


# DEMENTIA

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Romania

A color portrait of Ronald Reagan, smiling, wearing a dark suit, white shirt, and dark tie. An American flag is visible in the background to the left.

**Ronald  
Reagan**

**1911-2004**

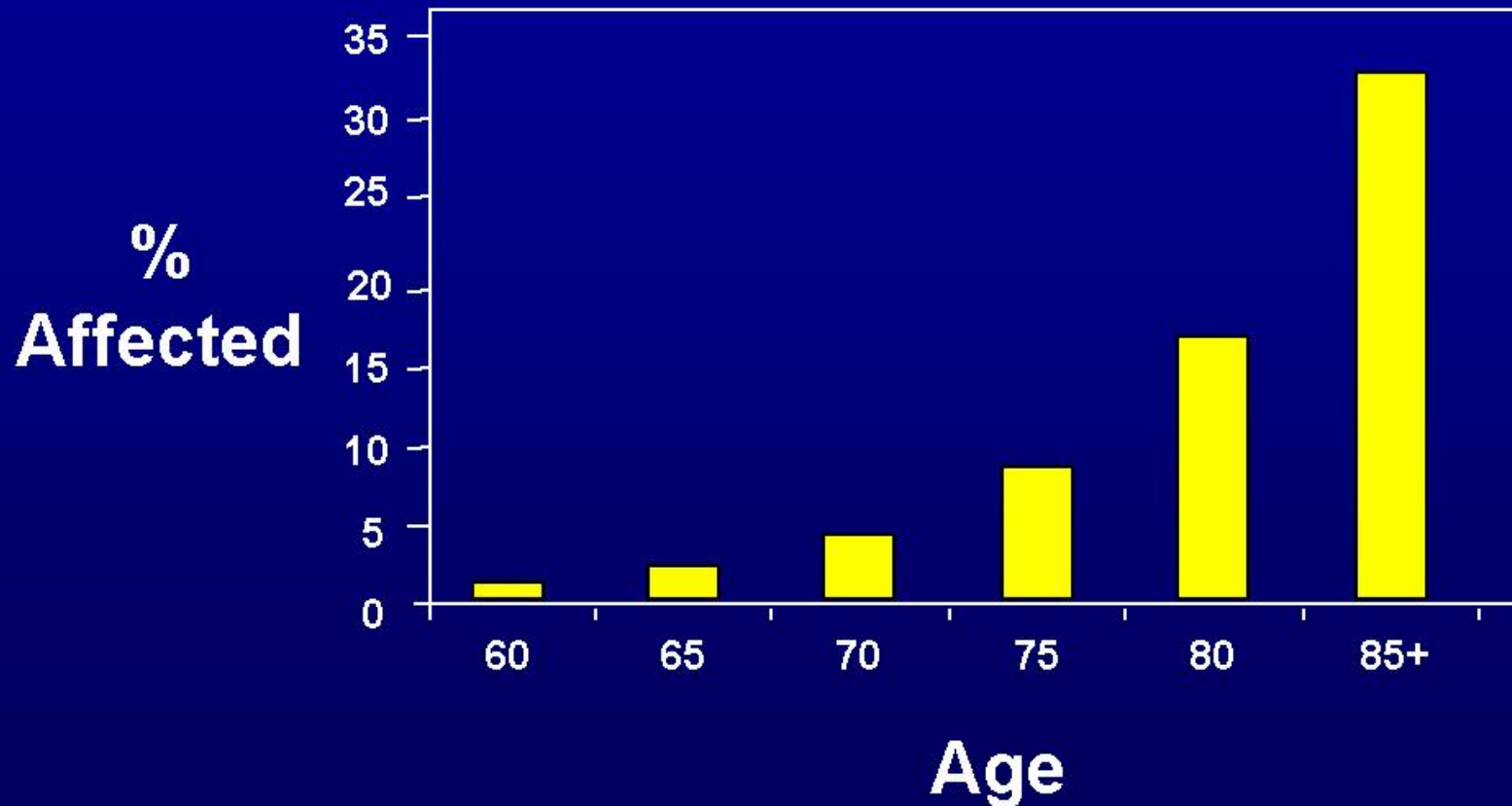
A black and white portrait of Robin Williams, smiling slightly, wearing a dark jacket.

**ROBIN WILLIAMS**  
1951-2014

# Dementia

- from Latin
- *de-* "apart, away"
- + *mens* (genitive *mentis*) "mind"

# Dementia Doubles in Frequency Every 5 Years After Age 60



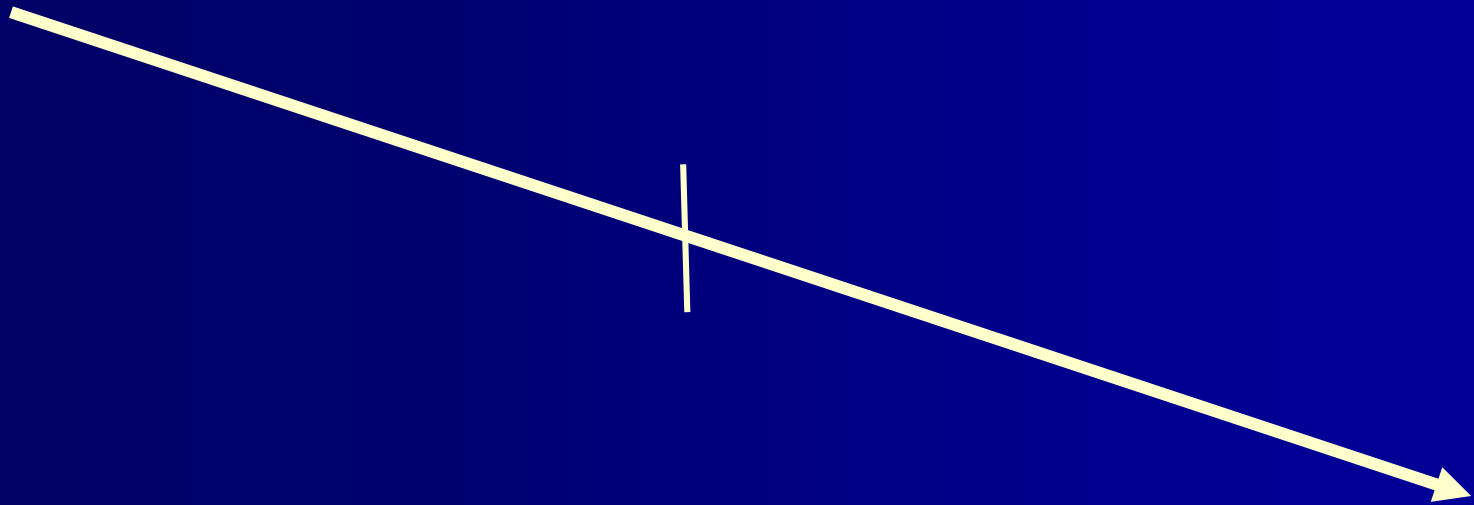
- **MORE GRAY HAIR AND LESS GRAY MATTER**

**Daryl R. Gress**

# Cognitive decline

minor neurocognitive disorder

major neurocognitive disorder



**“PREDEMENTIA”**

**DEMENTIA**

# DSM-IV criteria for the diagnosis of dementia

The development of multiple cognitive deficits manifested by both

- memory impairment
- and at least one of the following:
  - aphasia
  - apraxia
  - agnosia
  - executive dysfunction
- causing significant impairment in social or occupational functioning
- and which do not exclusively occur during delirium

# CAUSES OF DEMENTIA

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## ■ INTRACRANIAL:

