



**Georgia Department
of Human Services**
Division of Aging Services

Addressing Dementia in Georgia

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stronger families

FOR A STRONGER GEORGIA



Division of Aging Services

— VISION —

LIVING LONGER,

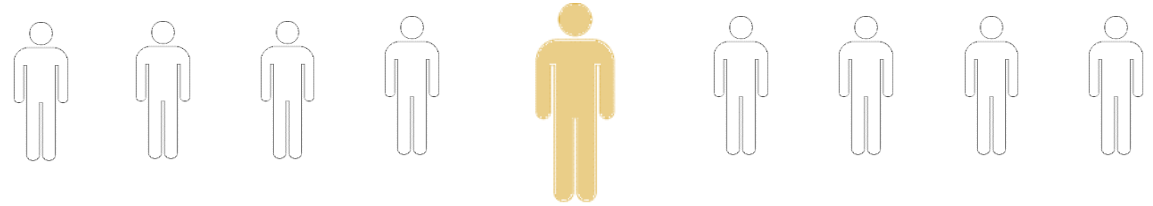
LIVING SAFELY,

living well

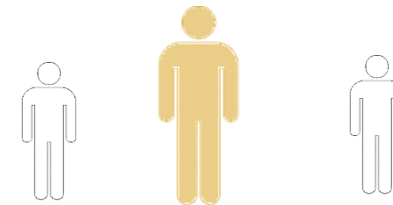


The Dementia Crisis: Facts and Figures

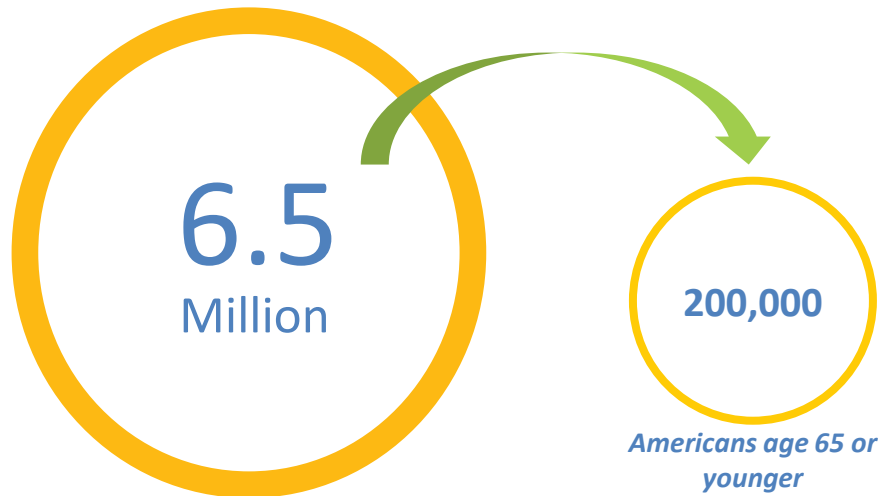
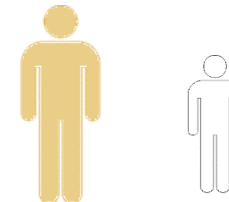
1 in 9 Americans
over 65



