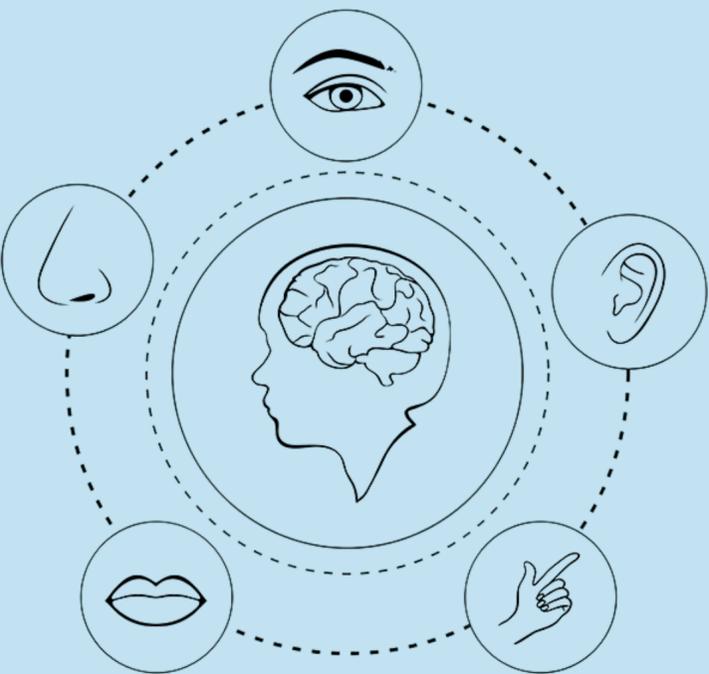


Perception

Perception is related to our senses as it helps us to have a conscious understanding of our world and our experiences. How a person with dementia perceives things often changes as their dementia progresses - this can happen because of physical changes to the brain or the sensory organs, e.g., our eyes and ears.



Symptoms may include misperceptions; misidentifications; hallucinations; delusions; time-shifting

These symptoms can be more common in some dementias (e.g., Lewy Body Dementia), but not everyone will experience these symptoms.

A Walk Through Dementia

simulates perceptual disturbances in dementia



Visual impairment glasses may be used to illustrate how vision loss can affect our perceptual experience



A puddle or a hole? The brain can play tricks on us all sometimes but these misperceptions are more common in people with dementia

Relevance to dementia

Perceptual changes can cause people with dementia to say or do things that do not make sense to others, which can be frustrating, confusing, or upsetting for the person, and for carers. Sensory impairment can worsen perceptual difficulties. In turn, this can make people with dementia feel unsure about their surroundings, less confident and less independent.