### – DEGENERATIV:

- *Alzheimer, Pick, Lewy,*
- *Parkinson, Huntington,*

### – VASCULAR, POST-STROKE

### – TUMORS, POST-TRAUMATIC,

- *Tumor, metastasis, subdural haematoma, hydrocephalus*

### – INFECTIONS

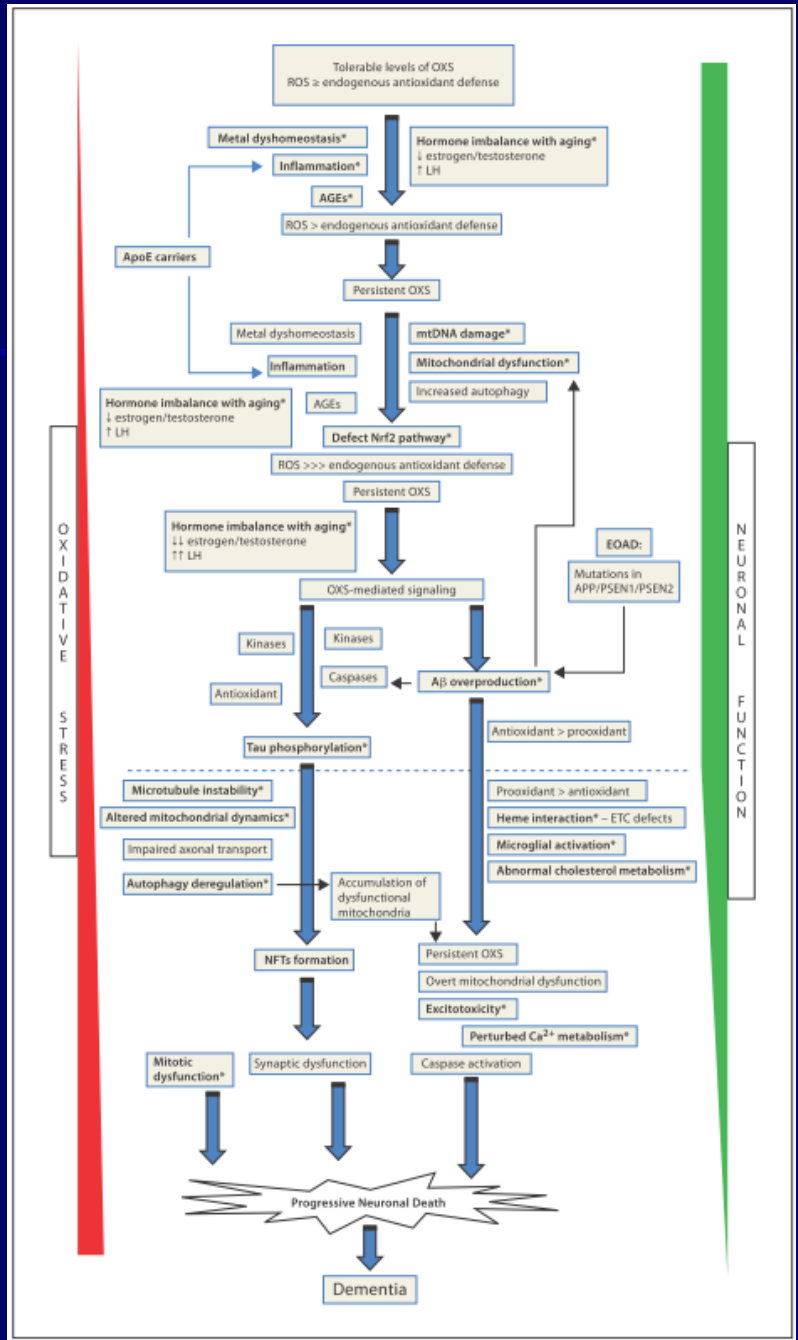
- *AIDS, prion: Creutzfeldt-Jakob, PESS, neurosyphilis, Lyme, meningitis*



# CAUSES OF DEMENTIA

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- EXTRACRANIAL:
  - INTOXICATIONS
    - Alcohol, drugs, CO
  - GENETIC
    - Wilson
  - ORGAN INSUFF.
    - liver, renal failure, cardiac, thyroid
  - DEFICIENCY STATES
    - B12, folate



# When to assess the patient for cognitive impairment?

- **memory complaints**
- **family alerted**
- **other diseases (hospitalized elderly patients)**
- **sent by the family doctor**
- **screening!!!**

# Minimal program for investigation of cognitive impairment

- **anamnesis and heteroanamnesis**
- general exam
- neurological exam
- psychiatric exam
- Mini Mental State Examination and/or other short cognitive test
- laboratory tests
- CT or MRI

REPEAT IF NECESSARY DEPENDING ON THE EVOLUTION!!!

# DSM-IV criteria for the diagnosis of dementia

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# History, anamnesis, heteroanamnesis:

## ■ risk factors:

- alcohol, hypertension, stroke, diabetes mellitus, atrial fibrillation, dislipidemia
- head trauma
- depression
- dementia in the family

# History, anamnesis, heteroanamnesis:

- **activity of daily living:**
  - **alimentation, washing, dressing, shopping, handling money, orientation, accommodation**
  - **incontinency**
    - **urine, fecal**
    - **emotional**
- **education, prior level of knowledge**

# Questions to ask family members about patients with memory problems

- Can you give some examples of times when the patient had trouble with memory?
- Does he or she have trouble remembering names or faces of familiar people?
- Has he or she got lost while driving or walking in familiar areas?



# Questions to ask family members to determine the nature of cognitive impairment in patients with memory loss

## **Aphasia**

Does the patient:

- have any difficulties with finding the right word to say?
- use frequently “what-d’ye-call-it” instead of names?
- break off in midsentence?
- use circumlocutions in his/her speech?

# Questions to ask family members to determine the nature of cognitive impairment in patients with memory loss

## **Apraxia**

Does he or she have any difficulty with:

- dressing or bathing alone?
- using a brush or comb?
- feeding himself or herself?

Questions to ask family members to determine the nature of cognitive impairment in patients with memory loss

## **Agnosia**

Does he or she have any trouble recognizing:

- familiar people or places?
- familiar objects or personal items?

# Executive dysfunction

- Has he or she had any difficulty understanding what is going on around him or her,
  - such as following a church activity or planning an upcoming event?
- Has he or she had any problems figuring out how to use familiar objects,
  - such as appliances or tools, or how to operate with new devices, such as a new television remote control or microwave oven?

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# Mini-Mental State Examination

*Folstein MF, Folstein SE, McHugh PR 1975*

**Maximum  
score**

**Score**

## Orientation

5

\_\_\_

What is the (year) (season) (date) (day) (month)?

5

\_\_\_

Where are we: (state) (county) (town or city) (hospital) (floor)?

## Registration

3

\_\_\_

Name three common objects (e.g., "apple," "table," "penny"):

## Attention and calculation

5

\_\_\_

Spell "world" backwards. The score is the number of letters in correct order.

(D\_\_\_L\_\_\_R\_\_\_O\_\_\_W\_\_\_)

## Recall

3

\_\_\_

Ask for the three objects repeated above.

## Language

2

\_\_\_

Name a "pencil" and "watch."

Repeat the following: "No ifs ands or buts."

1

\_\_\_

Follow a three-stage command:

3

\_\_\_

"Take a paper in your right hand, fold it in half and put it on the floor."

1

\_\_\_

Close your eyes.

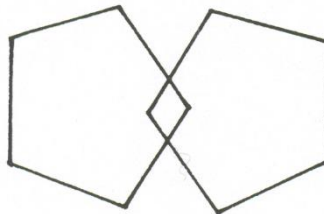
1

\_\_\_

Write a sentence.

1

Copy the following design.



**Total  
score**  
4/18/2018 10:59-AM

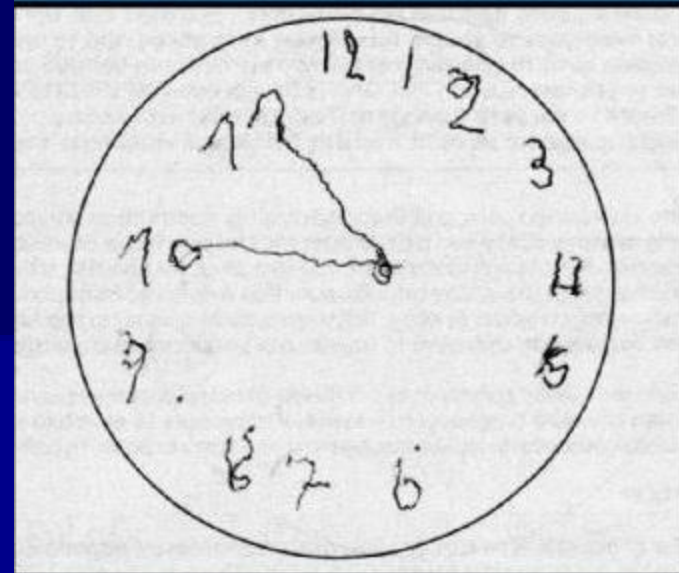
# Clock Drawing Test

- "Without looking at your watch, draw the face of a clock, and mark the hands to show 10 minutes to 11:00."

- This task requires intact memory, visuospatial skills, and executive functioning.