1 in 3 Americans
over 85

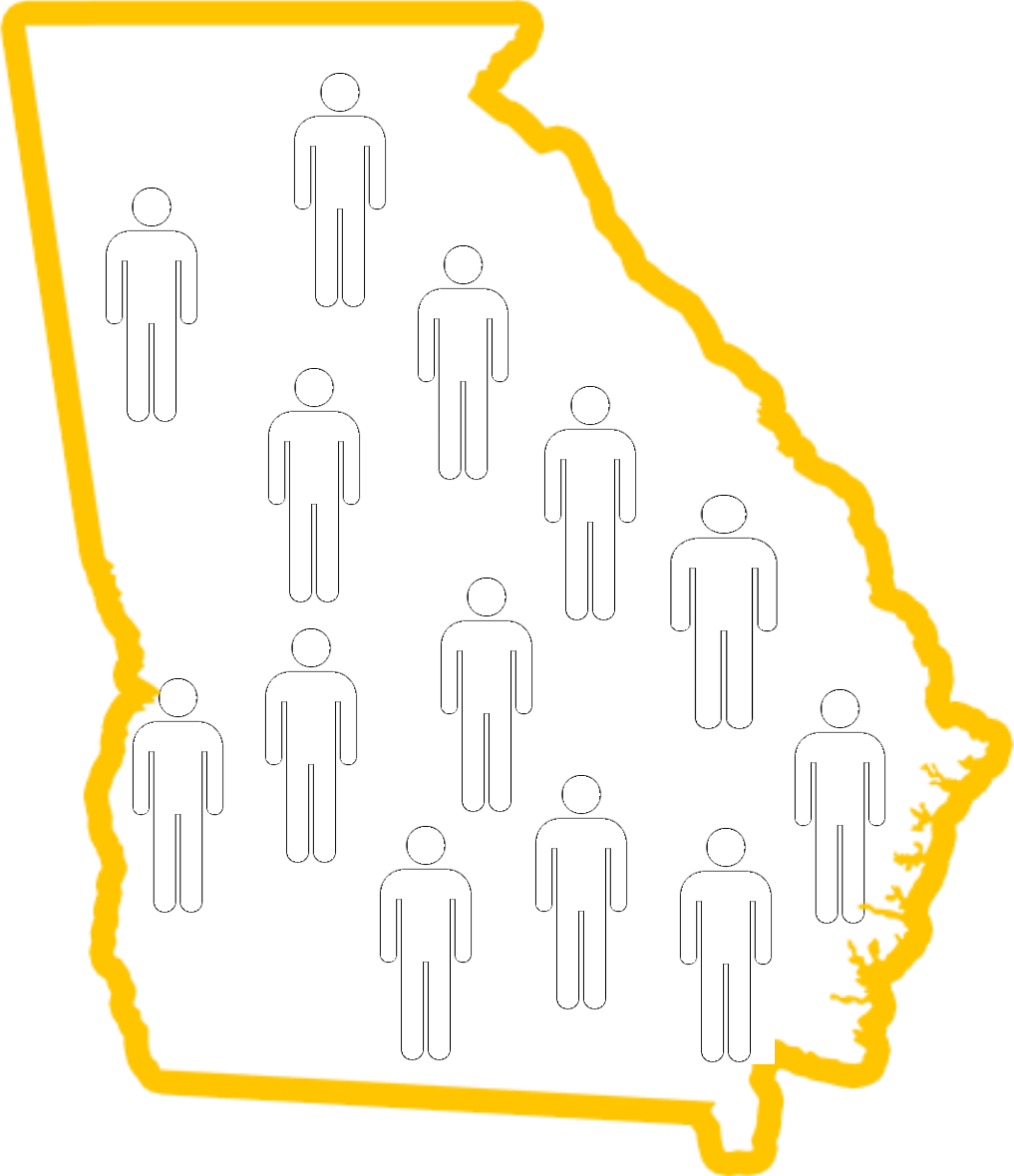


Half don't know





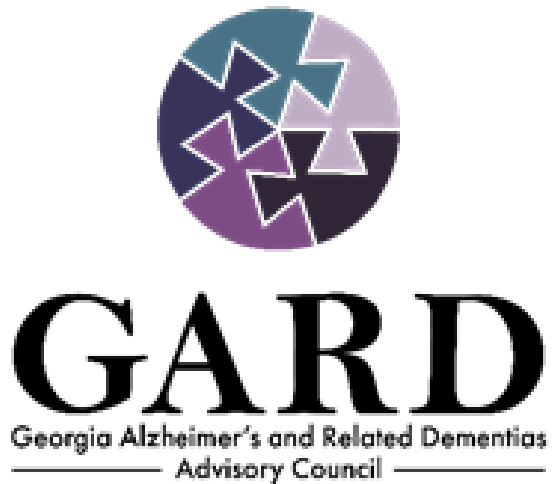
Georgians living with Alzheimer's



*caregivers of individuals
with Alzheimer's disease*



The Georgia Alzheimer's & Related Dementias (GARD) State Plan



- 2014-Original GARD legislation signed by Governor Deal
- 2016-GARD Coordinator hired within Division of Aging Services
- 2018-Senate re-established Advisory Council
- 2020-State Plan updated with new goals and strategies



GARD State Plan:

The Road Map to ensure that we all (state departments, regulatory bodies, stakeholders and legislature) are working towards a

Dementia-capable Georgia

How do we become dementia-capable?

