Eating Disorders in Older Adults

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Types of Eating Disorders

- Anorexia Nervosa
- Bulimia Nervosa
- Binge eating disorder
- Avoidant Restrictive Food Intake Disorder (ARFID)
- Other Specified Feeding or Eating Disorder (OSFED)

Eating disorders among aging adults fall in three categories:

- Those who were already struggling with an eating disorder
- Those who recovered, but are relapsing
- Those who developed an eating disorder

Menopause is the most common trigger in older adults developing an eating disorder



Treatment

- Pharmacological and behavioural interventions
- Medication
- Family Therapy
- Inpatient or outpatient services



Warning Signs

- Increase or Decrease in weight over a short period of time
- Eating alone
- Depression and Anxiety
- Using diuretics or laxatives
- Disappearing after meals



