Prevalence data:
methodology summary

The methodology to estimate and project dementia prevalence in Australia uses a standard demographic modelling approach in which age-sex dementia prevalence rates are applied to age-sex population projection estimates.

The prevalence rates for older cases i.e. those aged 65+ years were derived from the pooled, harmonised, dataset from The Dynamic Analyses to Optimise Ageing (DYNOPTA) project reported by Prof Kaarin Anstey and colleagues (2010).

The prevalence rates for the younger onset dementia age group were based on those used by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) in their 2012 report.

Projections of the general population over the 40 year period 2018-2058 were obtained from the ABS online services for the Population Projections by Region 2012-2061 dataset, using medium assumptions for fertility, mortality, and net migration. Annual age-sex rates of incidence of dementia were calculated from incidence-prevalence ratios used by AIHW (2012).

Other data built into the modelling was drawn from a wide range of sources. This included the 2009 and 2012 ABS Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers (SDAC); ABS statistics on cause of death 2015 and 2016; AIHW data from the National Aged Care Data Clearinghouse for information on residential aged care; the carers workforce census; and the Australian Burden of Disease study (AIHW, 2016).

Dementia Australia's Dementia Prevalence Data (2019-2058) is commissioned research undertaken by National Centre for Social and Economic Modelling (NATSEM), University of Canberra.

There have been redistributions and boundary changes to Commonwealth Electoral Divisions (CED) in the ACT, VIC and SA, since this data was compiled. While the individual CED prevalence figures may not reflect the most recent boundary changes, the general trends, and prevalence totals remain unchanged. These data exclude Gerard Community Council, Maralinga Tjarutja Community Inc, Nepabunna Community Council, Outback Communities Authority and Yalata Community because of very small numbers, Belyuen Community Government Council because of very small numbers and the unique territories of Christmas Island and Cocos Islands, and Cue, Murchison, Sandstone and Upper Gascoyne Local Government Areas because of very small numbers.

> **The prevalence data research that has been conducted and regularly updated by Dementia Australia (formerly Alzheimer's Australia) over many years has been vital to assist Australian governments, researchers and research institutions, policy planners, media and the health and aged care sectors to understand the enormity of the impact of dementia in Australia and more importantly to provide data to inform planning and funding of services and programs around Australia to meet future needs. The broad statistical approach used is common to other conditions. The dataset is specific to dementia**

- Assoc Prof Michael Woodward AM, Honorary Medical Advisor Dementia Australia.