

PREDICTOM EARLY DEMENTIA DETECTION

The risk of developing dementia is influenced by various factors, with several of them being modifiable by the actions we take on a daily basis.

Do you want to know more about what actions you can take to **reduce your risk**?

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You can find more information about PREDICTOM on

www.predictom.eu

Prepared by





In collaboration with



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Stay mentally active

Do you enjoy a challenge? Like a muscle, our brain needs regular exercise to stay strong and healthy. To protect our cognition, it's essential to engage in stimulating activities and practice continuous learning.

Need ideas? *Think about what challenges* bring you joy — solving puzzles and playing games, exploring new places, learning new things, organising your belongings? How about trying a new recipe using new ingredients? What about joining a book club or enrolling in a language course?

Protect your senses

Our senses, such as hearing and sight, are our windows to the outside world. By keeping these "windows" open, we ensure that our brain receives the input it needs to stay healthy. Therefore, screening for vision and hearing loss, using hearing aid and glasses when needed, decreasing harmful noise exposure and protecting our eyes, are good ways to maintain cognitive function and reduce the risk of mental decline, ensuring that our brain stays engaged and stimulated.

Keep moving

Regular aerobic exercise is essential for keeping both body and mind healthy, and numerous studies show it reduces the risk of developing dementia.

When was the last time you were physically active? Do you enjoy swimming, cycling, or even just a walk in the park? How about taking the stairs instead of the elevator? No matter your physical condition, find an activity that suits you and make it part of your routine — invite friends or family to join in! Don't forget, if you cycle or play contact sports, always wear a helmet to protect your brain from any impacts. So, keep moving, but do it safely!

Connect with others

The human brain is an amazing machine developed to work in a social context. We need to interact with each other to stay cognitively healthy.

Visit your friends and family, join local communities, meet new people and make new friends. It can be as simple as talking to your neighbours or just the person next to you in a queue. Do it for them and for you!

Monitor your health

Monitoring your health is key to reducing dementia risk. Maintaining healthy blood pressure, cholesterol and blood sugar levels plays an important role in protecting both heart and brain health. Regular check-ups with your healthcare provider can help ensure these indicators stay within a range that's right for you. When was the last time you checked these vital health indicators? Schedule an appointment with your healthcare provider to assess your current status and explore ways to keep these key factors within a healthy range.

Lead a healthy lifestyle

Taking charge of your health today can help reduce the risk of dementia and other diseases. Smoking significantly harms cognitive function and overall brain health, while even continuous low levels of alcohol consumption can have adverse effects on brain health over time. But here's the good news: it's never too late to make a change!

Talk to your doctor for guidance, set achievable goals, and take the first steps towards a healthier lifestyle. Your brain — and your future self — will thank you!