



Network for Excellence  
in Health Innovation



Event Page & Program Book

# The Alzheimer's Disease Patient Journey: Pathways to Early-Stage Screening and Detection

Kaiser Permanente Center for Total Health  
Washington DC

May 23, 2024 | 1:00 – 5:00 PM ET

# About NEHI



- NEHI is a national non-profit, non-partisan organization composed of stakeholders from across key sectors of health and health care
- Through interdisciplinary collaboration and with our members' guidance, we research and examine complex and timely health care innovation issues from multiple, often divergent, perspectives.
- We then address policy and adoption challenges to promote the value of innovative products and processes.

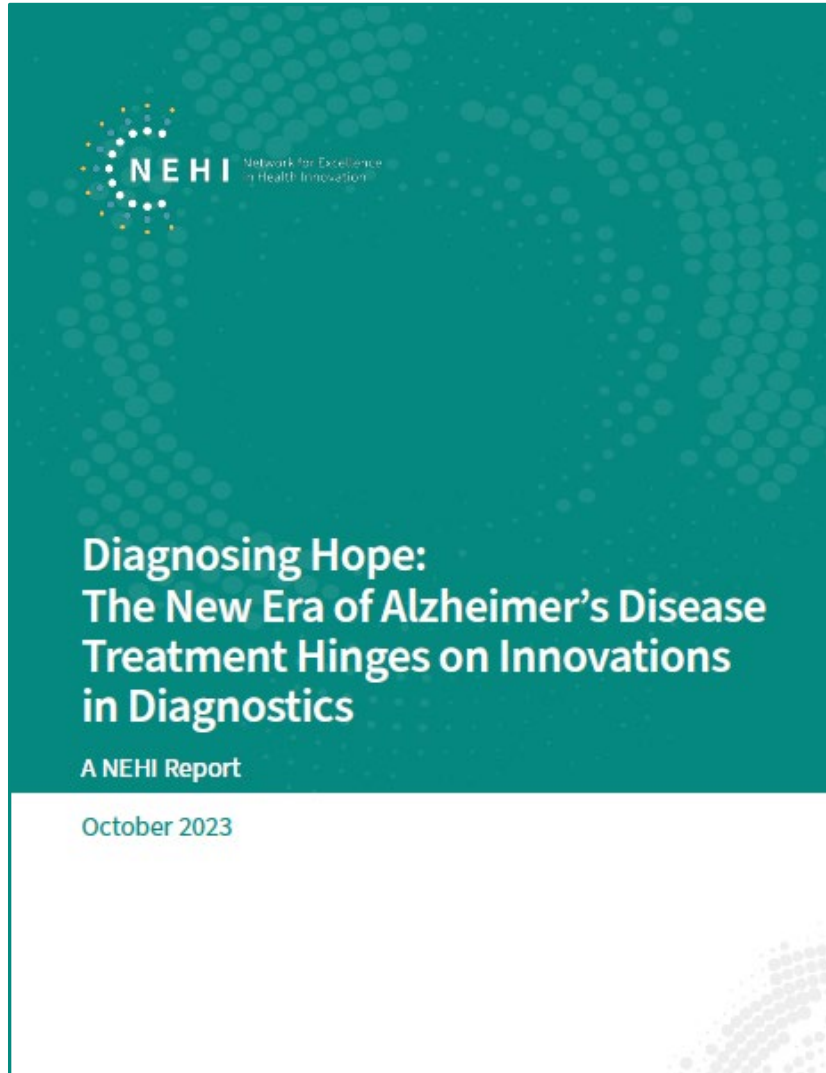
# 'Thank You' to Our Project Sponsors!



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# NEHI's previous work on dementia & Alzheimer's



## Key Findings

- A new era in Alzheimer's disease care has begun
- The health care system will now face the challenge of gaining capability for accurate and cost-effective testing for Alzheimer's disease – at greater scale
- The first step includes overcoming barriers to uptake of cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) analysis and PET imaging and fostering adoption of blood-based and other fluid biomarker testing
- **Expanding the toolbox for screening and assessment of Mild Cognitive Impairment, dementia, Alzheimer's, and other neurodegenerative conditions will be essential**
- **The ideal goal is “right test, right time, right patient” – a paradigm shift in dementia screening and care**

# Ability to Detect vs. Capability to Adopt

Knowing the worst

## It is becoming easier, cheaper and quicker to diagnose dementia

## A New Alzheimer's Drug is Finally Here – Our Healthcare System is Far from Ready

The new year always brings hope, but this January that hope was palpable for the [...]

