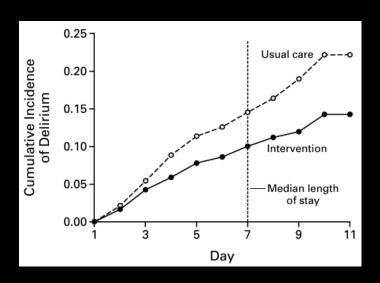
Table 2 Development of the delirium risk assessment score (DRAS) to predict delirium in the development cohort (N=842), univariate and multivariate analyses

Risk factors	Univariate	•		Multivariate			Final DRAS Points
	OR	95% CI	P	OR	95% CI	P	
Acute admission	4.04	2.94-5.55	< 0.001	2.99	2.12-4.22	< 0.001	3
Alcohol, 4 or more units/day	1.85	1.00-3.41	0.046	2.7	1.34-5.45	0.01	3
Cognitive impairment	3.41	2.51-4.63	< 0.001	2.4	1.72-3.36	< 0.001	3
ADL/mobility problems	2.88	2.14-3.89	< 0.001	1.91	1.36-2.68	< 0.001	2
Age, 75 years or older	2.27	1.52-3.39	< 0.001	1.46	0.93-2.28	0.14	1
Vision/hearing problems	2.09	1.54-2.83	< 0.001	1.34	0.95-1.90	0.10	1
Medication, 5 or more prescriptions	1.92	1.43-2.57	< 0.001	1.35	0.97 - 1.88	0.10	1
History of delirium	1.71	1.01-2.92	0.045	1.54	0.84 - 2.83	0.16	1
Comorbidity, 2 or more illnesses	2.19	1.60-1.49	< 0.001	Excluded		0.83	Excluded
Gender (male)	1.36	1.00-1.84	0.051	Excluded			Excluded



#### A MULTICOMPONENT INTERVENTION TO PREVENT DELIRIUM IN HOSPITALIZED OLDER PATIENTS

SHARON K. INOUYE, M.D., M.P.H., SIDNEY T. BOGARDUS, JR., M.D., PETER A. CHARPENTIER, M.P.H., LINDA LEO-SUMMERS, M.P.H., DENISE ACAMPORA, M.P.H., THEODORE R. HOLFORD, Ph.D., AND LEO M. COONEY, JR., M.D.



- Early description (1999) of role of decreased sensory input in delirium risk
- Intervention on 6 risk factors, including vision (visual aids) & hearing loss (amplifiers)
- Outcomes: lower incidence of delirium, fewer episodes & days

Original Study

A Delirium Risk Modification Program Is Associated With Hospital Outcomes

James L. Rudolph MD, SM <sup>a,b,c,\*</sup>, Elizabeth Archambault MSW, LICSW <sup>a</sup>, Brittany Kelly BA <sup>a,d</sup> on behalf of the VA Boston Delirium Task Force

- Older VA patients (78.2 years), n=1527
- Modification of delirium risk through
  - Cognitive stimulation
  - Sensory improvement
  - Sleep promotion

Original Study

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  - Cognitive stimulation
  - Sensory improvement
  - Sleep promotion

- √ ↓ length of stay
- ✓ ↓ restraint use
- $\checkmark \downarrow$  costs (trend)

# Concluding thoughts

- VI impacts many facets of life, including brain health
- Vision may be a modifiable lever to optimize late-life health and wellbeing, including dementia and delirium risk
- Longitudinal, generalizable, rigorous evidence is needed

# Acknowledgements

#### **UM Ophthalmology**

- Lindsay De Lott
- Rachel Mumby
- Niranjani Nagarajan
- Yunshu Zhou

#### **UM School of Nursing**

Phil Veliz

#### **UM Institute for Social Research**

- Phillipa Clarke
- Vicki Freedman
- Mengyao Hu
- Ken Langa

#### **University of Chicago**

Jay Pinto

**NEI R01EY034479 (Ehrlich)** 

**NIA R01AG051125 (Lee)** 

NIA R61AG089063 (Deal/Ehrlich)

NIA P30AG012846 (Freedman)

#### **Johns Hopkins University**

- Jennifer Deal
- Alden Gross
- Frank Lin
- Jennifer Schrack
- **Bonnielin Swenor**
- Varshini Varadaraj

#### **New York University**

Nick Reed

#### **CLEVER Team**

- Suvarna Alladi
- Nathan Congdon
- **Rohit Khanna**
- Sri Marmamula
- Keerthana Umapathy

#### **University of Southern California**

- Jinkook Lee
- **Emma Nichols**
- Sandy Chien
- Pranali Khobragade

#### **Aravind Eye Care System**

Karthik Srinivasan

#### **NORC**

David Rein

#### **Duke University**

**Heather Whitson** 

#### **UM Students & Post-Docs**

- Shu Xu
- **Grace Chung**
- Jenna Goldstein
- Huiyan Jin
- Ajay Kolli
- Karolina Leziak









