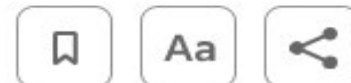


# INTERNET NEWS

# US FDA approves first at-home device for depression

By Kamal Choudhury

December 12, 2025 1:27 AM GMT+7 · Updated December 12, 2025





Flow's FL-100 delivers a gentle electrical current to the part of the brain that regulates mood and is designed for home use under remote supervision. It is the first such device to be approved in the U.S.

The device is cleared to treat moderate to severe major depressive disorders in adults aged 18 and older, as a standalone treatment or alongside other treatments, who are not considered resistant to medication.

Flow plans to launch the device in the U.S. in the second quarter of 2026 as a prescription-only treatment.

The company's CEO Erin Lee told Reuters the company is targeting a U.S. retail price between \$500 and \$800. Flow is negotiating with insurance payers and expects to announce coverage partnerships in early 2026, Lee added.



Medscape Ob/Gyn >  
Manson on Women's Health

COMMENTARY

# Physical Activity and Dementia: Is Timing Everything?

JoAnn E. Manson, MD, DrPH

[DISCLOSURES](#) | December 02, 2025



7



1316



Add to Email Alerts

Higher levels of moderate or heavy activity in midlife or later life were linked with lower dementia risk. Physical activity in midlife was only associated with lower dementia risk among participants without an *APOE4* Alzheimer's risk gene. Late-life activity, however, was associated with reduced dementia risk among both *APOE4* carriers and noncarriers, suggesting late-life physical activity may offset some *APOE4*-related changes.

There are multiple potential mechanisms underlying the reduced dementia risk associated with physical activity. Exercise reduces inflammation, helps to maintain favorable body composition, increases cerebral blood flow, and favorably affects **neuroplasticity** and **levels of brain-derived neurotrophic factor** expression; the latter have previously been shown in rodent studies.

# FDA OKs Blood-Based Test to Help Diagnose Prostate Cancer

M. Alexander Otto, PA, MMSc

December 03, 2025

 1  397 

 Add to Email Alerts

 Summarize This Article

The FDA has granted Cleveland Diagnostics' IsoPSA test premarket approval (PMA) to help detect prostate cancer in men aged 50 years or older with elevated PSA levels.

IsoPSA is a blood assay that detects variations of the PSA protein that signal a higher likelihood of high-grade tumors. It is one of several biomarker tests included in the National Comprehensive Cancer Network's [guidelines](#) on early detection of prostate cancer.

# P-tau217 Blood Test Can Identify Preclinical AD in Asymptomatic Patients

Pauline Anderson

December 17, 2025



[+ Add to Email Alerts](#)

Plasma measures of phosphorylated tau217 (p-tau217) can accurately identify individuals in the preclinical stage of Alzheimer's disease (AD), a new meta-analysis showed.

The results are important because the preclinical stage is when therapeutic interventions are most likely to delay or stop disease progression, investigators said.

The FDA has approved a p-tau217 blood test to use in symptomatic patients, but these new findings suggest such tests could be used to screen asymptomatic individuals once an effective preventative therapy becomes available.

# Levodopa May Help Prevent Progression to Neovascular AMD

Edited by Manasi Talwadekar

December 16, 2025



[+ Add to Email Alerts](#)

## TOPLINE:

In patients with a diagnosis of early- or intermediate-stage nonneovascular age-related macular degeneration (AMD), exposure to [levodopa](#) was associated with a significantly reduced risk for conversion to neovascular AMD over 5 years, whereas exposure to [dopamine](#) agonists or dopamine receptor D2 agonists did not show a significant association.

## METHODOLOGY:

- Researchers conducted a retrospective analysis using data from an

# First-trimester choroid plexus-to-head ratio: a novel sonographic marker for the early detection of fetal central nervous system malformations

Xianghua Xue<sup>1,2†</sup>Peng Tu<sup>1,2†</sup>Xiaohang Zhang<sup>1,2</sup>Suzhen Ran<sup>1,2</sup>Xuemei Zhang<sup>1,2\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Ultrasound, Women and Children's Hospital of Chongqing Medical University, Chongqing, China

<sup>2</sup> Department of Ultrasound, Chongqing Health Center for Women and Children, Chongqing, China

**Background:** Prenatal diagnosis of nervous system malformations associated with the abnormal development of cerebrospinal fluid is most commonly made in the mid-trimester. During early gestation, the choroid plexus is the dominant structure occupying the lateral ventricles. Detection of abnormally positioned choroid plexuses within the fetal head may serve as a novel sonographic marker for the early identification of these malformations.