By DR. ALVARO PASCUAL-LEONE

Post a comment / Apr 13, 2023 at 10:26 AM

EDITORIAL

## Evidence Still Lacking for Recommendation of Screening for Cognitive Impairment in Older Adults

Carol Brayne, MD

Carol Brayne MD, JAMA Internal Medicine, April 2020

# Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI) & Dementia



## Prevalence

- Manly et al 2022: **10% prevalence of dementia and 22% prevalence of MCI** identified in random sample of subjects 65 years+ enrolled in the national Health and Retirement Study (HRS). (N=3496)
- MCI and dementia risk seen to increase with age and decrease with each additional year of education
- Dementia more prevalent among non-Hispanic Black Americans, MCI more prevalent among Hispanic individuals compared to non-Hispanic Whites.

## Screening

- Jacobson et al 2020: **Approximately 30% of Medicaid beneficiaries receive a cognitive assessment at any physician visit**
  - Assessment rates higher among Medicare Advantage subscribers
  - Cognitive assessment rates lower in Medicare Annual Wellness Visits than in visits overall

## Detection

- Liu et al 2023: **Detection rate of MCI in Medicare beneficiaries among PCPs and PCP practices (2017-2019) = 8 percent**
  - (N=226,756 PCPs, 54,507 PCP practices, detection rate= Observed rate/Predicted rate)

# Barriers to Increased Screening



## Barriers cited in a systematic review of the literature\*

Clinicians' hesitancy to discuss brain health and cognitive concerns

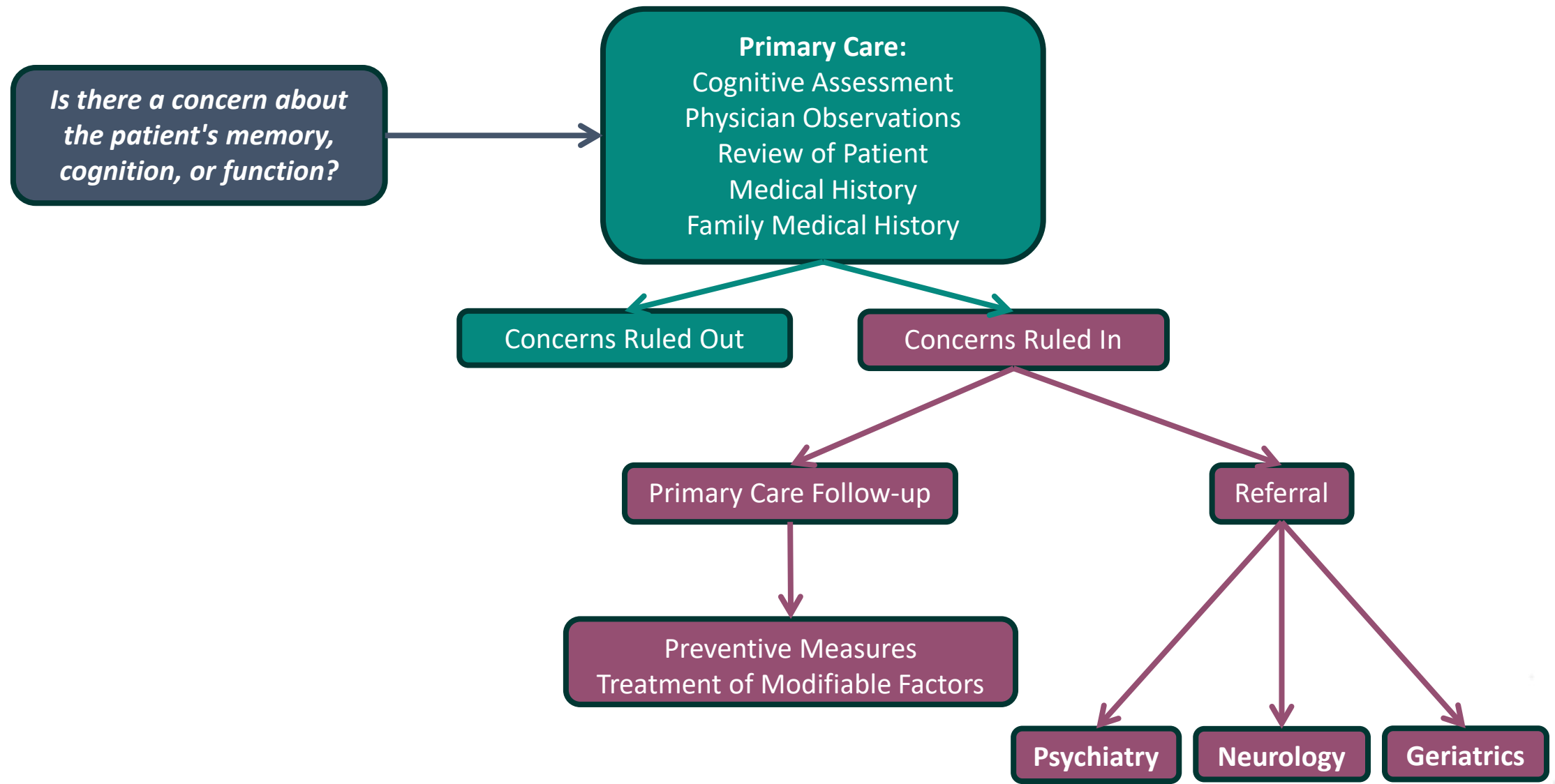
Patients' hesitancy to raise cognitive concerns

