

**World Dementia
Council** Leading the Global Action
Against Dementia

Dementia in Latin America & the Caribbean



About the project






Dementia is one of the most urgent public health challenges facing Latin America and the Caribbean. By 2030, the number of people living with dementia is set to more than triple, placing immense pressure on healthcare systems, economies, and families. The time to respond is now. The World Dementia Council is leading a project with a series of high-level virtual roundtables in late 2024 and early 2025, tackling critical policy issues. These discussions will lay the foundation for The WDC Satellite Summit, in partnership with Alzheimer's Association, 13 May 2025 in Lima, Peru. Chaired by Professors Ricardo Allegri and Paulo Caramelli, this initiative is designed to promote collaboration and innovation.

The World Dementia Council (WDC), established by the UK Government following the 2013 G8 Dementia Summit in London, works to drive global progress on dementia. Its mission is to support and challenge the international community to advance treatments, risk reduction, awareness, and quality care. Building international collaboration, the Council provides thought leadership and advocates for dementia as a global priority. It focuses on advocacy engagement by working with national organisations and through platforms such as the G7 and G20. It provides evidence-based insights to policymakers and builds international networks to foster collaboration. Chaired by Professor Philip Scheltens, with Dr. Joanne Pike as vice chair. The Council is guided by a board of international experts and government representatives committed to accelerating progress in the field.

In this pack you can find out more information about the forthcoming dialogue on Awareness and Understanding on Friday 21 February as well as more information about other projects the World Dementia Council has underway.



Lenny Shallcross
Executive Director, World Dementia Council



Confronting dementia: A Call to Action

Dementia is one of the most pressing public health challenges our region faces. With an aging population, the number of people living with dementia—currently around 4.5 million—is set to triple to nearly 14 million within the next three decades. Already the leading cause of disability and dependence among older adults, dementia also places an immense economic burden on the region, with estimated costs reaching \$50 billion. For a region largely composed of middle-income countries, this is an unsustainable trajectory that demands urgent action.

To confront this crisis, with the World Dementia Council, we are hosting a series of discussions to share approaches from different countries across our region and gain insight on how we can develop solutions. Our first two dialogues examined the state of research and clinical trials, highlighting the need for stronger regional and global collaboration. The second explored brain health and social determinants, emphasizing the opportunity to address risk factors through targeted public health strategies.

Now, we turn to a critical issue for our region: awareness, understanding, and stigma. Lack of awareness and stigma prevent millions from seeking help and accessing necessary support. Public education is essential to improving care and ensuring that those affected by dementia, along with their families, are empowered with knowledge and resources. Breaking down stigma and fostering understanding will enhance both policy response and societal support.

This discussion is about action—how we change perceptions, improve education, and create a more supportive environment for people living with dementia.

The insights gathered from these discussions will be compiled into a policy paper featuring recommendations and calls to action, to be published in *Alzheimer's & Dementia*. Additionally, two high-impact summits will take place in May in Lima, Peru: the World Dementia Council Satellite Summit on May 13, and the Alzheimer's Association Satellite Symposium on May 14-15.

We look forward to working together to confront the growing dementia crisis in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Professor Paulo Caramelli

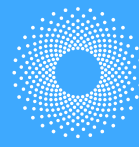
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More information here



**World Dementia
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2025 WDC Satellite Summit

13 May
Lima, Peru

In person

in partnership with



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AAIC[™] Satellite Symposium

14–15 May 2025
Lima, Peru

In Person and Online

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