- Ensure broad **data** collection, research & analysis
 - Strengthen & bolster dementia **workforce**
- Increase dementia competence across the **service delivery** network & caregiver network
 - Prepare **public safety** entities & financial organizations are prepared
- **Expand outreach** & partnership on facts, risk factors, brain health & caregiver needs
 - Inform **policy** actions to improve quality of life, dementia inclusion & risk reduction
 - Drive early & accurate diagnosis & brain health & address health disparities



The GARD Collaborative drives ACTION on the Plan Goals

6 work groups:

Workforce Development
Service Delivery
Outreach and Partnerships
Research and Data Collection
Public Safety
Policy

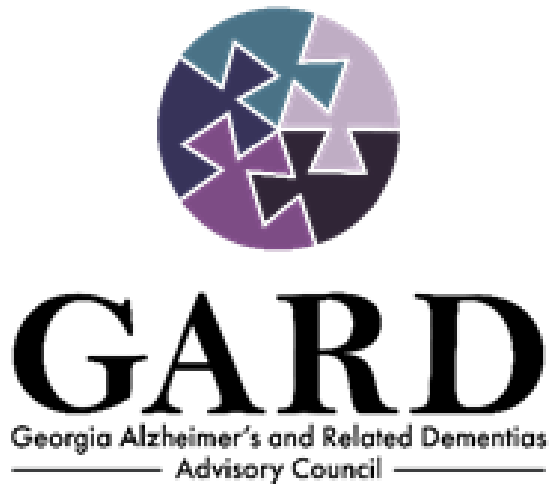


*Volunteer experts and stakeholders from academia, government, nonprofit, healthcare, policy, and those with lived experience serve on work groups

<https://aging.georgia.gov/tools-resources/dementia-resources>



GARD State Plan Advisory Council



The advisory council shall serve in an ***advisory capacity*** to the Governor, the General Assembly, the Department of Human Services, and all other state agencies *on matters relating to the Georgia Alzheimer's and Related Dementias State Plan*. The advisory council ***shall review*** and ***make recommendations*** regarding progress toward the goals of the state plan and on progress in implementing resources and services to serve individuals with dementia related diseases around Georgia in the future.

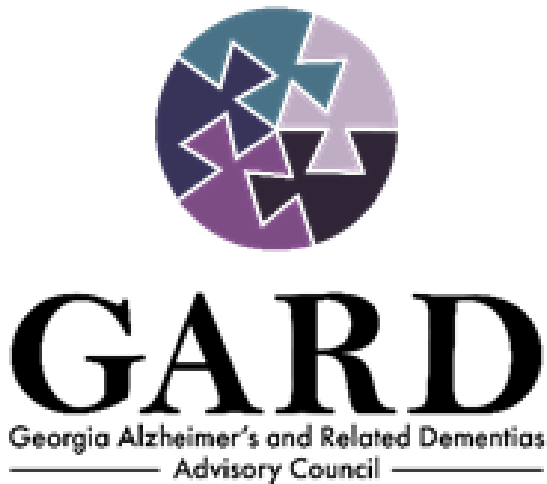
O.C.G.A. 49-6-92

GARD appointees include:

