



## Diagnosing Alzheimer’s disease

There is no one definitive test to confirm that a person has Alzheimer’s disease. Your doctor will perform a complete assessment to consider all possible causes for your symptoms.

This is a comprehensive list of tests that may be performed.

### Medical history

- Review any current or past illnesses
- Answer questions about your family’s history of Alzheimer’s or other dementias

### Physical exam

- Answer questions about current diet, nutrition and alcohol use
- Review all medications
- Have blood pressure, temperature and pulse checked
- Have heart and lungs examined
- Provide blood and urine samples for testing

### Mini-Cog test

The Mini-Cog test is one of several mental status tests that your doctor may perform. During the Mini-Cog, you will be asked to remember a list of three common objects. You will then be asked to draw the face of a clock showing all 12 numbers in the right places, and a time specified by the examiner.

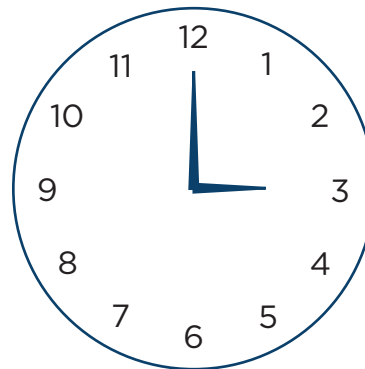
Once you have drawn the clock, you will be asked to repeat the list of objects you memorized.

### Neurological exam

- Have reflexes, coordination, muscle tone, strength, eye movement, speech and sensation tested.
- May include a brain imaging test such as an MRI or a CT scan

### Mental status test

- Have memory, problem-solving and thinking skills evaluated with oral, written or computerized tests.
- Have mood and sense of well-being assessed



For more information on Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias, visit [good-sam.com](http://good-sam.com)



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