

**Postgraduate  
Medicine**

# A SPECIAL REPORT

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THE EXPERT CONSENSUS GUIDELINE SERIES

## TREATMENT OF DEMENTIA AND ITS BEHAVIORAL DISTURBANCES

GEORGE S. ALEXOPOULOS, M.D.

DILIP V. JESTE, M.D.

HENRY CHUNG, M.D.

DANIEL CARPENTER, PH.D.

RUTH ROSS, M.A.

JOHN P. DOCHERTY, M.D.

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IN JOINT-SPONSORSHIP WITH EXPERT KNOWLEDGE SYSTEMS, LLC

# A SPECIAL REPORT

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## Continuing Medical Education

This activity is an enduring material and consists of a journal supplement. Successful completion is achieved by reading the material, reflecting on its implications in your practice, and completing the assessment component. The estimated time to complete the activity is 3.0 hours. This activity was originally released in January 2005 and is eligible for credit through January 2006.

**Intended Audience:** This activity was developed for physicians, psychologists, and allied clinicians who treat patients with dementia.

**Statement of Need:** The purpose of this activity is to utilize the Expert Consensus Methodology to quantify and validate the country's leading research and clinical experts' recommendations regarding the most appropriate ways to treat their patients with dementia and its behavioral disturbances and to disseminate those needed recommendations in a supplement to a major medical journal.

**Learning Objectives:** Upon completion of this activity participants should be able to:

- Discuss the experts' recommendations regarding the diagnosis of mild cognitive impairment (MCI) and factors believed to increase the risk of transition from MCI to different kinds of dementia (e.g., Alzheimer's, vascular);
- Describe the diagnostic features and preferred pharmacological treatment strategies associated with different types of mild-to-moderate dementia;
- Assess the discriminating features of depression in dementia and be able to discuss the experts' recommendations for treating depression in dementia, including the risk factors for suicide in dementia patients;
- Assimilate the experts' recommendations regarding the management of cognitive decline in patients with moderate-to-severe dementia, including discussion of the experts' first-line recommendations and alternative strategies; and
- Describe the experts' recommendations regarding the management of agitation and psychosis in patients with moderate-to-severe dementia (specifically, types of therapy that are helpful to patients with agitation and psychosis)

**Accreditation and Certification:** This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the Essential Areas and policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) through the joint sponsorship of the Annenberg Center for Health Sciences at Eisenhower and Comprehensive NeuroSciences, Inc. The Annenberg Center is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

The Annenberg Center designates this educational activity for a maximum of 3.0 category 1 credits toward the AMA Physician's Recognition Award. Each physician should claim only those credits that he/she actually spent in the educational activity.

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There is no charge for this activity. Statements of Credit will be provided by mail following activity participation, and upon completion and return of the evaluation form to the Annenberg Center for Health Sciences at Eisenhower (#4281), 39000 Bob Hope Drive, Rancho Mirage, CA 92270 or by FAX to 760-773-4550. Please allow 4-6 weeks for the delivery of your statement.

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# STAFF

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### Editorial Offices

4530 West 77th Street  
Minneapolis, MN 55435  
(952) 835-3222

### Group Vice President

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## *The Expert Consensus Panel for Dementia*

The following participants in the Expert Consensus Survey were identified from several sources: recent research publications and funded grants and participants in the previous expert consensus survey on the treatment of agitation in dementia. Of the 50 experts to whom we sent the survey, 100% replied. The recommendations in the guidelines reflect the aggregate opinions of the experts and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of each individual on each question.

