

The Aging, Demographics, and Memory Study: Study Design and Methods

Subject Area:  [Neurology and Neuroscience](#) ,  [Public Health](#)

[Kenneth M. Langa](#); [Brenda L. Plassman](#); [Robert B. Wallace](#); [A. Regula Herzog](#); [Steven G. Heeringa](#); [Mary Beth Ofstedal](#); [James R. Burke](#); [Gwenith G. Fisher](#); [Nancy H. Fultz](#); [Michael D. Hurd](#); [Guy G. Potter](#); [Willard L. Rodgers](#); [David C. Steffens](#); [David R. Weir](#); [Robert J. Willis](#)

Neuroepidemiology (2005) 25 (4): 181–191.

<https://doi.org/10.1159/000087448>  [Article history](#)

 [Content Tools](#) ▾

Abstract

Objective: We describe the design and methods of the Aging, Demographics, and Memory Study (ADAMS), a new national study that will provide data on the antecedents, prevalence, outcomes, and costs of dementia and 'cognitive impairment, not demented' (CIND) using a unique study design based on the nationally representative Health and Retirement Study (HRS). We also illustrate potential uses of the ADAMS data and provide information to interested researchers on obtaining ADAMS and HRS data. **Methods:** The ADAMS is the first population-based study of dementia in the United States to include subjects from all regions of the country, while at the same time using a single standardized diagnostic protocol in a community-based sample. A sample of 856 individuals age 70 or older who were participants in the ongoing HRS received an extensive in-home clinical and neuropsychological assessment to determine a diagnosis of normal, CIND, or dementia. Within the CIND and dementia categories, subcategories (e.g. Alzheimer's disease, vascular dementia) were assigned to denote the etiology of cognitive impairment. **Conclusion:** Linking the ADAMS dementia clinical assessment data to the wealth of available longitudinal HRS data on health, health care utilization, informal care, and economic resources and behavior, will provide a unique opportunity to study the onset of CIND and dementia in a nationally representative population-based sample, as well as the risk factors, prevalence, outcomes, and costs of CIND and dementia.

Keywords: [Dementia](#), [Aging](#), [Epidemiologic studies](#), [Population-based studies](#)

[Skip to Main Content](#)

Copyright / Drug Dosage / Disclaimer

Copyright: All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be translated into other languages, reproduced or utilized in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, microcopying, or by any information storage and retrieval system, without permission in writing from the publisher.

Drug Dosage: The authors and the publisher have exerted every effort to ensure that drug selection and dosage set forth in this text are in accord with current recommendations and practice at the time of publication. However, in view of ongoing research, changes in government regulations, and the constant flow of information relating to drug therapy and drug reactions, the reader is urged to check the package insert for each drug for any changes in indications and dosage and for added warnings and precautions. This is particularly important when the recommended agent is a new and/or infrequently employed drug.

Disclaimer: The statements, opinions and data contained in this publication are solely those of the individual authors and contributors and not of the publishers and the editor(s). The appearance of advertisements or/and product references in the publication is not a warranty, endorsement, or approval of the products or services advertised or of their effectiveness, quality or safety. The publisher and the editor(s) disclaim responsibility for any injury to persons or property resulting from any ideas, methods, instructions or products referred to in the content or advertisements.

You do not currently have access to this content.

Sign in

Don't already have an account? > [Register](#)

Individual Login

[LOGIN TO MY KARGER](#)

Institutional Login

- Access via Shibboleth and OpenAthens
- Access via username and password

[Skip to Main Content](#)

[Digital Version](#)

Pay-Per-View Access \$45.00

 **BUY THIS ARTICLE**

1 Karger Article Bundle Token

\$170

 **BUY TOKEN**

Rental

This article is also available for rental through DeepDyve.



[View Metrics](#)

 402

 1

 469

 1

Email Alerts

 [Online First Alert](#)

 [Latest Issue Alert](#)

Citing Articles Via

 [Web Of Science \(340\)](#)

 [Google Scholar](#)

 [CrossRef \(346\)](#)

- Short-term exposure to ambient air pollution and epilepsy mortality: a population-based case-crossover study
- Global Burden of Neurological Diseases Attributable to Behavioral Risks, 1990–2021
- The burden and trend of neuroblastoma and other peripheral nervous cell tumors from 1990 to 2021: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2021
- Global Burden of Spinal Cord Injuries Attributable to Falls and Road Traffic Injuries in Working-Age Individuals, 1990 to 2021, with Projections through 2040: An Age-Period-Cohort Analysis
- Diverging Global Burden, Risk Factors, and Temporal Trends of Early-Onset and Late-Onset Dementia: A Comprehensive Analysis of the Global Burden of Disease Study 2021

Related Articles

INFORMATION

- Contact & Support
- Information & Downloads
- Rights & Permissions

- › Planned Maintenance
- › Accessibility

ABOUT US

- › Company
- › People & Organization
- › Newsroom
- › Careers
- › Stay Up-to-Date
- › Regional Offices
- › Community Voice

SERVICES FOR

- › Researchers
- › Authors
- › Reviewers
- › Healthcare Professionals
- › Patients & Supporters
- › Librarians
- › Health Sciences Industry
- › Medical Societies
- › Agents & Booksellers

KARGER INTERNATIONAL

S. Karger AG

P.O Box, CH-4009 Basel (Switzerland)
Allschwilerstrasse 10, CH-4055 Basel

Tel: +41 61 306 11 11

Fax: +41 61 306 12 34

Contact: Front Office



[Skip to Main Content](#)



[› Privacy Policy](#) [› Terms of Use](#) [› Imprint](#) [› Cookies](#) © 2026 S. Karger AG, Basel