Special Issue

Dementia Prevention and Care in Indigenous Communities: Opportunities to Advance Cognitive Health Equity

Message from the Guest Editors

It is now well established that Alzheimer's disease and Alzheimer's disease-related dementias (AD/ADRD) are prevalent in, and a concern among, Indigenous populations globally. An aging Indigenous population with prevalent AD/ADRD risk factors necessitates greater research investment to address this rising disparity and identify prevention pathways. Increasingly, cross-national collaborative initiatives advance understanding of risk and resilience, prevention strategies, culturally grounded care, and innovative Indigenous methodologies, all contributing to understanding the structural origins of AD/ADRD inequities. In this Special Issue, we bring together evidence from across the spectrum of Indigenous dementia research to demonstrate how research can identify and ameliorate AD/ADRD disparities in Indigenous populations, especially from teams using or developing Indigenous-led research, CBPR, other partnership approaches, and Indigenous methodologies. This Special Issue aims to bring together knowledge that can advance our field by exploring new approaches, deepening the evidence base of existing hypotheses, and increasing Indigenous representation in AD/ADRD research.

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Addressing the environmental and public health challenges requires engagement and collaboration among clinicians and public health researchers. Scientific discoveries and advances in this research field play a critical role in providing a rational basis for informed decision-making toward control and prevention of human diseases, especially the illnesses that are induced from environmental exposure to health hazards.

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