- Scoring:

- the clock numbers are
  - generally intact (6 to 10 points)
  - not intact (1 to 5 points).
- a score of 5 or less is suggestive of dementia



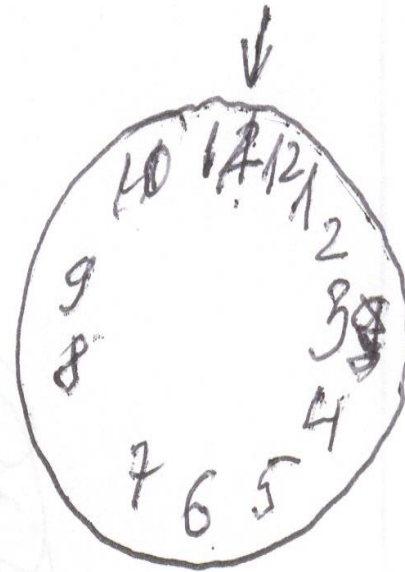
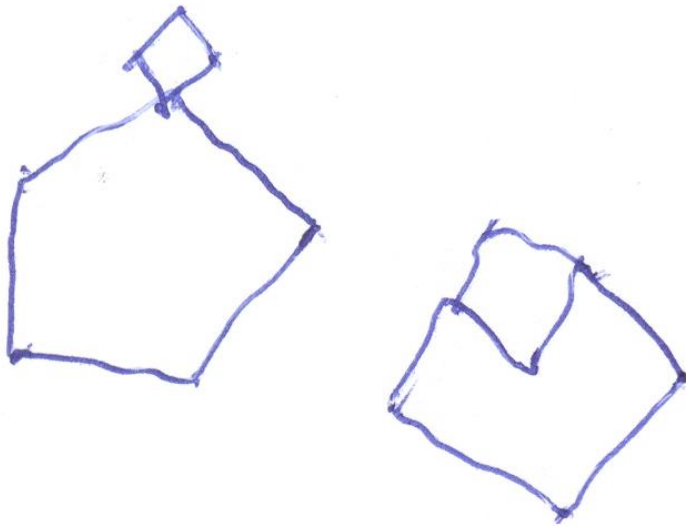
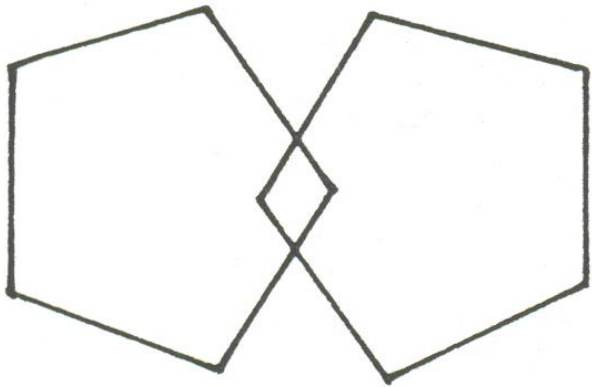
Source: Cases J © 2010 Cases Network, Ltd.

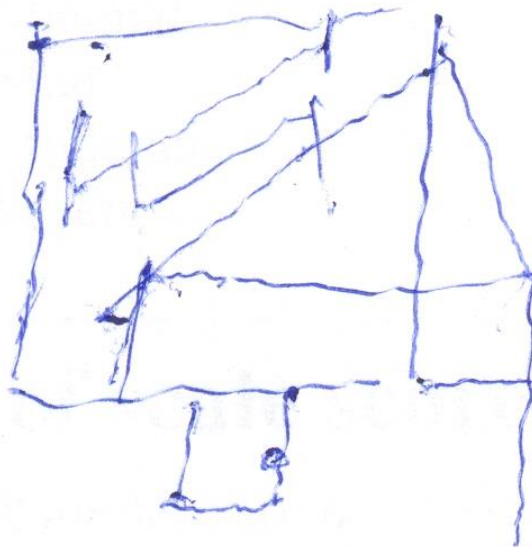
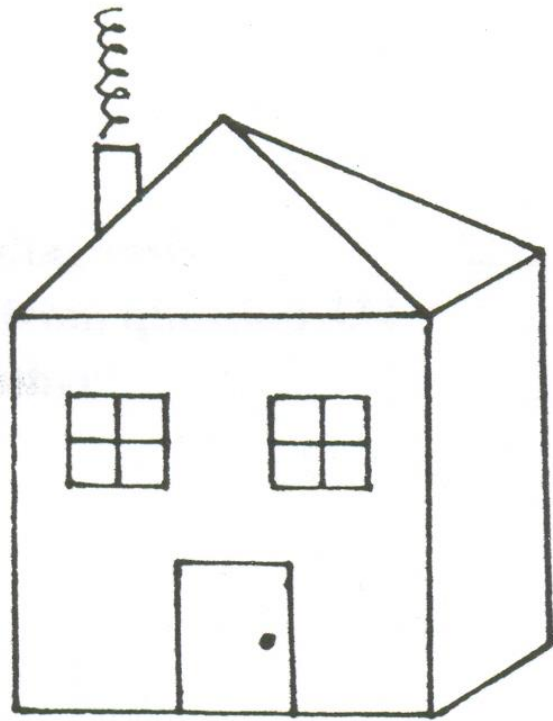


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6 motu







# Minimal program for investigation of cognitive impairment

- anamnesis and heteroanamnesis
- general exam
- neurological exam
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- Mini Mental State Examination and/or other short cognitive test
- **laboratory tests**
- CT or MRI

REPEAT IF NECESSARY DEPENDING ON THE EVOLUTION!!!

# LABORATORY TESTS FOR THE EVALUATION OF DEMENTIA

- Thyroid function tests
- Serum vitamin B<sub>12</sub>
- Serum glucose level
- Complete blood cell count
- Serum electrolyte levels
- Serum liver function tests
- Serum kidney function tests
- Erythrocyte sedimentation rate
- Chest radiography
- Electrocardiography
- Toxicology screening
- Urinalysis and microscopy
- Serologic tests for syphilis

# Additional Tests to Consider in the Diagnostic Work-Up of Dementia

Test	Indication
Electroencephalography	Possible seizures; Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease
Lumbar puncture	Onset of dementia within the preceding six months; dementia rapidly progressive
Heavy metal screen	History of potential exposure
Human immunodeficiency virus	History of potential exposure
Lyme disease titer	History of exposure and compatible clinical picture
Ceruloplasmin, arylsulfatase, electrophoresis	Wilson's disease, metachromatic leukodystrophy, multiple myeloma
Slit lamp examination	History and examination suggest Wilson's disease
Apolipoprotein E	Need to increase likelihood that diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease is correct
Genetic testing for Alzheimer genes, other dementia genes	Family history is strong, and confirmation is clinically necessary

## Genetic testing and counselling ????

- Testing positive for APOE  $\epsilon$ 4 does not mean a person will definitely develop late onset Alzheimer's disease.
- Testing negative for APOE  $\epsilon$ 4 does not guarantee that they will be free from Alzheimer's
- presenilin – when family history is +

# Minimal program for investigation of cognitive impairment

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- **CT or MRI**

REPEAT IF NECESSARY DEPENDING ON THE EVOLUTION!!!

# Neuroradiology - CT/MRI

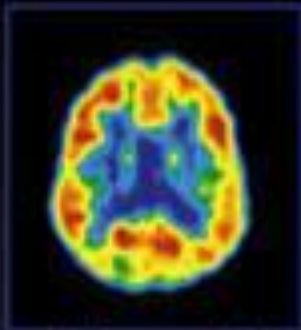
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- Focal neurological signs
- Suspected cerebral lesion
  - tumors
  - subdural haematoma
  - hydrocephalus
  - stroke