Evidence to guide clinicians on treatment of cognitive decline often poorly communicated

Social and cultural context influence perceptions of brain health and cognition, thus affecting clinical engagement

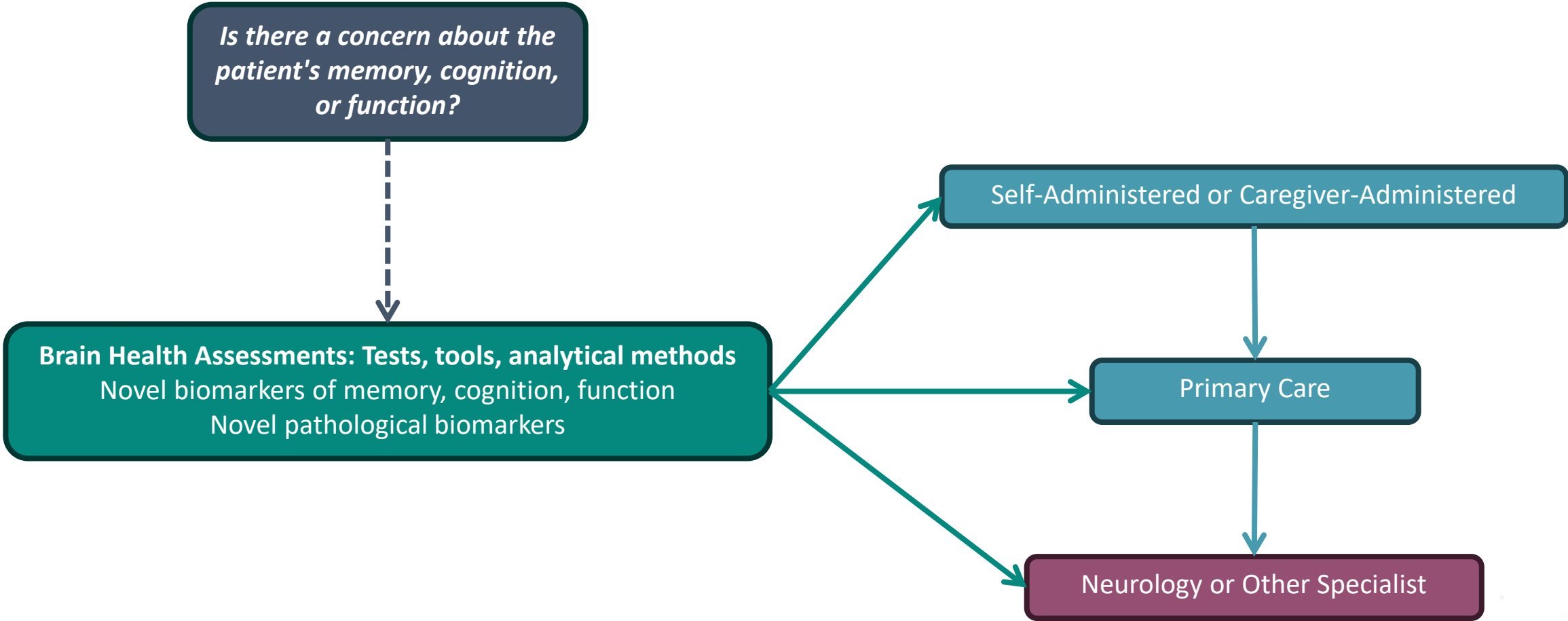
\*Borson et al., 2023

# Typical Care and Referral to Specialists

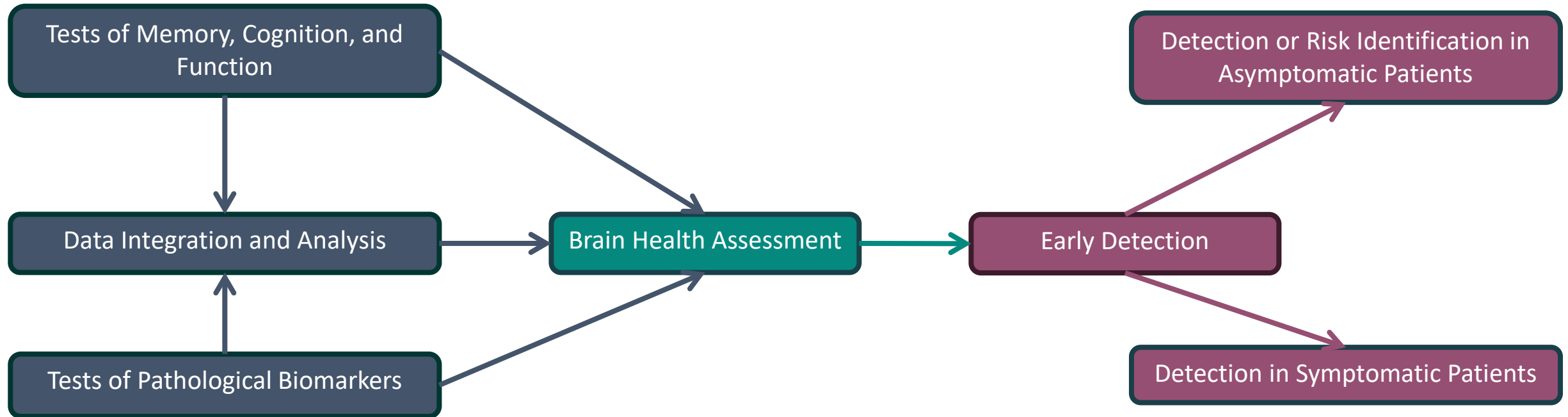




# Future Pathways of Care?



# Innovations Enable Early Detection



## Implications for Diagnosis of Alzheimer's Disease: Alzheimer's Association Workgroup "Revised Criteria for Diagnosis and Staging of Alzheimer's Disease"

**Stage 0: Asymptomatic, biomarkers in normal range**

**Stage 1: Asymptomatic, biomarker evidence only**

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**Stage 2:** Transitional decline: Mild detectable change, but minimal impact on daily function

**Stage 3:** Cognitive impairment with early functional impact

**Stage 4:** Dementia with mild functional impairment

**Stage 5:** Dementia with moderate functional impairment

**Stage 6:** Dementia with severe functional impairment

# Oncoming Innovations for Screening and Assessment of Mild Cognitive Impairment and Dementia



**Deborah E. Barnes, PhD, MPH**  
Professor, Departments of  
Psychiatry and Behavioral  
Sciences and Epidemiology &  
Biostatistics, UCSF Weill  
Institute for Neurosciences and  
Osher Center for Integrative  
Health,  
*UCSF*



**David Bates, PhD**  
CEO & Co-Founder,  
