

Dementia is any condition that causes a general decline in memory, language, and problem-solving. The timing of progression and symptoms vary according to the individual.



Early-Stage Dementia

- Adults may still be able to function independently

Symptoms

- Mild memory lapses
- Difficulty expressing thoughts
- Mood changes

Care Needs

- Discuss future care options
- Consider safety features at home

Middle-Stage Dementia

- Majority of diagnosed adults will require assistance with daily tasks

Symptoms

- Loss of more long-term memory
- May wander and become lost
- May experience depression and anxiety

Care Needs

- Provide assistance with self-care tasks
- Communicate slowly and clearly

Late-Stage Dementia

- Impacts individuals' ability to interact with their environment and control movement
- Requires extensive care at a memory care community

Symptoms

- Unable to recognize family members or themselves in a mirror
- Difficulty communicating
- May experience "time shifting" where they think they're at an earlier period of life

Care Needs

- Full-time hands-on care, including tasks such as spoon-feeding

Varenita of West Cobb offers memory-enhancing programming that maximizes abilities and maintains joy.