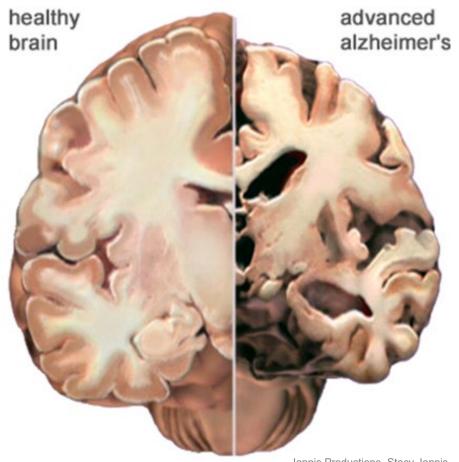
## Module 1B

Understanding Alzheimer's & Dementia:
Caring for the Individual



alzheimer's 95 association°

## **Brain Changes**



Jannis Productions. Stacy Jannis.

### What You'll Learn

- List two risk factors for Alzheimer's disease
- Recognize the name of the "filing cabinet" of the brain that stores new memories
- Identify the part of the brain that relates to our basic emotions
- List three stages of Alzheimer's disease

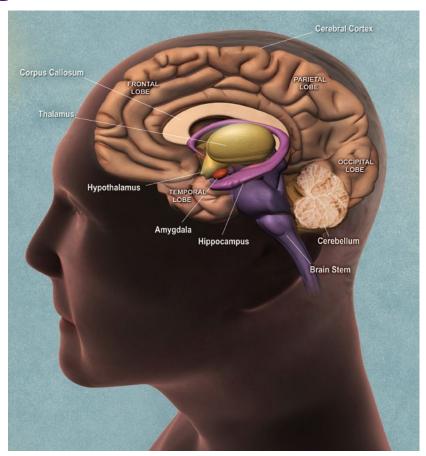
# Risk Factors for Alzheimer's Disease

- Increased Age
  - Greatest Risk Factor
- Genetics
- Risk Genes
- Other Risk Factors



# Recent or Short-term Memory Loss

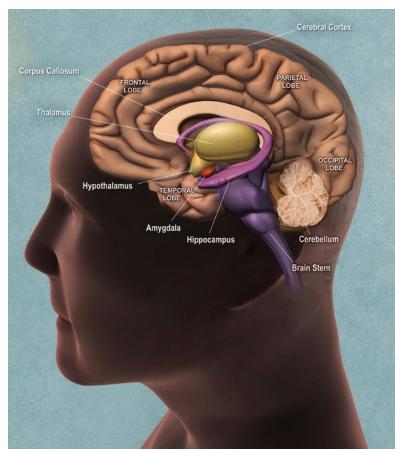
- Much damage in early Alzheimer's disease
- Forgetting something recent ("I didn't get breakfast!")
- The symptom we notice first



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# The Brain's Filing Cabinet is the Hippocampus

- Takes in new information
- Compares new to old
- Labels and files info
- With Alzheimer's, the hippocampus is impaired



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### Stages of Alzheimer's Disease

### Early-Stage

Repeating or forgetting information (STM loss)

Depth perception, peripheral vision, judging distance

Word finding and following conversations

Fine motor skills

Difficulty with complicated tasks

Trouble planning and organizing

Lack of initiative/attention span

Functioning Independently

### Middle-Stage

Increased forgetfulness

Verbal communication

Personal care and other complex tasks

Vision and movement

Disorientation to place and time

Lack of insight and awareness

**Emotional outbursts** 

Personality, mood and behavior

Restricted Independence

### Late-Stage

Overall decline in health

Eating and swallowing issues

Limited verbal communication

Incontinence

Full assist with all ADLs

Unaware of recent experiences and surroundings

Become very sensory driven

Weight loss

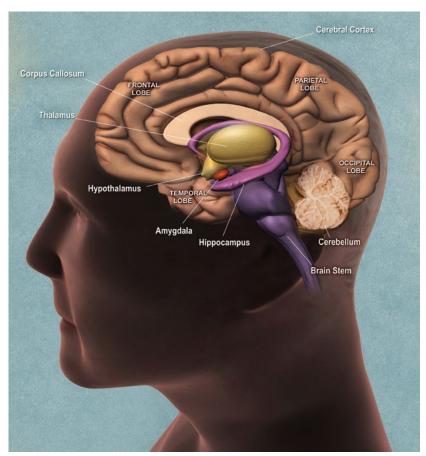
Ambulation abilities may change

Complete Dependence

## **Emotions & the Amygdala**

# Late into the disease, people with Alzheimer's:

- Feel basic emotions (fear, anger, love)
- Perceive the emotions of others
- Express emotion
- Hold onto strong emotions (anger, happiness)



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# What Did We Talk About Today?

Let's Review...

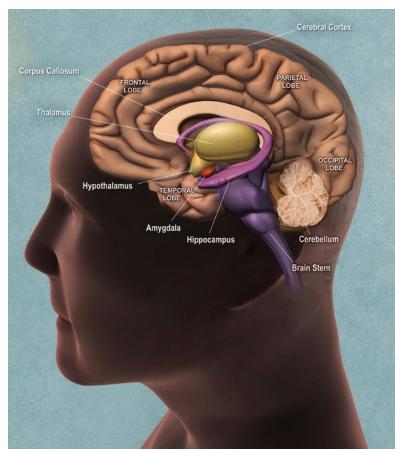
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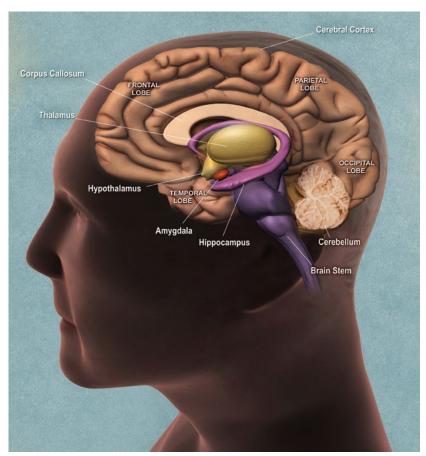
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## Let's See What You've Learned

Test 1B: Understanding Alzheimer's and Dementia: Caring for the Individual