

## OVERVIEW

Nearly half of older adults die with a diagnosis of Alzheimer’s disease and/or a related dementia, either as the immediate cause of death or a co-morbidity. Dementia impairs memory, thought processes, and functioning. Persons with dementia need clinical and other care and services to manage this condition and often long-term services and supports as the disease progresses. This study synthesized evaluation results from CMS-funded work on dementia care to inform future CMS models and programs. We examined total Medicare spending, service use, and care experience in five dementia care projects. Results and themes were summarized across projects to highlight their similarities and differences. (See hyperlinks underlined below to access evaluation reports available online for each project.)

### Dementia Care Projects

Participants	Intervention	Target Population
<i>Dementia care clinics, academic medical systems</i>	<i>Support to reduce medical emergencies and hospitalizations and delay or avoid long-term care facility use</i>	<i>Medicare beneficiaries diagnosed with dementia and their unpaid caregivers</i>

## FINDINGS

 <b>Dementia Care Projects</b>	Total Medicare Spending	ED Visits	Inpatient Admissions	Long-term Care Facility Use
	<a href="#">HCIA Dementia Care Ecosystem</a> (2015–2017)	–	–	–
<a href="#">HCIA Maximizing Independence at Home</a> (2015–2017)	.	.	.	.
<a href="#">HCIA Alzheimer's and Dementia Care</a> (2012–2015)	–	–	–	↑
<a href="#">HCIA Aging Brain Care</a> (2012–2015)	–	–	–	–
Medicare Alzheimer’s Disease Demo. and Evaluation (1989–1994)	–	–	–	–

**Legend:** ↑ Improvement at  $p \leq 0.1$  ↓ Unfavorable at  $p \leq 0.1$  – No change at  $p \leq 0.1$  . Not available ED: Emergency department HCIA: Health Care Innovation Awards

## KEY TAKEAWAYS

These five dementia care projects improved beneficiaries’ and caregivers’ experience of care and quality of life, but did not result in significant Medicare savings. Innovative approaches to dementia care delivery are important given the severe impact of dementia on the lives of those affected, the burdens placed on society, and the rising incidence of dementia as the population ages. New strategies are needed to reach populations that are socially or otherwise isolated. Broader use of dementia care services and longer follow-up periods may improve outcomes (e.g., Medicare spending, hospitalization) that showed non-significant reductions in this analysis.