AD Atlas: An International Tool for Understanding the Global Landscape of Dementia

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Alzheimer's disease International has made an interactive platform available to the public, providing access to information on dementia-related policies, services, and treatments across countries worldwide.

Alzheimer's disease International (ADI), the international federation of Alzheimer's and dementia associations, has made the **Alzheimer's disease Atlas (AD Atlas)** available to the public. This digital platform allows users to explore and compare information on how different countries and territories are responding to dementia.

Founded in 1984, ADI maintains official relations with the World Health Organization (WHO) and works to promote risk reduction, early diagnosis, appropriate care, and the inclusion of people living with dementia. Among its key initiatives is the *World Alzheimer Report*, published annually since 2009, which contributes to understanding the epidemiological, social, and economic challenges associated with dementia (Alzheimer's Disease International [ADI], n.d.-a, n.d.-b).

What does the AD Atlas offer?

The Atlas brings together information from scientific and institutional sources to provide a comparative overview of dementia care infrastructure and policies. Through an interactive map and country profiles, users can explore information across four main dimensions:

1. **Diagnosis:** Resources and pathways for identifying the disease.
2. **Access to treatment:** Availability of and access to therapeutic options.
3. **Caregiver support:** Services and support measures for caregivers.
4. **National policies:** Initiatives and institutional commitments to addressing dementia.

The platform uses a five-star rating scale, from zero to five stars, including half-star increments, to represent different levels of development across the areas assessed. This structure facilitates the identification of differences between

countries and highlights areas where further progress is needed (Alzheimer's disease Atlas, n.d.).

Therapeutic innovation and access to treatment

One particularly relevant feature is the monitoring of **amyloid-targeting therapies (ATTs)**, which represent a new phase in the pharmacological treatment of Alzheimer's disease.

The development of these treatments presents challenges that extend beyond scientific research. Regulatory approval, diagnostic capacity, the availability of specialized services, and healthcare funding policies all influence effective access. The Atlas makes it possible to examine these issues within each country's context and explore the existing gaps between therapeutic innovation and its implementation in clinical practice.

A valuable resource for research and dementia care

The availability of the AD Atlas provides an opportunity for researchers, professionals, policymakers, and the public to access structured information on the global situation of dementia. Exploring this resource can help identify unmet needs, inform research questions, and enrich discussions on equity in diagnosis, care, and access to treatment.

The CRE de Alzheimer invites professionals and anyone interested in the field to explore this resource, which offers a global perspective on the progress made and the challenges countries continue to face.

Explore the platform: https://ad-atlas.org/

References

Alzheimer's Disease International. (n.d.-a). *About us*. https://www.alzint.org/about-us/

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