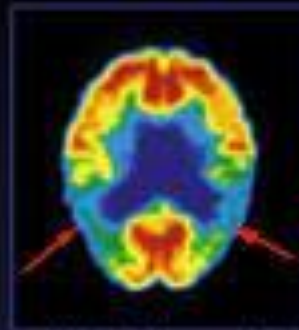


- acute, subacute onset
- trauma weeks ago
- general signs of malignancy

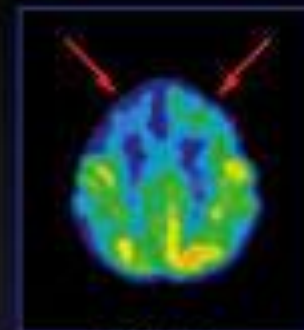




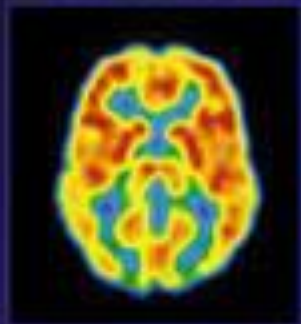
Normal



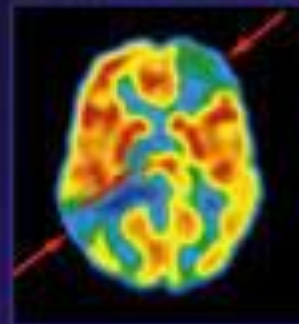
Alzheimer's



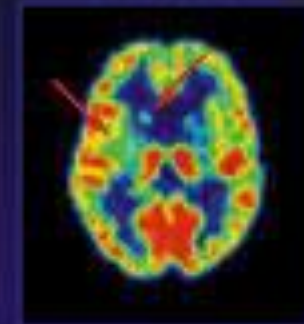
Pick's



Normal



Multiple-infarct  
dementia

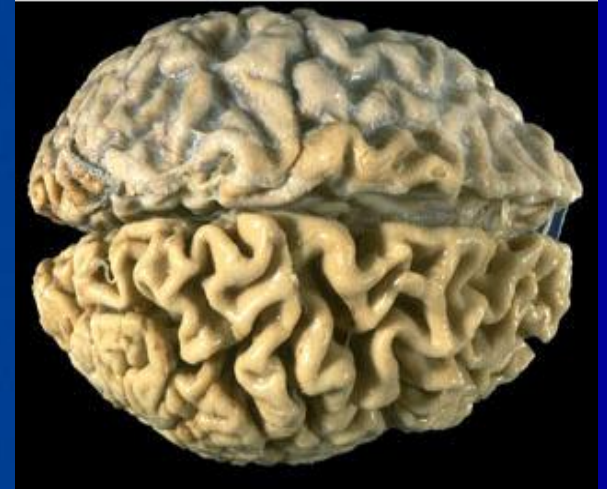


Huntington's

# ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

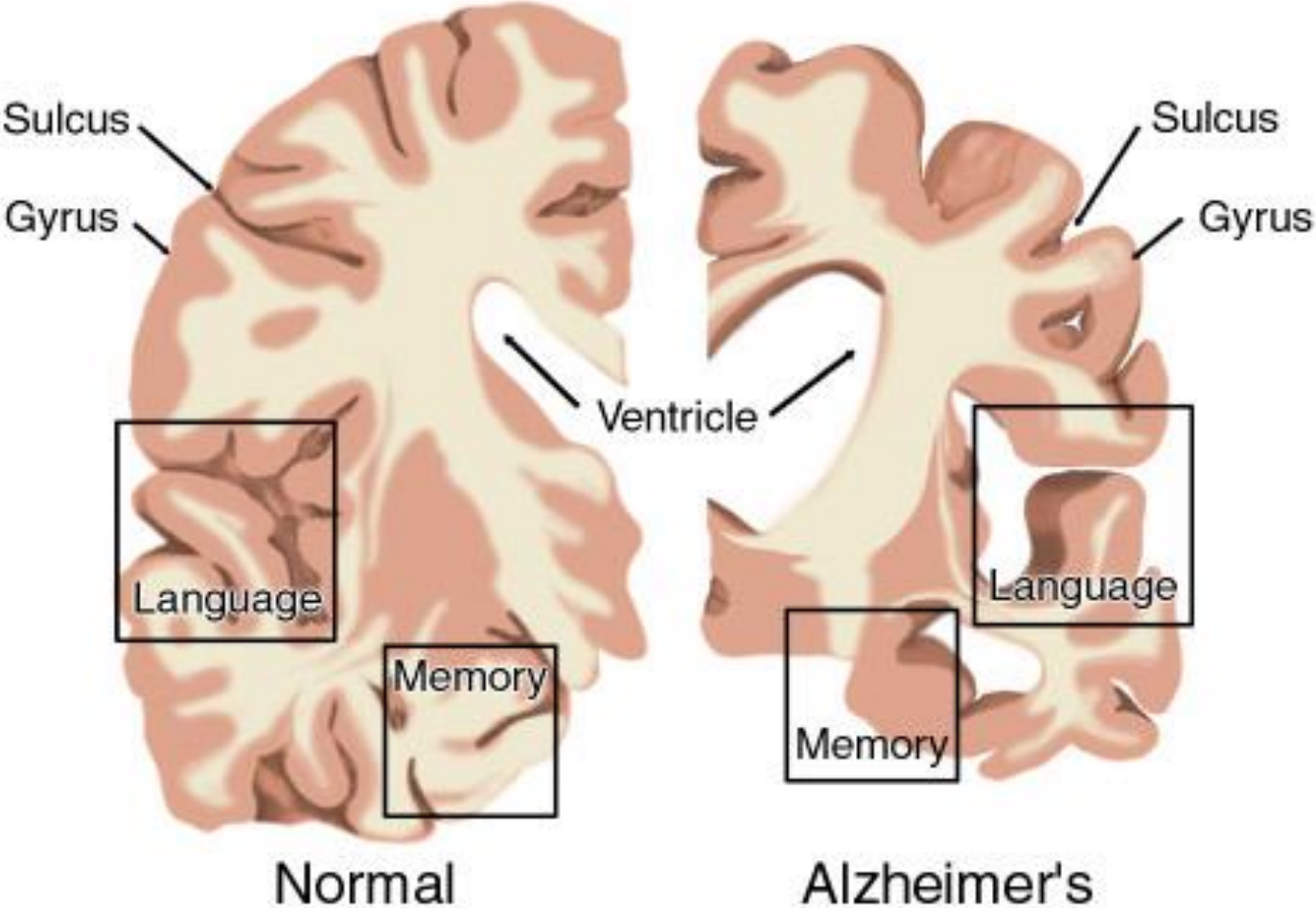
- Characteristic:
  - **dementia**
  - **no other causes**
  - slow progression
  - cortical signs
  - no neurological signs
  - CT/MRI: atrophy
  
- Not characteristic:
  - acute onset, focal signs, epilepsy, other CT/MRI signs

# Alzheimer's disease: narrow gyri, large sulci



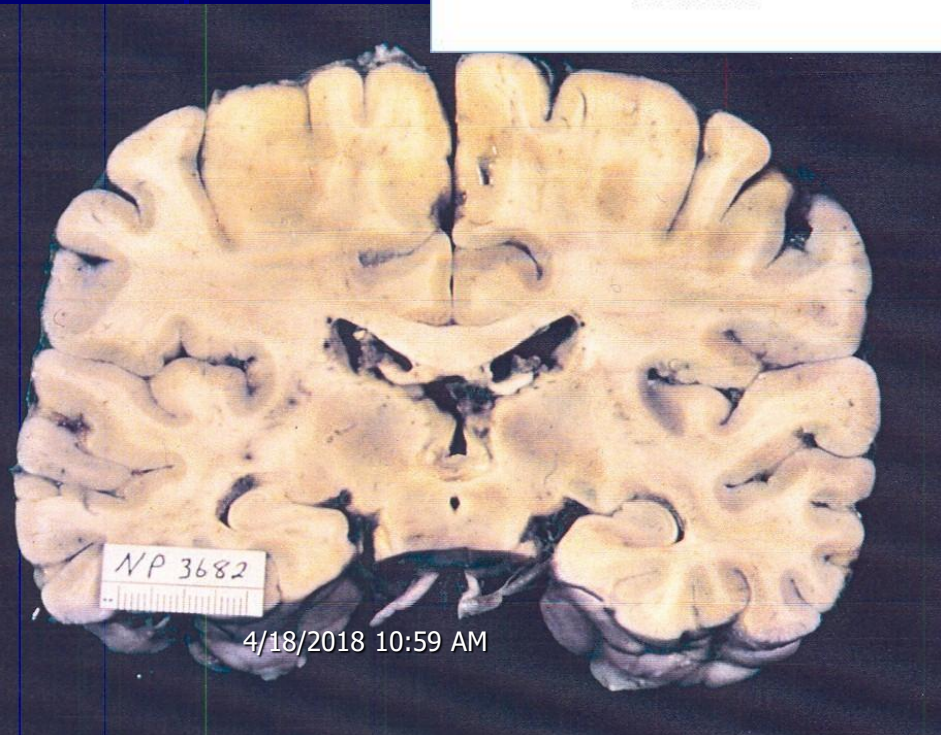
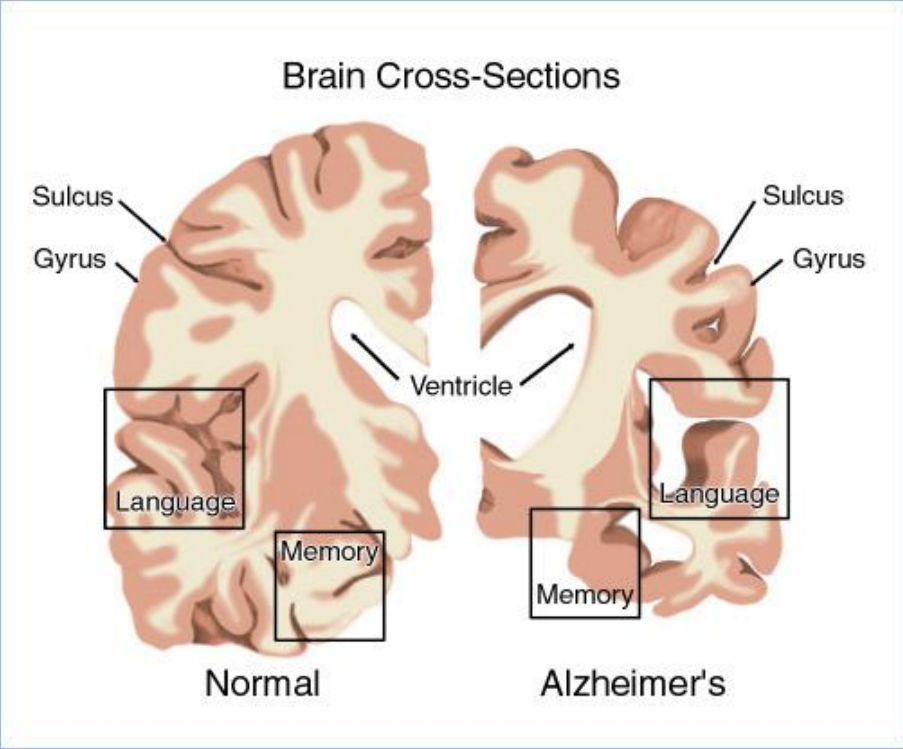
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# Brain Cross-Sections

