

# About AFTD

AFTD's mission is to improve the quality of life of people affected by FTD and drive research to a cure. We work to advance:

**Research** We promote and fund research toward diagnosis, treatment and a cure.

**Awareness** We stimulate public awareness and understanding.

**Support** We inform and support those directly impacted.

**Education** We promote and provide education for healthcare professionals.






**Advocacy** We advocate for research and appropriate, affordable services.



We envision a world with compassionate care, effective support, and a **future free of FTD.**

## HelpLine:

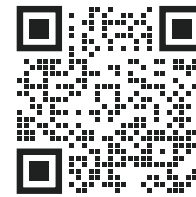
866.507.7222 or [info@theaftd.org](mailto:info@theaftd.org)

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The Association for  
Frontotemporal Degeneration  
**FIND HELP • SHARE HOPE**

## FTD is the most common form of dementia for people under 60.

Frontotemporal degeneration is a group of disorders caused by degeneration of the frontal and/or temporal lobes of the brain. It is sometimes called frontotemporal dementia, frontotemporal lobar degeneration (FTLD), or Pick's disease.

FTD subtypes include:

- Behavioral variant FTD
- Primary progressive aphasia
- FTD with ALS
- Corticobasal syndrome
- Progressive supranuclear palsy

## How does FTD differ from Alzheimer's disease?

### 1. It has different symptoms.

Uncharacteristic personality changes, apathy, and unexplained struggles with decision-making, movement, speaking or language comprehension are the most common symptoms. Often people appear physically healthy despite the neurodegeneration.

### 2. It typically strikes younger.

Most FTD cases occur between the ages of 45 and 64, causing a substantially greater impact on work, family, and finances than Alzheimer's.

### 3. It is often misdiagnosed.

FTD's estimated U.S. prevalence is around 60,000 cases, and many in the medical community remain unfamiliar with it. FTD is frequently misdiagnosed as Alzheimer's, depression, Parkinson's disease, or a psychiatric condition. On average, it currently takes 3.6 years to get an accurate diagnosis.



## How does FTD progress?

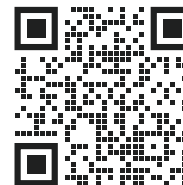
Behavior, language, and/or movement decline will vary by individual. As the disease progresses, the person affected may experience increasing difficulty in planning or organizing activities, communicating with others, or behaving appropriately in social settings. They may also experience changes in movement.

Over time, FTD predisposes an individual to physical complications such as pneumonia, infection, or injury from a fall. Average life expectancy is 7 to 13 years after the start of symptoms. The most common cause of death is pneumonia.

## Is treatment available?

Today, there is no cure for FTD. However, a growing number of interventions - not limited to medication - can help with managing FTD symptoms. Our website, [theaftd.org](http://theaftd.org), offers practical information about disease management and care coordination for families, friends, and healthcare providers.

Progress is being made. There are a number of active clinical trials studying ways to treat the symptoms of FTD or even slow or stop the progression of the disease. Scan the code to learn how to participate in the research that will lead to a cure.



## Together, we can #endFTD.

**Become an AFTD volunteer** to spread awareness and make the journey easier for the next family.

**Donate to help fuel AFTD's mission** to improve the quality of life of people affected by FTD and support researchers working on the first viable FTD treatments.

**Advocate for the needs of families** affected by FTD to be addressed in law and policy.

