

Mrs J., aged 65, has been attending your practice for the past 10 years. She is married with 2 grown-up children and is a retired school teacher. She complains of poor memory, and a tendency to forget things a lot recently. This week she seems to have lost her front door keys and is concerned that she has been having “too many senior’s moments.” Mrs J. is accompanied by her husband who confirms further instances where his wife has been confused or forgetful. She asks you what it could be.

What would you tell Mrs J?

One week later Mr and Mrs J. come to see you again for the results of a series of tests you ordered. After you have excluded other medical conditions, the evidence suggests that Mrs J. is suffering from early dementia.

What would you do at the commencement of the consultation?

How would you explain the prognosis and progress of the disease to her and her husband?

What would you do to assist Mr and Mrs J. in managing her disease?