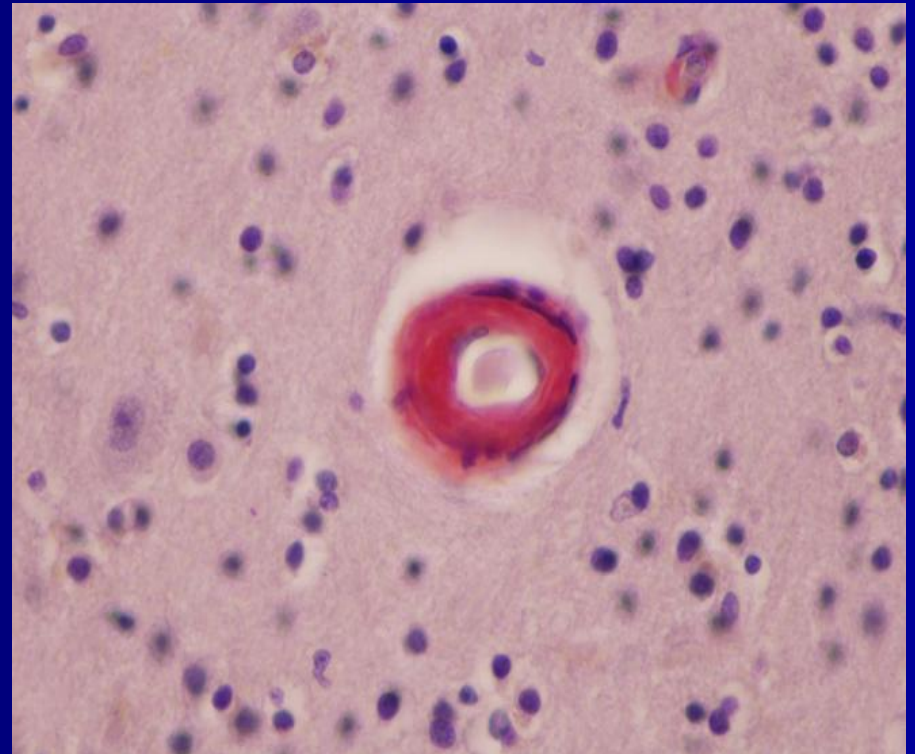
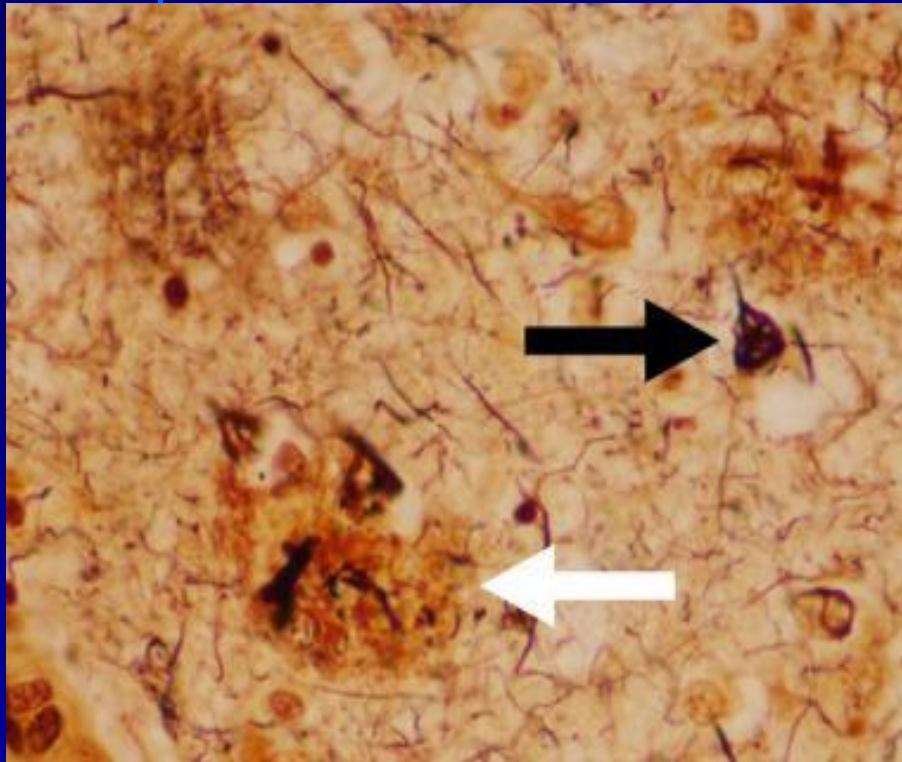