**Methods:** This was a retrospective study of singleton pregnancies with nervous system abnormalities. In the first trimester, the choroid plexus area (CPA), choroid plexus length (CPL), occipitofrontal diameter (OFD), head area (HA), head circumference (HC), abdominal circumference (AC), and the distance between the anterior margin of the choroid plexus (CP) and the medial side of the frontal bone (CFD) were measured in the transventricular axial plane. The ratios of CPA/HA, CPL/OFD, CFD/OFD, and HC/AC were also assessed.

**Results:** A total of 256 fetuses were included in the control group, and a reference range was established. In total, 52 cases with nervous system abnormalities associated with abnormal cerebrospinal fluid development were confirmed. In the control group, the ratios of CPA/HA and CPL/OFD decreased ( $r = -0.499$ ,  $-0.216$ , respectively, both  $p < 0.001$ ), while the CFD/OFD ratio increased ( $r = 0.445$ ,  $p < 0.001$ ). Compared with the control group, scatter diagrams and box-and-whiskers plots showed ventriculomegaly (VM) fetuses had significantly decreased CPA/HA and CPL/OFD ratios ( $p < 0.001$ ), but increased CFD/OFD and HC/AC ratios ( $p < 0.001$ ). The CPA/HA, CPL/OFD, and CFD/OFD ratios were all significantly higher in fetuses with open spina bifida (OSB) ( $p < 0.05$ ). Fetuses with microcephaly showed a significantly higher CPA/HA ratio ( $p < 0.001$ ), higher CPL/OFD ratio ( $p < 0.001$ ), and lower HC/AC ratio ( $p < 0.05$ ).

**Conclusion:** Choroid-plexus-to-head ratios offer an objective means of assessing nervous system malformations associated with abnormal cerebrospinal fluid development during the first trimester.

# FDA Approves Add-On Depemokimab for Severe Asthma

Heidi Splete

December 19, 2025



[+ Add to Email Alerts](#)

The US FDA has approved depemokimab as an add-on maintenance therapy for individuals aged 12 years or older with severe [asthma](#), according to a [press release](#) from manufacturer GlaxoSmithKline.

Depemokimab-ulaa, marketed as Exdensur, is the first long-acting biologic to be studied for respiratory diseases with underlying type 2 inflammation, and the product's distinctive half-life allows for twice-yearly doses of 100 mg subcutaneously, according to the company.

The approval was based on data from a pair of phase III studies, [SWIFT-1](#) and [SWIFT-2](#), which showed sustained reductions in asthma exacerbations with two doses per year as an add-on to standard of care compared to placebo plus standard of care.

We help marketers drive visibility across AI search, SEO, content, and social



Advertisement

MEDBRIEF

## Antenatal Steroids Tied to Lower BPD Risk in Premies

Edited by Devyani Gholap

December 18, 2025



[+ Add to Email Alerts](#)

### TOPLINE:

Antenatal corticosteroid (ACS) courses administered before delivery in pregnancies at high risk for [preterm birth](#) were associated with a reduced risk for moderate-to-severe [bronchopulmonary dysplasia](#) (BPD) in very preterm infants, with complete courses offering greater protection.

### METHODOLOGY:

- Researchers conducted a prospective, multicenter cohort study to evaluate the association between ACS exposure and BPD in very preterm infants and to assess the potential mediating effects of [respiratory distress syndrome](#)

- Researchers conducted a prospective, multicenter cohort study to evaluate the association between ACS exposure and BPD in very preterm infants and to assess the potential mediating effects of [respiratory distress syndrome](#) and invasive [mechanical ventilation](#).
- They enrolled 1097 preterm infants (median [gestational age](#), 28.71 weeks; 44% girls among those with known sex) who were admitted to an NICU within 24 hours of birth and hospitalized for more than 2 weeks.
- ACS exposure was classified as a complete course (two doses of [betamethasone](#) or four doses of [dexamethasone](#) administered  $\geq 24$  hours before delivery), an incomplete course (1-2 doses of betamethasone or 1-4 doses of dexamethasone given  $< 24$  hours before delivery), or no ACS.
- The primary outcome was moderate-to-severe BPD at 36 weeks' corrected gestational age, as per standard BPD severity criteria; BPD was defined as oxygen dependence for  $\geq 28$  days.
- Secondary outcomes were severe respiratory distress syndrome and the duration of invasive mechanical ventilation.

## **TAKEAWAY.**