*Linus Health*



**James Hendrix, PhD**  
Executive Director for U.S.  
Medical Affairs  
*Eli Lilly & Company*



**Todd Levine, MD**  
Chief Medical Officer & Co-  
Founder; Clinical Neurologist  
*CND Life Sciences*



**Joshua Soldo**  
Chief Scientific Officer & Co-  
Founder,  
*Veravas, Inc.*

# Up Next: Implications for Clinical Practice and Healthcare Policy of Oncoming Innovations in MCI and Dementia Screening and Assessment



**Amanda Bartelme**  
Executive Director, Policy  
*Eisai, Inc.*



**Angela Hsu, MD**  
Physician Director of  
Memory Care Services,  
Mid-Atlantic  
*Permanente Medical  
Group*



**Ian N. Kremer, JD**  
Executive Director  
*LEAD (Leaders Engaged  
on Alzheimer's Disease)  
Coalition*



**Scott Sarran, MD, MBA**  
Chief Medical Officer,  
*Harmonic Health*



**Karen Tracy**  
Vice President of  
Strategic Alliances &  
Integrated  
Communications,  
*Gerontological Society of  
America*



**Julie K. Wood, MD,  
MPH, FAAFP**  
Senior Vice President of  
Science and Clinical  
Strategy,  
*American Academy of  
Family Physicians;  
Family Physician*

# Thank You!

NEHI will share the recording and materials from today's event via email next week.

## Contacts:

Tom Hubbard ([thubbard@nehi-us.org](mailto:thubbard@nehi-us.org))

Lauren Bedel ([lbedel@nehi-us.org](mailto:lbedel@nehi-us.org))

Maya Valadez ([intern2@nehi-us.org](mailto:intern2@nehi-us.org))