# Alzhe

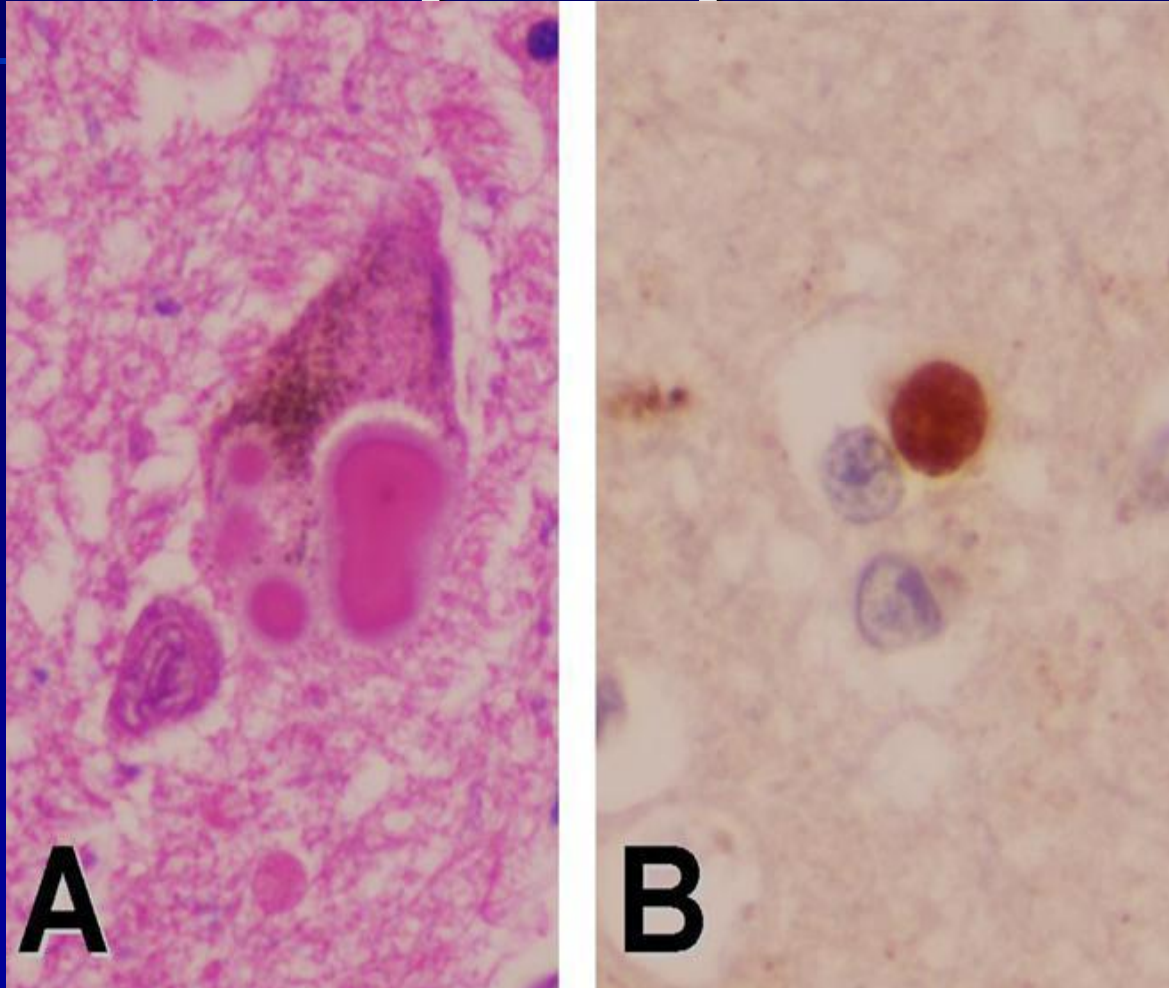
# ophy



# Pathology: neurofibrillary tangles, neuritic plaques, amyloid depositions

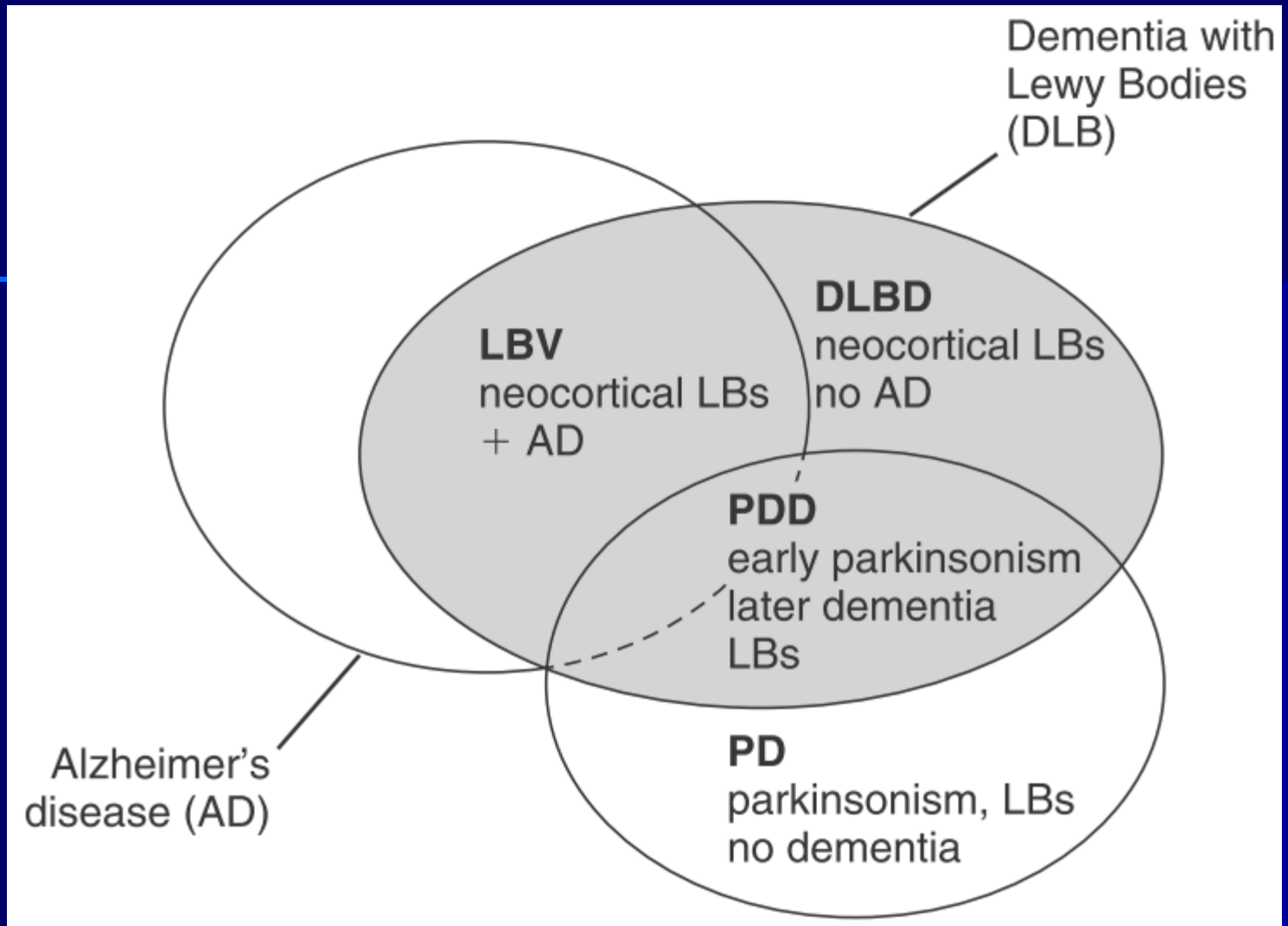


# Pathology: Lewy-body



## Clinical criteria

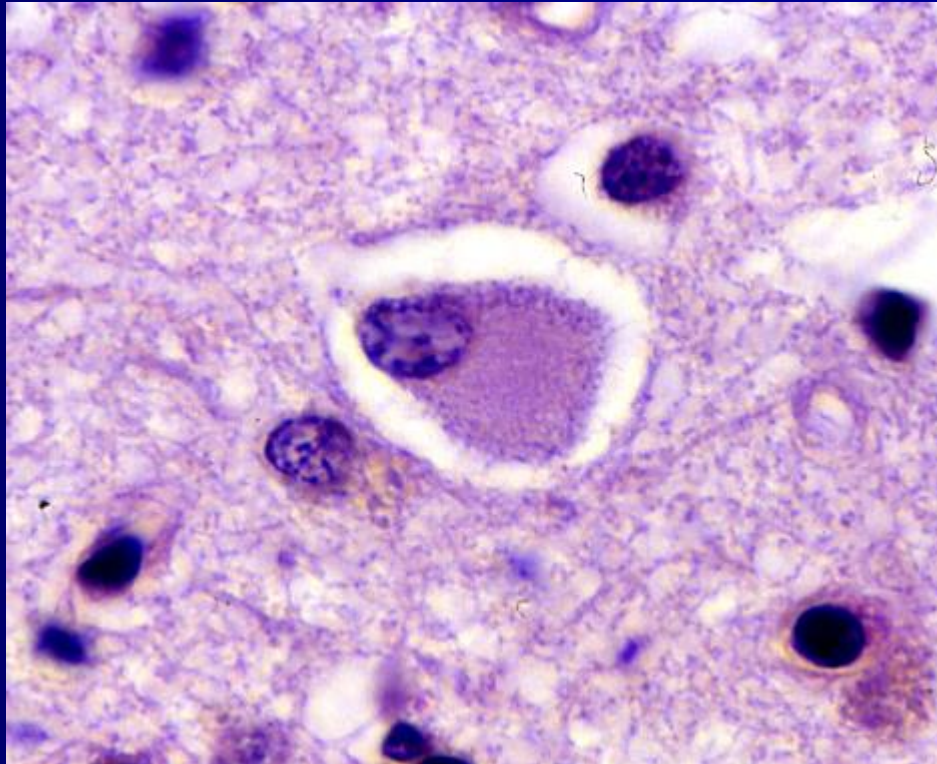
- Dementia
  - Attention
  - Visuospatial
  - Executive
- Characteristic:
  - Fluctuation
  - Hallucinations
  - parkinsonism



Lewis, KA et al: Abnormal neurites containing C-terminally truncated  $\alpha$ -synuclein are present in Alzheimer's disease without conventional Lewy body pathology. *The American Journal of Pathology* 177(6) 3037–3050, 2010



