

#### Understanding & Maintaining Memory

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#### Today:

- Brain Basics
- Understanding Memory Systems
- Normal Aging Brain vs Dementia
- Maintaining Brain Health





Magnetic resonance imaging – MRI



• Brain Basics Handout



#### **Frontal Lobe**

- Motor control (premotor cortex)
- Problem solving (prefrontal area)
- Speech production (Broca's area)

#### **Temporal Lobe**

- Auditory processing (hearing)
- Language comprehension (Wernicke's area)
- Memory / information retrieval

Brainstem

Involuntary responses

#### **Parietal Lobe**

- Touch perception (somatosensory cortex)
- Body orientation and sensory discrimination

#### **Occipital Lobe**

- Sight (visual cortex)
- Visual reception and visual interpretation

#### Cerebellum

- Balance and
- coordination



Looking at the Limbic System







## Sensory Memory











The olfactory bulb—which sends smell information from the nose to the brain — is one of the first brain regions to sustain damage in Alzheimer's disease







#### 7 4 9 2 7 5 1

## 7 4 9 2 7 5 1

#### 5 2 1 6 7 8 2 9 3 6

#### 5 2 1 6 7 8 2 9 3 6

# 7 4 9 2 7 5 1 5 2 1 6 7 8 2 9 3 6

#### Short-term Memory

- Capacity is developmental
- 3 years 1 bit
- 5 years 2 bits
- 7 years 3 bits
- 9 years 4 bits
- 11 years 5 bits
- 13 years 6 bits
- 15 years 7 bits
- 15-40 7 bits
- 40-65 6 bits
- 65+ depends on health



#### Billie's ASU Phone Number





### Typical Assessment for Working Memory

Pencils down

- Chair
- Penny
- Lamp

#### MY LONG TERM VS SHORT TERM MEMORY





### Explicit - Episodic memory

Think back to your earliest memory ....

Infantile amnesia?





#### How do episodic memories "stick"?

#### • Emotional Firsts

- Lost tooth
- Kiss
- Engagement
- Wedding
- Job interview
- Children's birth

### Working Memory Check

- Chair
- Penny
- Lamp



#### Explicit - Semantic Memory



- What is this?
- Where is this located?
- Who designed it?
- When was it built?
- What is it made of?

#### Semantic Memory

- Who is this?
- When did he begin to make movies?
- Who did he marry?
- Can you name some of his movies?
- What else is he famous for?









## Implicit -Procedural







# Implicit - Emotional Conditioning





Amygdala High-Jack





## Normal Aging Brain vs Dementia

### 42

Age-Associated Memory Impairment vs. Mild Cognitive Impairment vs. Dementia



As the brain loses volume with age, individuals experience a decline in memory function.<sup>3,4</sup>

MCI = mild cognitive impairment AD = Alzheimer's disease









# Normal.....

- Misplacing common objects
- Not being able to produce the right word at times
- Not remembering something you just read
- Walking into a room and not remembering why
- Calling people, you care about, by the wrong name occasionally



#### To be concerned about

- Getting lost when you're close to home
- Having a hard time following simple book or movie plots
- Struggling to keep up with daily tasks like paying bills or preparing meals
- Not remembering whether you've eaten or not
- Asking the same question repeatedly
- Experiencing personality changes
- Friends and family express concern about your memory issues to you.



#### What Does the Montreal Cognitive Assessment Evaluat

Cognitive, Behavioral, and Physical Assessments

• Multiple Data Points

# You have 1 minute to write down every word you can think of that starts with the letter

A score below 15 is reason for secondary screening.

F

#### Draw a Clock

- Paper & pencil
- 3 minutes
- Ten past ten



![](_page_53_Picture_0.jpeg)

#### Maintaining a Healthy Brain: The Nuns Study

![](_page_54_Picture_1.jpeg)

#### Summary

- A strong ability in languages may help reduce the risk of developing dementia symptoms,
- Education past and present appears to help reduce the risk of development symptoms,
- Staying physically active daily may help reduce the risk of developing dementia symptoms,
- Being part of a community where you frequently contribute may help reduce the risk of developing dementia symptoms,
- Eating a diet rich in fruits and vegetables may help reduce the risk of developing dementia symptoms.

![](_page_55_Picture_6.jpeg)

![](_page_56_Picture_0.jpeg)

# Maintaining Brain Health

Maintaining Brain Health

![](_page_57_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_58_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_58_Figure_1.jpeg)

### Get Organized Develop Routines

#### Short Term Memory

#### **Long-Term Memory**

![](_page_59_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_59_Picture_2.jpeg)

### Billie & Skip's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

March 29, 1972 - 2022

![](_page_60_Picture_0.jpeg)

# Protect sensory systems

# Memory Loss & Hearing Loss

![](_page_61_Picture_1.jpeg)

Adults with hearing loss develop a significant impairment in their cognitive abilities, **3.2 years sooner** than those with normal hearing.

Those with hearing loss experience a 30% to 40% greater decline in thinking abilities compared to their counterparts without hearing loss.

![](_page_62_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_63_Figure_0.jpeg)

#### 65

#### Stay Physically Activity

• Physical activity increases blood flow to your whole body including your brain!!!

#### • 20-30 minutes per day!

- Swimming
- Golfing
- Walking
- Yoga Pilates Tai Chi
- Gardening Yard work House Keeping
- Lifting light weights

![](_page_64_Picture_10.jpeg)

# Social Dancing

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#### Social Interactions

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### Keep Learning

- Do new things
- Take classes
- Read new books
- Write the story of your life
- Figure out your phone.....

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![](_page_68_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_68_Picture_2.jpeg)

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