

Call for Papers

Sensory Loss in Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias

We are pleased to invite you to participate in our Supplemental Issue on "Sensory Loss in Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias" which is being prepared for the Journal of Alzheimer's Disease.

There is growing evidence that impairment in sensory function (e.g., in hearing, vision, olfaction, touch, etc.) may be linked to brain health and risk of dementia. Sensory function declines with age and impairments in individual and multiple domains are common. Recent evidence suggests that sensory impairments are associated with faster rates of cognitive decline, worse brain health, and a higher risk of Alzheimer's disease (AD) and related dementias (ADRD). Although the mechanisms are not well understood, sensory impairments (especially for hearing or vision) may increase risk for cognitive impairment and AD/ADRD through increased cognitive demands, brain atrophy, or indirectly through impacts on social isolation, psychological wellbeing, or physical activity and health. Sensory loss, such as for olfaction, may also be an indicator of early brain changes or preclinical AD/ADRD. However, associations could be due to other aging factors. Sensory impairments present challenges to accurate measurement of cognitive status and may exacerbate the challenges of living with AD/ADRD. Sensory impairments represent a major public health challenge, but they are detectable clinically and, in some cases, there are effective interventions (e.g., hearing aids, cataract surgery, eyeglasses, etc.). Thus, there may be significant opportunities for using sensory information for earlier diagnosis, treatment and prevention of dementia.

This Supplemental Issue brings together current work on the links between sensory impairments and brain health, cognitive impairment/decline, or AD/ADRD with interest in hearing, vision, smell, and multiple or other sensory impairments. Articles may also focus on the latest developments in earlier detection and treatment of sensory and cognitive problems, the implications of sensory loss in those living with AD/ADRD, measurement challenges, and public health impact of comorbid sensory and cognitive impairments.

Original research manuscripts and reviews dealing with these specific aspects are very welcome. **The submission deadline is April 1, 2025.** There are no publication fees for the accepted articles in this issue. However, if you wish your article to be open access, you must pay for this separately (see our website for pricing: <https://www.j-alz.com/fees>).

Articles should be prepared/formatted per our submission guidelines (<https://journals.sagepub.com/author-instructions/ALZ>), and all articles will be peer-reviewed as soon as they are submitted (no delay). Submissions are through ScholarOne: <https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/alz> (select the section/category "Supplemental Issue: Sensory Loss").

Appropriate designs for original research (research reports or short communications) include observational studies, clinical trials, health services, and mixed methods research. Reviews can include systematic reviews, meta-analyses, and narrative reviews. Authors should use “older adults” when referring to adults over the age of 65 and avoid terms that reinforce negative aging stereotypes (e.g., “elderly”, “seniors”, “aged”). Research on disability should avoid the use of ableist language. Please use “person with dementia” or “people with dementia” rather than “person living with dementia” or “people living with dementia”. Please use “participant” rather than “subject” or “patient” to describe participants in the research described.

Once an article is accepted, it will be posted online and added to PubMed in the usual amount of time for a JAD article (no extra delay while the supplemental issue is being completed). All articles will be published in JAD with the usual indexing in PubMed, Scopus, Web of Science, etc.

We look forward to receiving contributions from your research group. Please feel free to contact us in case you have any further questions.

If you plan to submit, please notify the editorial office at editorial@j-alz.com with a tentative title to help with the planning for this issue.

Editors:

Willa Brenowitz, Kaiser Permanente Center for Health Research, Portland, OR, USA

Jennifer Deal, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD, USA

Joshua Ehrlich, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, USA

Kristine Yaffe, University of California San Francisco, San Francisco, CA, USA