# Pathology: Pick-cells



# VASCULAR DEMENTIA

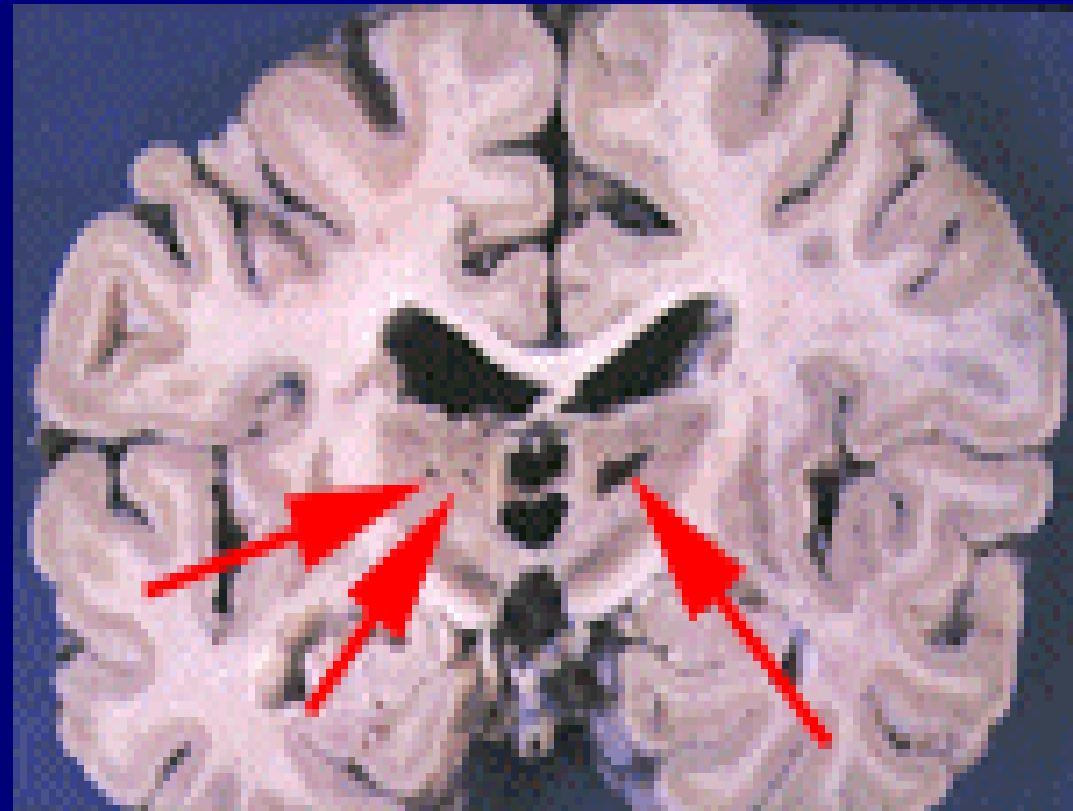
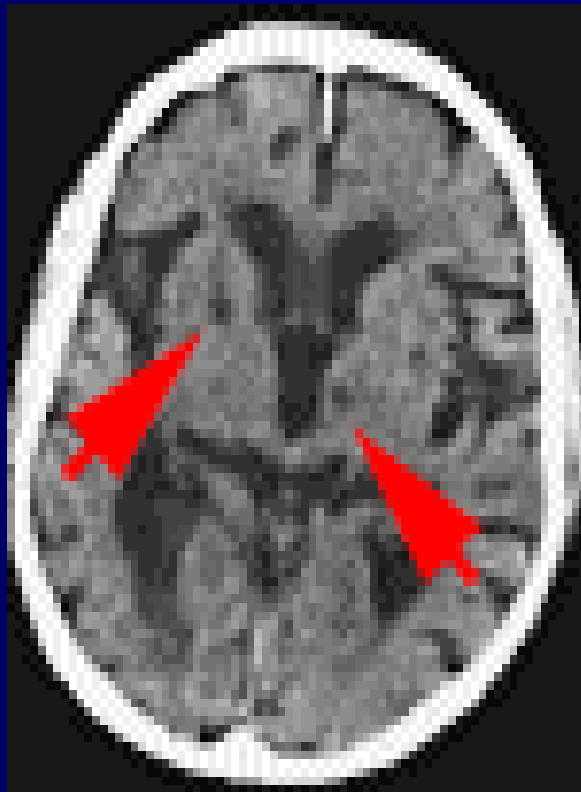
- Dementia
- Cerebrovascular disease (risk factors, stroke, CT/MRI)
- relationship

# VASCULAR DEMENTIA

- Commonly: multiinfarct (MID), multilacunar
- Characteristic:
  - anamnestic: stroke, TIA
  - Signs after stroke: neurological exam and CT/MRI
  - Pseudobulbar syndrome,
  - Incontinency: emotional, urine
  - gait disorders (astasia, abasia),
  - depression
- Not characteristic:
  - normal CT/MRI,
  - lack of vascular risk factors

# CT: multiple lacunar infarcts

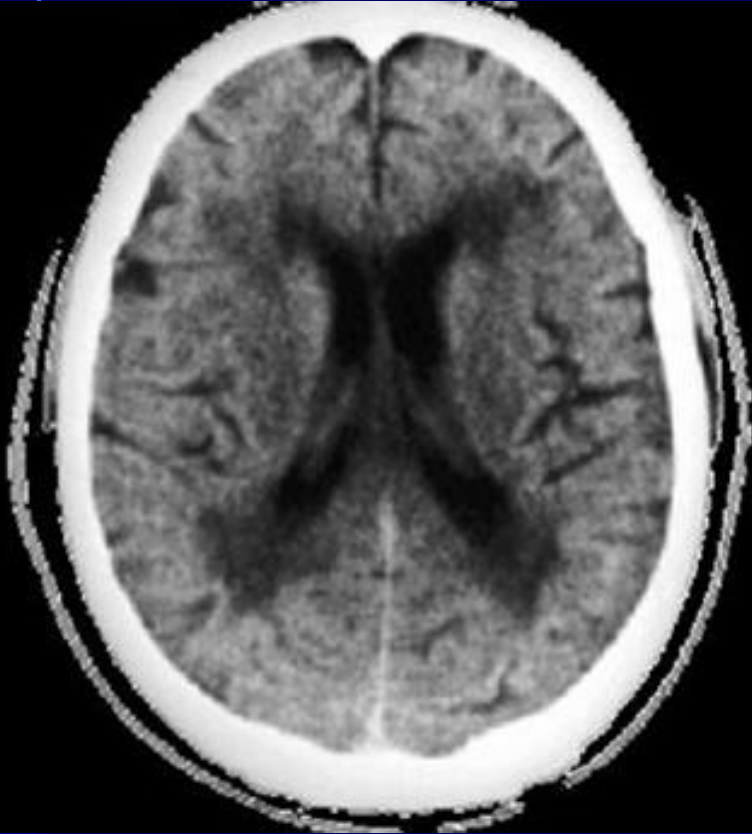
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# VASCULAR DEMENTIA

- Special:
  - Binswanger's disease (encephalitis subcorticalis chronica progressiva)
    - hypertension, dementia, unsteady gait, incontinency
    - ~ ≠ leucoaraiosis
  - CADASIL (*cerebral autosomal dominant arteriopathy with subcortical infarcts and leucoencephalopathy*)

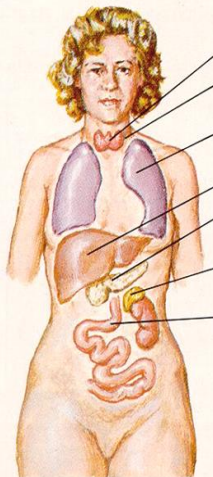
# Leucoaraiosis



## Treatable Dementias

### Metabolic

Hypothyroidism  
 Hyperparathyroidism  
 (hypercalcemia)  
 Emphysema  
 (CO<sub>2</sub> narcosis)  
 Liver disease  
 Pancreatic disease  
 (hypoglycemia)  
 Cortisol excess  
 (Cushing's syndrome)  
 Nutritional disorder  
 (malabsorption,  
 pellagra)  
 Vitamin B<sub>12</sub> deficiency  
 (pernicious anemia)

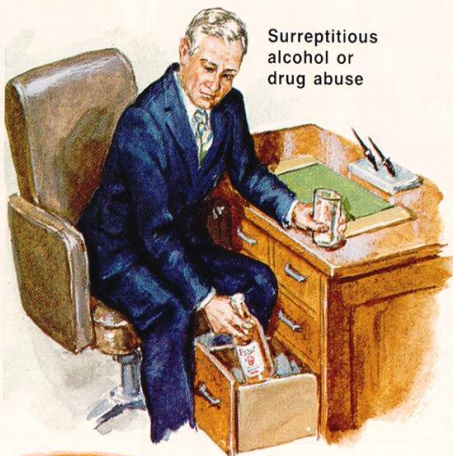


### Iatrogenic

Overmedication  
 Side effects



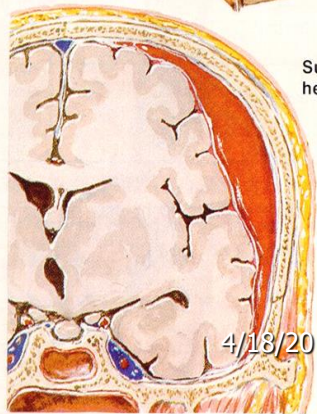
Surreptitious  
 alcohol or  
 drug abuse