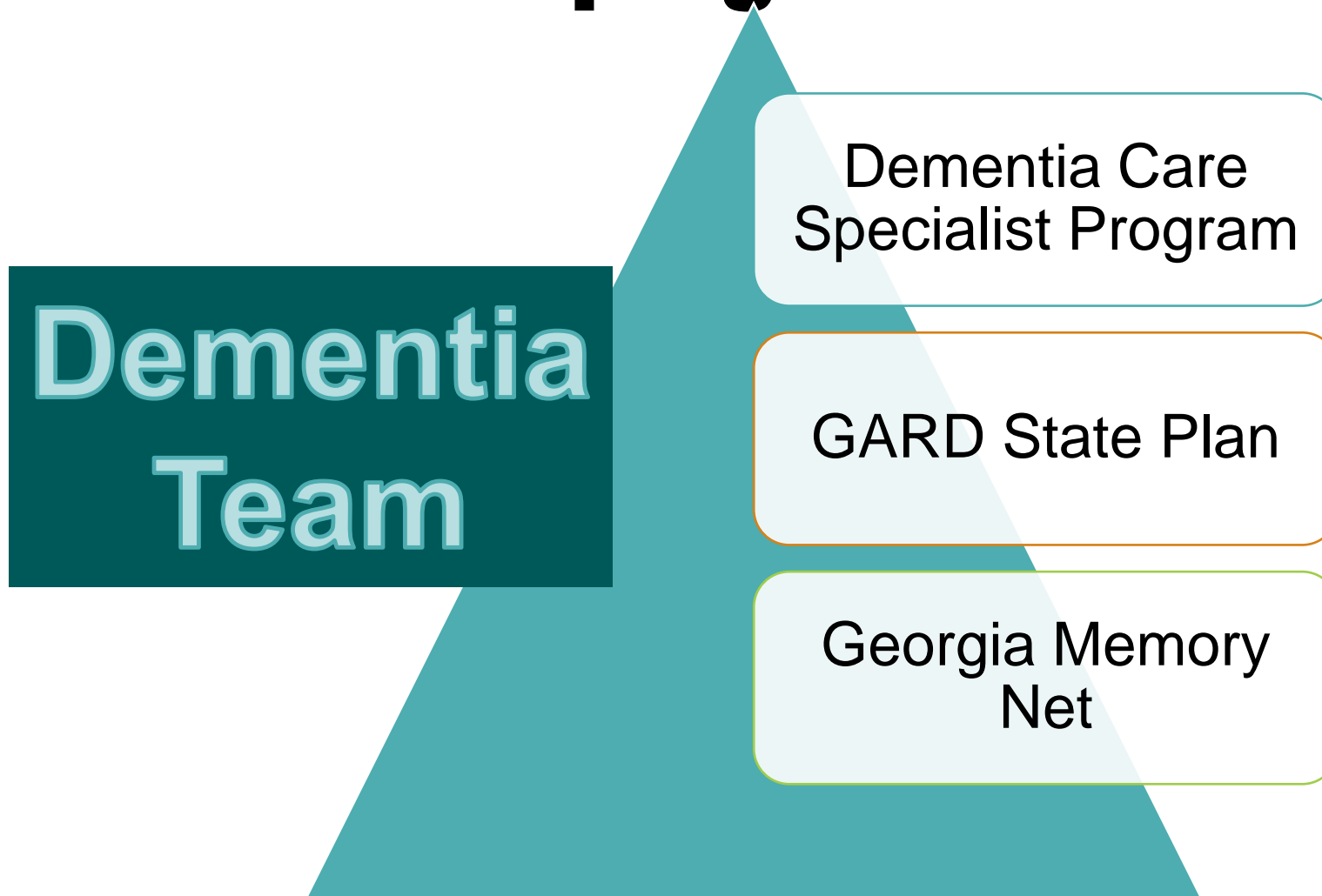
11 members due to their position in state gov'n't, organization or elected office-

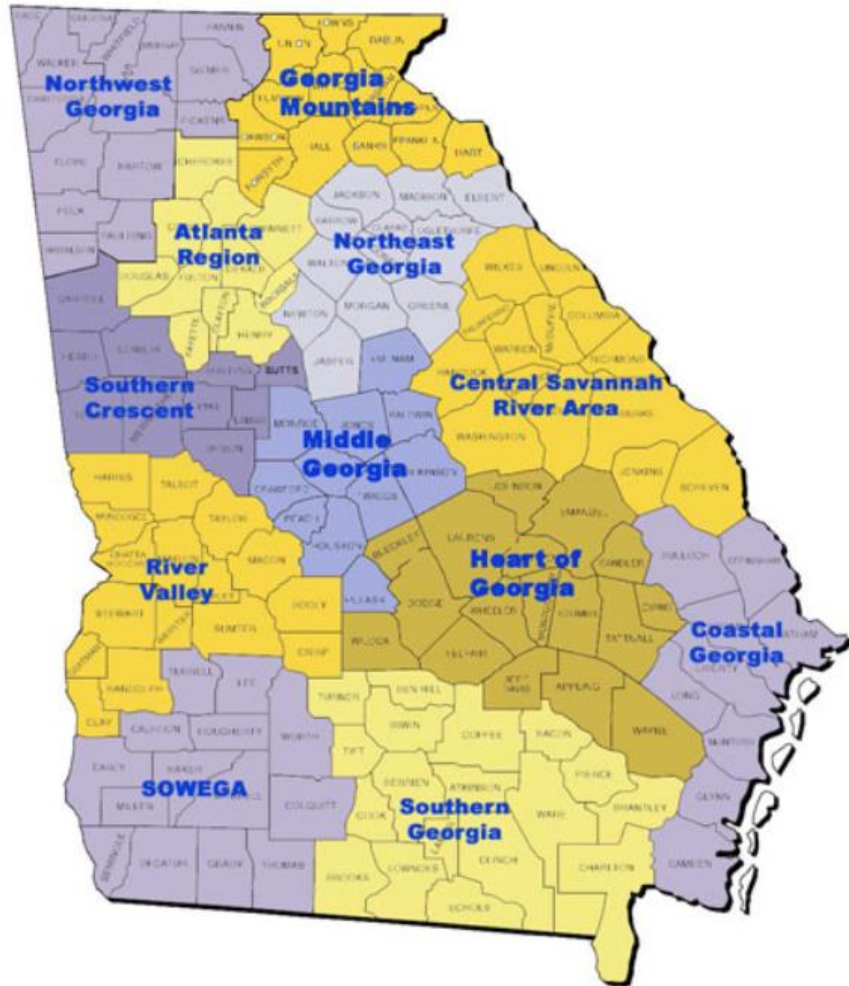
- Commissioners of DHS, DPH, DCH & DBHDD or their designee & DAS Director
- Key leaders of G4A (Area Agencies on Aging Association); Alz Association; GCOA
- Chairperson of House & Senate Health Committees