Dan G. Blazer, M.D., Ph.D.  
*Duke University Medical Center*

William J. Burke, M.D.  
*University of Nebraska*

Christopher C. Colenda, M.D.  
*Texas A&M University System Health Science Center*

Yeates Conwell, M.D.  
*University of Rochester*

Jeffrey L. Cummings, M.D.  
*David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA*

Davangree P. Devanand, M.D.  
*Columbia University*

P. Murali Doraiswamy, M.D.  
*Duke University Medical Center*

Maurice Dysken, M.D.  
*GRECC Program, Cleveland*

Sanford I. Finkel, M.D.  
*University of Chicago Medical School*

Alastair John Flint, M.D.  
*University of Toronto*

Richard Goldberg, M.D.  
*Brown University*

Marion Z Goldstein, M.D.  
*SUNY Buffalo School of Medicine & Biomedical Sciences*

Blaine S. Greenwald, M.D.  
*Zucker Hillside Hospital of Long Island Jewish Medical Center*

George Grossberg, M.D.  
*St. Louis University School of Medicine*

Mustafa M Husain, M.D.  
*University of Texas SW Medical Center*

Gary J. Kennedy, M.D.  
*Albert Einstein College of Medicine & Montefiore Medical Center*

K. Ranga Rama Krishnan, M.D.  
*Duke University Medical Center*

Anand Kumar, M.D.  
*University of California, Los Angeles*

Helen Lavretsky, M.D.  
*David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA*

Ira Lesser, M.D.  
*Harbor UCLA Medical Center*

James B. Lohr, M.D.  
*University of California, San Diego*

Constantine Lyketsos, M.D.  
*Johns Hopkins Hospital*

Jeffrey Marc Lyness, M.D.  
*University of Rochester*

Bruce Miller, M.D.  
*University of California, San Francisco*

Gary Moak, M.D.  
*University of Massachusetts Medical School*

Benoit H. Mulsant, M.D.  
*University of Pittsburgh*

Craig Nelson, M.D.  
*University of California, San Francisco*

Charles B. Nemeroff, M.D., Ph.D.  
*Emory University School of Medicine*

Paul A. Newhouse, M.D.  
*University of Vermont College of Medicine*

David W. Oslin, M.D.  
*University of Pennsylvania*

Thomas E. Oxman, M.D.  
*Dartmouth Medical Center*

Bruce G. Pollock, M.D.  
*University of Pittsburgh*

Anton P. Porsteinsson, M.D.  
*University of Rochester Medical Center*

Peter Rabins, M.D.  
*Johns Hopkins Hospital*

Murray Raskind, M.D.  
*University of Washington School of Medicine*

William E. Reichman, M.D.  
*Robert Wood Johnson Medical School*

Burton V. Reifler, M.D.  
*Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center*

Jules Rosen, M.D.  
*Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic, University of Pittsburgh*

Carl Salzman, M.D.  
*Harvard Medical School*

Lon S. Schneider, M.D.  
*University of Southern California Keck School of Medicine*

Susan Schultz, M.D.  
*University of Iowa College of Medicine*

David Carl Steffens, M.D.  
*Duke University Medical Center*

Joel E. Streim, M.D.  
*University of Pennsylvania*

David L. Sultzer, M.D.  
*David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA*

Trey Sunderland, M.D.  
*National Institute of Mental Health*

Pierre N. Tariot, M.D.  
*University of Rochester Medical Center*

Larry Tune, M.D.  
*Emory University School of Medicine*

Richard C. Veith, M.D.  
*University of Washington*

Peter J. Whitehouse, M.D., PhD  
*Case Western Reserve University*

Jerome A. Yesavage, M.D.  
*Stanford University School of Medicine*

*The Expert Consensus Guideline Series*

**Treatment of Dementia and  
its Behavioral Disturbances**

**George S. Alexopoulos, M.D.**

*Cornell Institute of Geriatric Psychiatry  
and Weill Medical College of Cornell University*

**Dilip V. Jeste, M.D.**

*University of California, San Diego  
and VA San Diego Healthcare System*

**Henry Chung, M.D.**

*New York University School of Medicine*

**Daniel Carpenter, Ph.D.**

*Comprehensive NeuroScience, Inc.*

**Ruth Ross, M.A.**

*Ross Editorial*

**John P. Docherty, M.D.**

*Comprehensive NeuroScience, Inc.*

*Editing and Design.* David Ross, M.A., M.C.E., Ross Editorial

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