

## FDA-Approved Alzheimer's Therapies

Although there is no cure for Alzheimer's disease, certain treatments can help control or delay its symptoms, particularly in the early stages of the disease. Talk to your physician to see if these medications are right for you.

Drug Name	Effective Stage of Alzheimer's Disease	How It Works	Delivery Method	FDA Approval Year
<b>Leqembi</b> (lecanemab)	 mild  moderate  severe	<b>Slows Alzheimer's-associated cognitive decline</b> by clearing small clumps of beta-amyloid & larger beta-amyloid plaques from the brain.		<b>Intravenous infusion or subcutaneous injection</b>
<b>Kisunla</b> (donanemab)	 mild  moderate  severe	<b>Removes large beta-amyloid plaques to slow cognitive decline</b> in people with early signs of Alzheimer's disease.		<b>Intravenous infusion</b>
<b>Exelon</b> (rivastigmine)	 mild  moderate  severe	<b>Helps with memory and daily function</b> by keeping more acetylcholine in the brain (similar to Aricept).		<b>Oral Medication or Transdermal Patch</b>
<b>Razadyne</b> (galantamine)	 mild  moderate  severe	<b>Improves thinking and memory</b> by raising acetylcholine levels in the brain, making it easier for brain cells to communicate.		<b>Oral Medication</b>
<b>Zunveyl</b> (benzgalantamine)	 mild  moderate  severe	<b>Supports memory and thinking</b> by helping the brain retain more acetylcholine; designed to reduce stomach side effects compared to Razadyne.		<b>Oral Medication</b>

**Therapy Types**


**Anti-amyloid therapies** may slow cognitive and functional decline in early-stage Alzheimer's but come with specific eligibility and monitoring requirements. Also known as disease-modifying medications, they target the potential cause of the disease, not just the symptoms.



**Cognitive symptom-management treatments** remain widely used and may be appropriate at different stages.



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<b>Namenda</b> (memantine)		<b>Reduces forgetfulness and confusion</b> by protecting brain cells from excess glutamate, a chemical that can be harmful in large amounts.		Oral Medication or Liquid <b>2003</b>
<b>Namzaric</b> (memantine + donepezil)		<b>Improves cognition and overall daily function</b> by combining Aricept and Namenda.		Oral Medication <b>2014</b>
<b>Aricept</b> (donepezil)		<b>Improves awareness, memory, and daily function</b> by preventing the breakdown of an important brain chemical, acetylcholine.		Oral Medication <b>1996</b>
<b>Belsomra</b> (suvorexant)		<b>Improves sleep</b> by blocking a brain chemical that keeps you awake.		Oral Medication <b>2014</b>
<b>Rexulti</b> (brexpiprazole)		<b>Helps reduce agitation and restlessness</b> by balancing important chemicals in the brain.		Oral Medication <b>2023</b>

Hundreds of promising treatments are in development, but they're not the only path forward. Lifestyle changes—like regular exercise, a brain-healthy diet, and other healthy habits—may also help slow cognitive decline and lower Alzheimer's risk.



View more information about approved Alzheimer's treatments at [brightfocus.org/AlzTreatments](https://brightfocus.org/AlzTreatments).