6 members appointed by the Governor chosen for their areas of expertise



General Assembly investment in dementia programs & services





- **Dementia Care Specialist** in each AAA to create a “dementia-capable” aging network!
 - Community catalyst for collaboration amongst dementia providers
 - Normalizing memory screening
 - Community dementia education
 - Mobilize dementia-specific resources and support
 - Care consultation/caregiver tips & education
 - Data to continue guiding future programming & measure impact

Program Overview

- Established July 2017:
Awarded \$4.12 million

Dedicated to the early diagnosis of Alzheimer's and related dementias.

GOALS:

- Diagnose accurately at MACs
- Improve assessments at Medicare Annual Wellness Visits
- Improve Care with PCPs & Community partners

Memory Assessment Clinic Locations



georgia
memory net

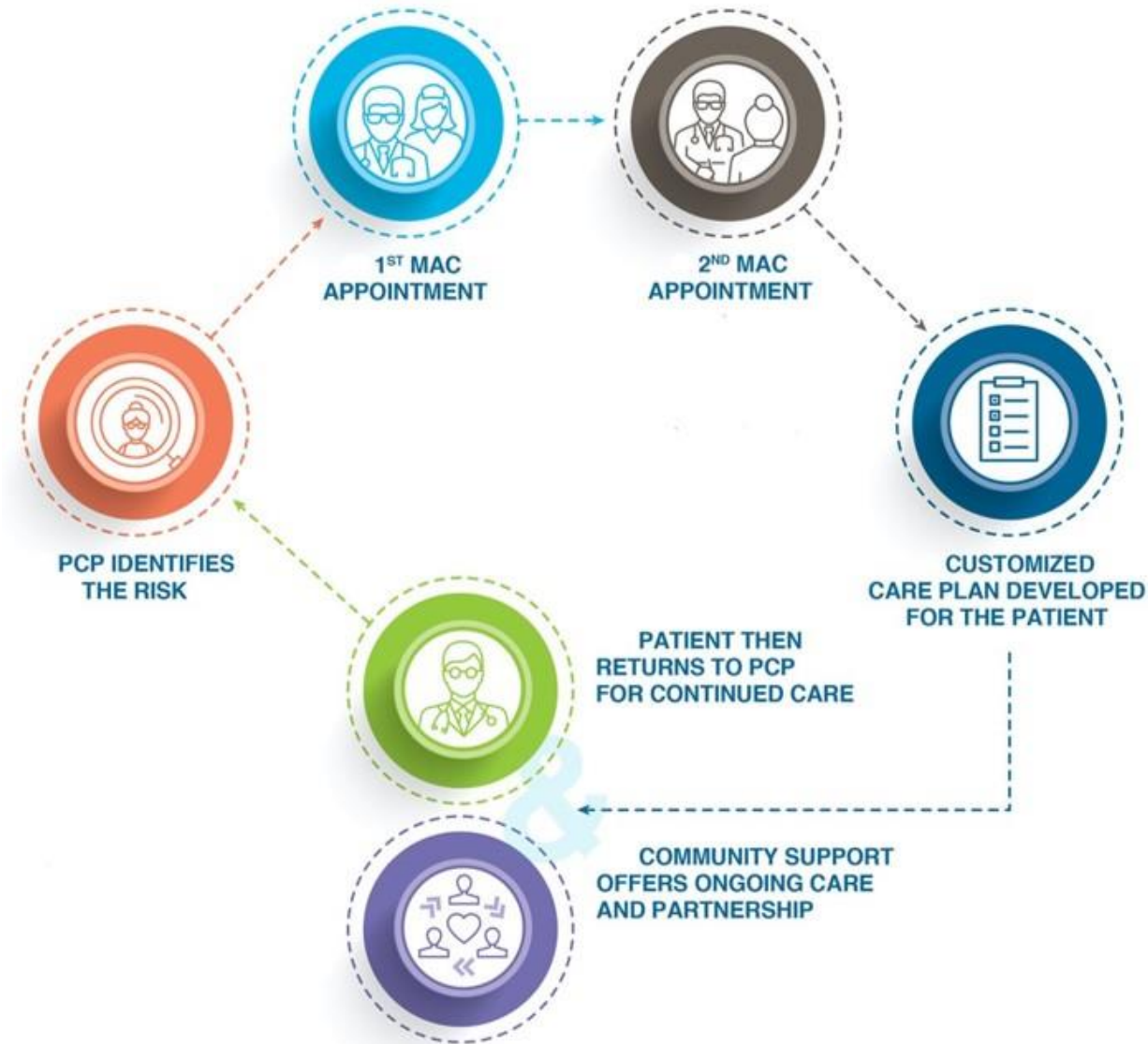
The Two-Visit Process

MAC Clinic Process

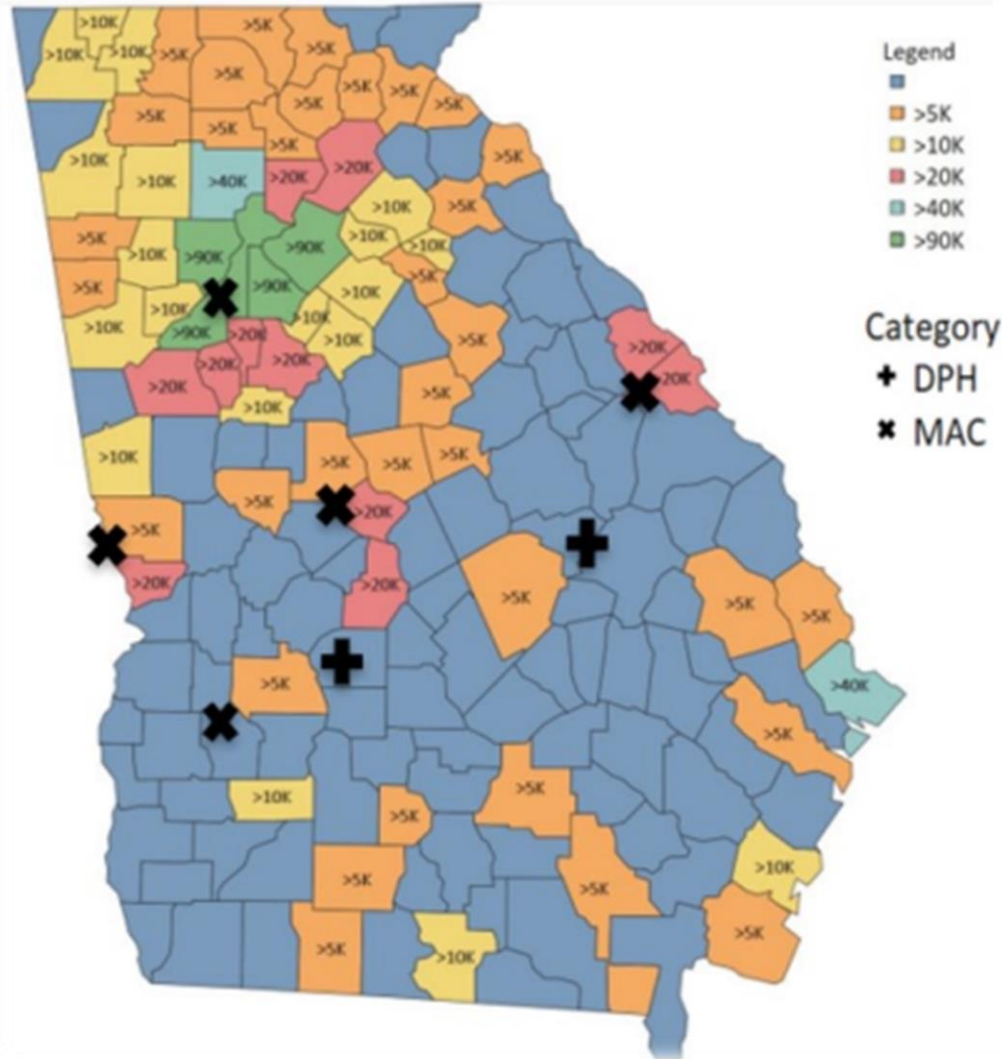
- Visit 1 - Initial Diagnostic Assessments
- Visit 2 - The Diagnosis: Care and Support

Return to PCP and Community Resources

- Detailed report from MAC to PCP
- PCP provides on-going maintenance and management of patient care
- Care plans and coordination with Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) & Alzheimer's Association (AA)



