

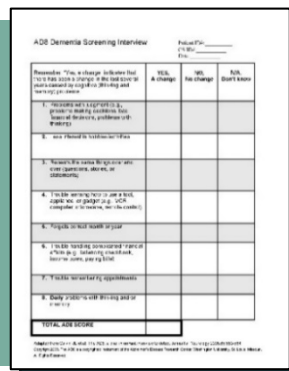
Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementia & American Indians and Alaska Natives

ADRD & NATIVE PEOPLE

570,000 American Indian and Alaska Native people >65 years or older live in the United States. By 2050, this number will likely triple in size. About 1 in 3 Native elders will be diagnosed with dementia during the next 20 years. But many tribal communities are unaware of the nature, presentation, and extent of Alzheimer's disease and dementia among their older members. Indeed, key signs and symptoms are often mistaken as a part of aging.

CENTER OF EXCELLENCE

The National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities funds our Center of Excellence [U54 MD00050], which focuses on risk, onset, duration of Alzheimer's disease and related dementia among older American Indians and Alaska Natives within a precision medicine framework. Our Center supports 5 Satellite Centers located around the country, all led by Native researchers who ensure Native people of all backgrounds are represented in our work.



What is the AD8?

The AD8 was developed as a brief instrument to help distinguish between signs of normal aging and mild dementia. It is short, simple, and quick to administer (~3 minutes) and culturally-sensitive. The AD8 contains 8 items that test for memory, orientation, judgment, and function.

About the Sample

	Rural	Urban
Male	16 (26%)	18 (19%)
Female	45 (74%)	79 (81%)
65-74	49 (80%)	69 (71%)
75+	12 (20%)	28 (29%)
Total	61 (39%)	97 (61%)

Sample of convenience recruited from outreach and engagement activities.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN CENTER:

RESULTS OF AD8 SCREENING IN RURAL AND URBAN SAMPLES

Screening Question (n=158)	Rural		Urban	
	65-74	75+	65-74	75+
Problems with judgment	15 (32%)	5 (50%)	13 (21%)	7 (26%)
Less interest in crafts/cultural activities	8 (19%)*	5 (50%)*	16 (27%)	5 (20%)
Repeats the same things over again	7 (18%)*	5 (56%)*	8 (14%)	3 (12%)
Trouble learning how to use a tool, appliance, or gadget	8 (19%)	4 (40%)	14 (23%)	8 (36%)
Forgets correct month or year	4 (10%)	2 (20%)	6 (10%)	3 (13%)
Trouble handling complicated financial affairs	6 (13%)	3 (27%)	5 (9%)	5 (21%)
Trouble remembering appointments#	7 (16%)	4 (44%)	6 (10%)	6 (26%)
Daily problems with thinking/memory#	9 (21%)*	7 (78%)*	11 (18%)	5 (22%)
Total number of screening positives	16 (33%)	7 (64%)	18 (28%)	8 (30%)

*Significantly different at ≤ 0.05 by age group within locale

#Significantly different at ≤ 0.05 by age in combined rural and urban samples

