

Lilly A MEDICINE COMPANY

EPISODE 5

NEURIZONS

Exploring the Brain Health Frontier

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Recommendations from the Alzheimer's Association Guideline for Primary Care



How have the Alzheimer's Association guideline updates impacted the role of primary care in the early identification and evaluation of patients? Host Dr. Bert Vargas and Dr. Joanna Loewenstein discuss the growing importance of primary care physicians in Alzheimer's disease care, including how these updates may help address specialist capacity constraints and strengthen physician-patient communication around both diagnosis and preventive brain health.

PRACTICAL INSIGHTS

The existing barriers and recommended next steps for primary care, as discussed in Episode 5, are outlined below.

Communication gaps in cognitive care can contribute to missed opportunities for brain health counseling.

Apply a patient-centered, guideline-informed approach to support clear, structured, and compassionate communication with patients and care partners.

Broaden conversations to incorporate **preventive brain health education** for individuals without symptoms.

1

Applying new guideline recommendations and determining when to use the AD (Alzheimer's disease) diagnostic algorithm may present challenges in clinical practice.

Use annual wellness visits as an opportunity to integrate cognitive evaluation and order sets within existing routine workflow.

Train nurses to conduct cognitive screening tests to reduce physician burden.

2

As the aging population grows, demand for cognitive care continues to increase, placing greater demands on specialist capacity.

Leverage accessibility of blood-based biomarkers to support AD diagnosis prior to referring patients to specialists to alleviate capacity issues.

Strengthen the role of primary care in conducting guideline-recommended cognitive screening and initial diagnostic evaluations.

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AD=Alzheimer's disease

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