MAC Expansion Update



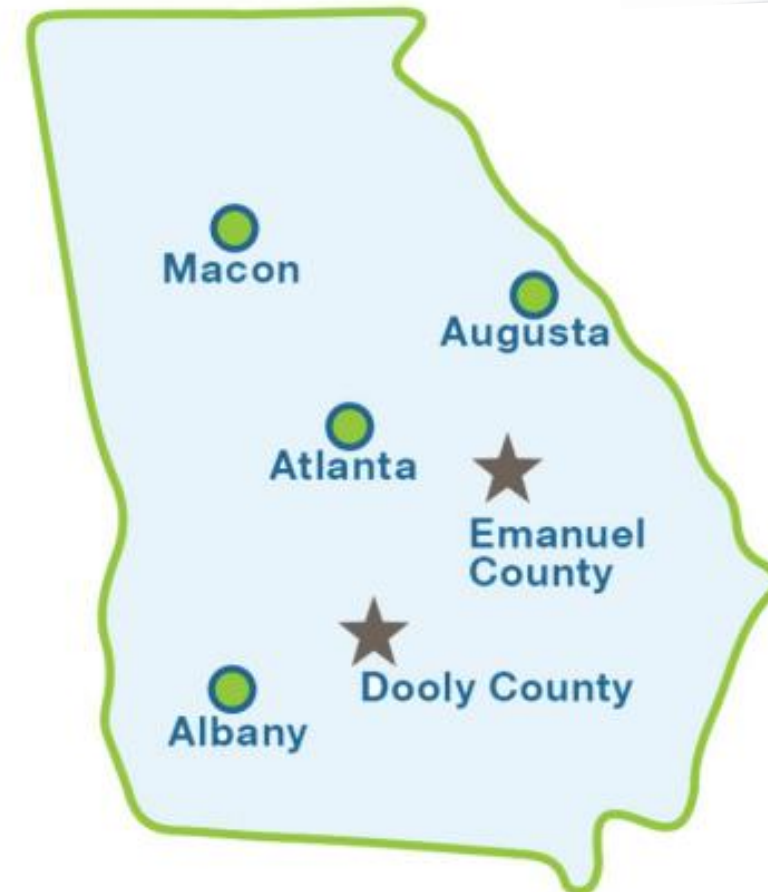
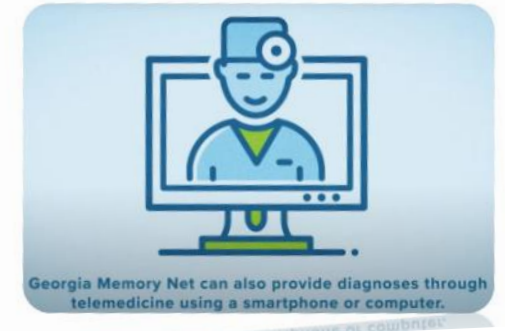
- July 2022 received \$3 million to increase Georgians access by expanding the Memory Assessment Clinic (MAC) locations with 2 more locations.
- Expansion Factors considered:
 - MAC coverage gaps
 - Proximity to MAC
 - Medically Underserved Areas
- MAC Funding Opportunity
 - Application dates: 10/1/22-12/31/22
 - www.gamemorynet.org



Telehealth Initiative

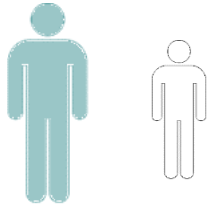
Partnership:
Division of Aging Services &
Department of Public Health

- **Future Expansion Goals**



Early Detection and Diagnosis

Half don't know



4 in 5 unfamiliar
with MCI



- Cognitive screenings, including Annual Wellness Visit
- Benefits
 - Rule out other cognitive disorders
 - Active participation in care plan
 - Adapt lifestyle changes to increase quality of life
 - Connection to supportive resources for person with Dx and their care partner
 - Access to treatments and clinical trials

Monoclonal Antibody Alzheimer's Treatments

Aducanumab (Aduhelm™)

