

Annual Wellness Visits and Dementia

Joanna Weyrich
Joanna.Weyrich@lvhn.org

Nyann Biery MS
Lehigh Valley Health Network, nyann.biery@lvhn.org

Lynn M. Wilson DO
Lehigh Valley Health Network, lynn_m.wilson@lvhn.org

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Joanna Weyrich, Nyann Biery MS, Lynn Wilson DO – *Department of Family Medicine*

Lehigh Valley Health Network, Allentown, Pennsylvania

Introduction

- Medicare Annual Wellness Visits (AWV) under the Affordable Care Act, 2011¹
 - LVHN network initiative AWV 2016
- Two main dementia diagnostic tests used by LVHN²
 - Mini-Mental State Exam (MMSE)
 - Montreal Cognitive Assessment (MoCA)
- Even as the understanding of dementia and screening tools are improving, dementia goes widely undiagnosed³
- National dementia diagnosis rate (10%) vs LVHN (~3%)⁴
- **Main objective:** Find out if AWV are providing successful dementia identification and diagnosis

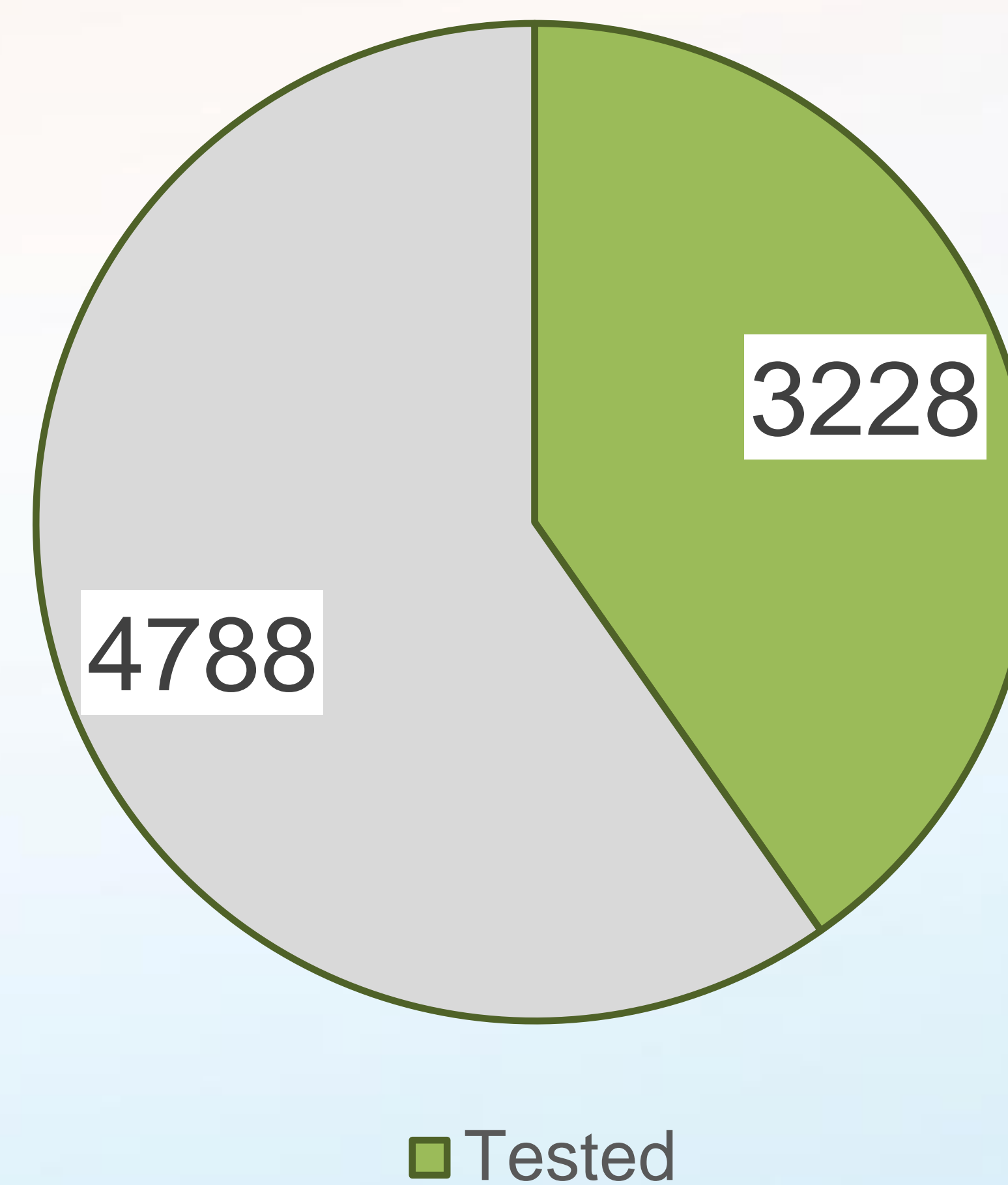
Methods

- Evaluated spreadsheet of AWV, HRA answers, and dementia test scores
- Chart reviews through electronic medical records (EMR)
- Coded MMSE/MoCA tests
 - AWV related (yes/1 or no/0)
 - Diagnosis (none/0, new/1, old/2)
 - Location (primary care provider/1, specialist/2, hospital/3)
- Used SPSS Statistics software to run analysis

Results

- 86,162 AWV
- 8,016 of these AWV resulted in a positive Health Risk Assessment (HRA) memory screening
 - About 40% were given a diagnostic test

Who is Being Tested With a Positive HRA



- Data isn't being recorded in a uniform manner
- 557 chart reviews out of 8,583 MMSE and MoCA tests
 - 329 AWV related → 11 new diagnoses (3%)

MMSE Score Averages (Out of 30)

	Diagnosis w/ AWV	Diagnosis Outside of AWV
Median	24	23.5
Mode	27/29	26
Range	4-30	0-30

Conclusion

- AWV benefit in preventing/treating dementia through catching an earlier diagnosis
- There is a lack of uniform education on screening and giving meaningful diagnosis
- Data supports that there are likely more dementia patients than what are being identified in the EMR

Next Steps

- Training on MMSE testing and scoring
- Making sure health care providers are actively documenting memory concerns
- Give a step by step plan following from screening through follow up
- Broader picture
 - Getting people to AWV

References:

- ¹ Cordell, Cyndy B. "Alzheimer's Association Recommendations for Operationalizing the Detection of Cognitive Impairment during the Medicare Annual Wellness Visit in a Primary Care Setting." *Alzheimer's & Dementia*, Elsevier, 20 Dec. 2012, www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1552526012025010.
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- ³ Moyer, Virginia A. "Screening for Cognitive Impairment in Older Adults: U.S. Preventive Services Task Force Recommendation Statement." *Annals of Internal Medicine*, American College of Physicians, 3 June 2014, annals.org/aim/fullarticle/1850963/screening-cognitive-impairment-older-adults-u-s-preventive-services-task.
- ⁴ Gaugler, Joseph, et al. "2018 ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE FACTS AND FIGURES." *Alzheimer's Association*, 2018, www.alz.org/media/Documents/facts-and-figures-2018-r.pdf.