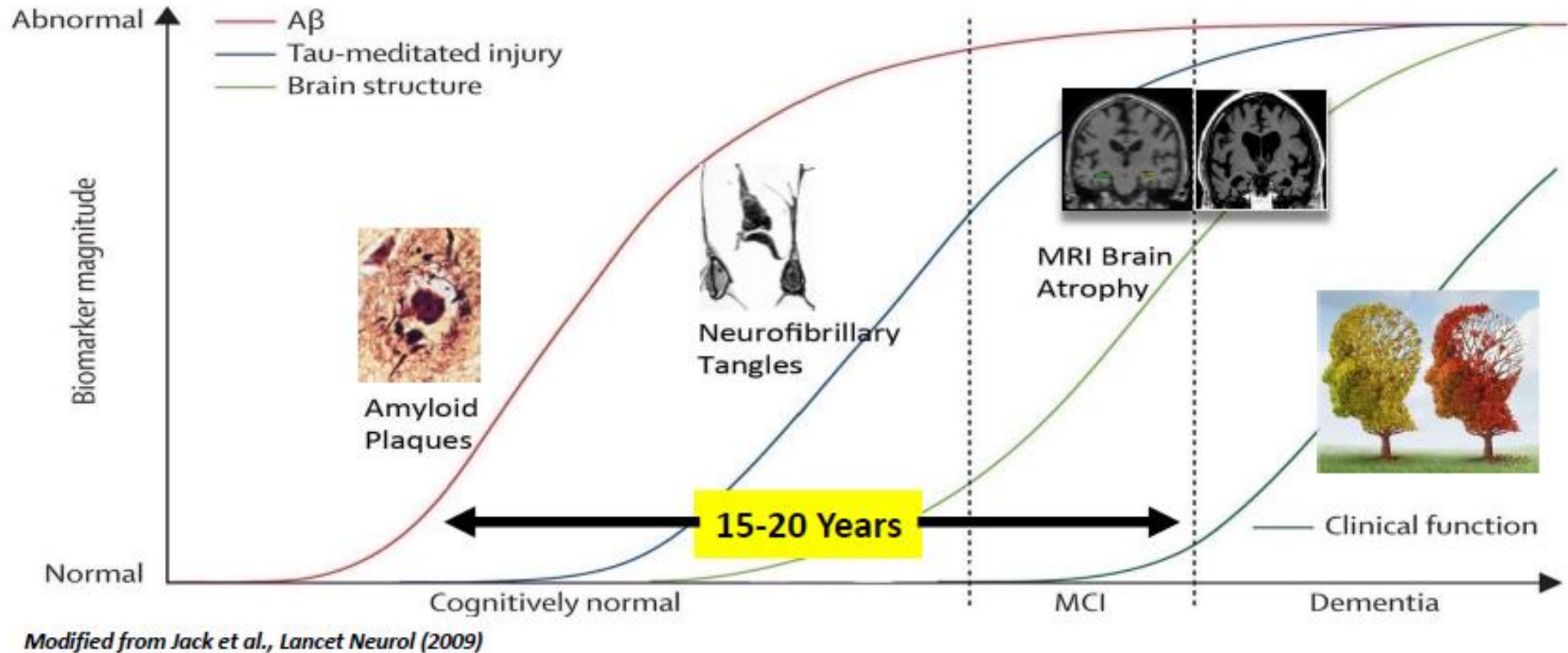
- FDA Approved in 2021
- CMS will only cover costs for clinical trial participants
- Mixed data on slowing cognitive decline and improving function
- High risks of brain swelling and bleeding
- **Early stage, Alzheimer's ONLY**

Lecanemab

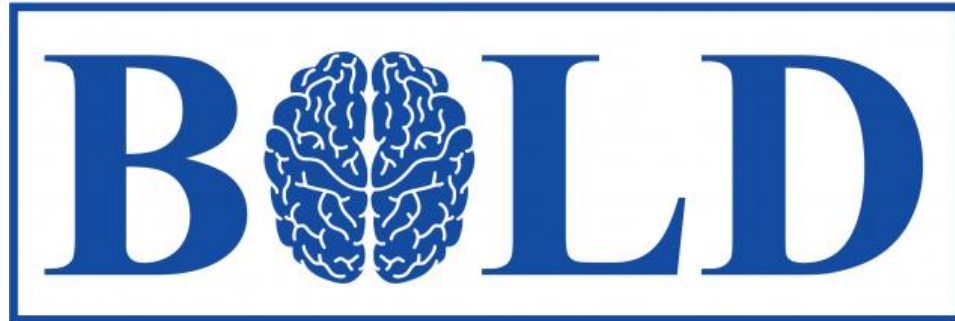
- January FDA Meeting
- CMS will likely only cover costs for clinical trial participants
- Early data shows slowed cognitive decline and improved function
- Lower risk of brain swelling and bleeding
- **Early stage, Alzheimer's ONLY**



Future Treatments: Detect, Delay, Prevent



Envy of other states



**Dementia Care
Specialist
Program**





Georgia Department of Human Services
Division of Aging Services

Questions?

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GARD State Plan Coordinator

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