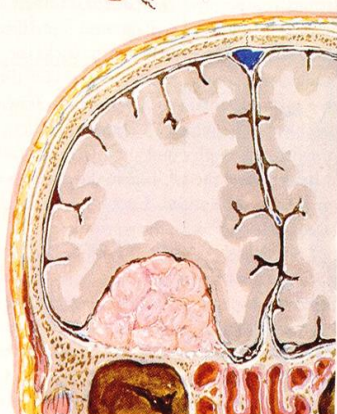
Depressive  
 pseudodementia



Subdural  
 hematoma



Brain  
 tumor



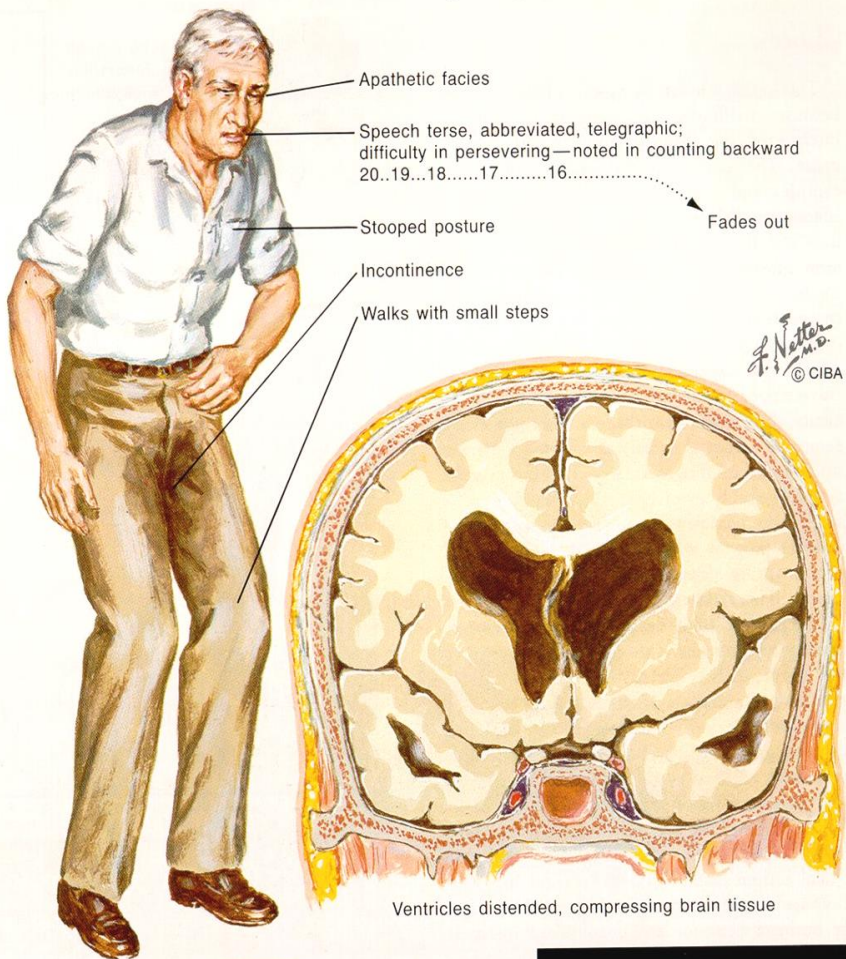
# Potentially reversible causes of dementia

- subdural hematoma
- tumor (frontal)
- metabolic
- alcohol
- drugs
- Pseudodementia (depression)
- hydrocephalus

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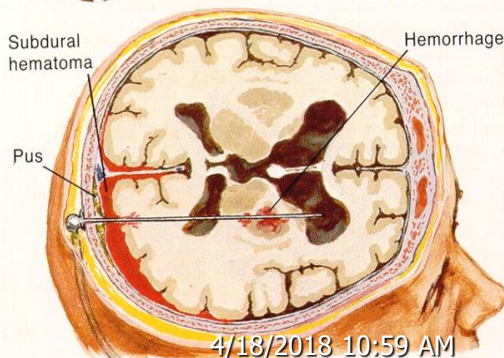
L. H. Natter  
 M.D.  
 © CIBA

# Normal-Pressure Hydrocephalus

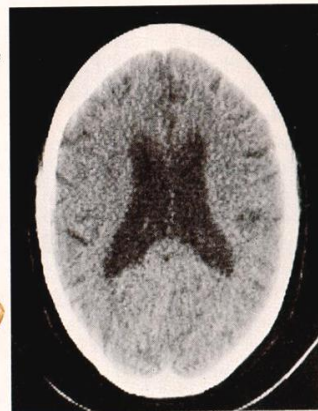


# Potentially reversible causes of dementia

- hydrocephalus
  - dementia
  - unsteady gait
  - incontinency



Shunting may reduce size of ventricles and relieve symptoms, but may cause hemorrhage along cannula tract, brain edema, subdural hematoma and infection



CT scan showing distended ventricles



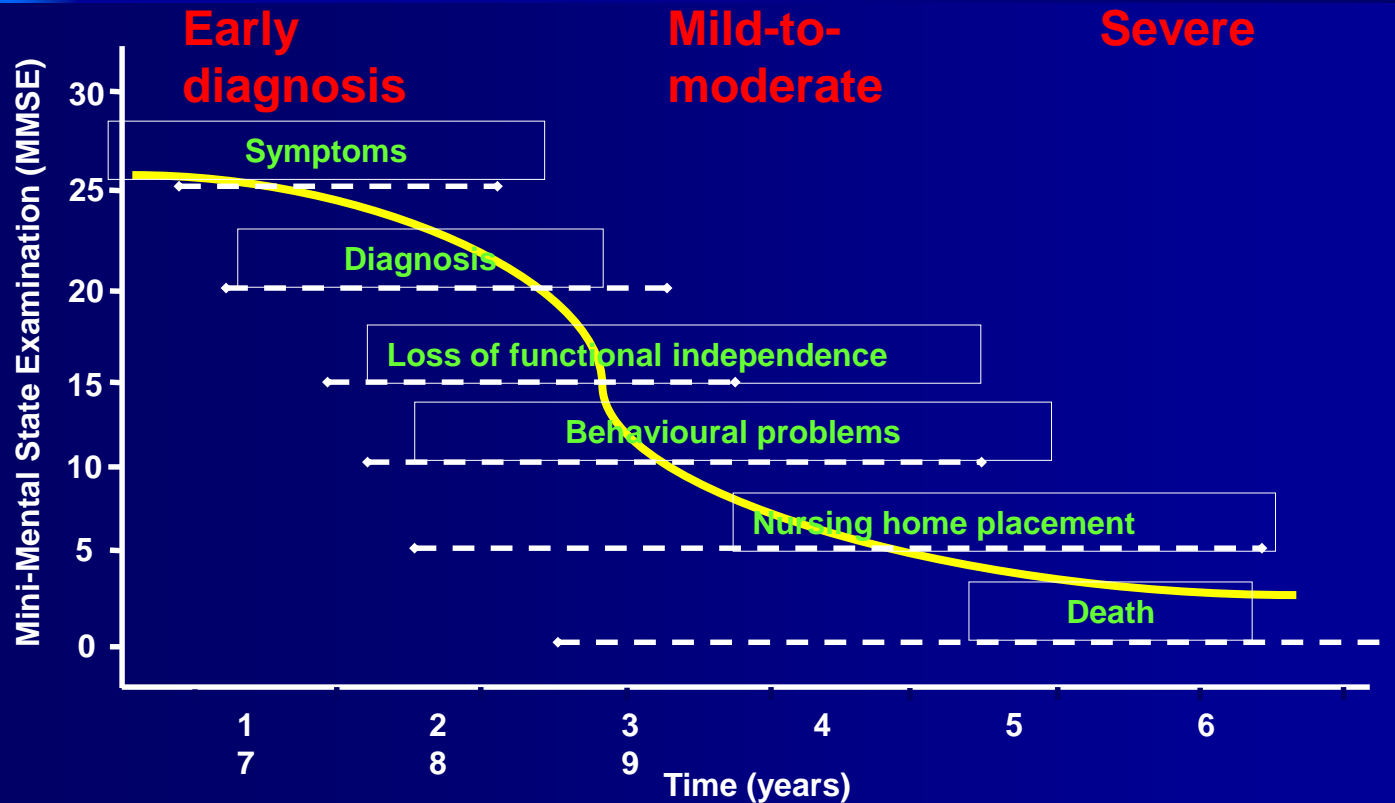
# Features Distinguishing Delirium and Dementia

	<u>Delirium</u>	<u>Dementia</u>
<b>Onset</b>	<b>Acute</b>	<b>Insidious</b>
<b>Duration</b>	<b>Days/weeks</b>	<b>Months/years</b>
<b>Attention</b>	<b>Distracted</b>	<b>Usually normal</b>
<b>Level of Consciousness</b>	<b>Increased/decreased</b>	<b>Usually normal</b>
<b>Cognition</b>	<b>Disorganized</b>	<b>Impoverished</b>

# Features Distinguishing Dementia and Depressive Pseudodementia:

	<u>Dementia</u>	<u>“Pseudodementia”</u>
Precise onset	Unusual	Usual
Duration	Long	Short
Complaints	Variable	Usual
psych history	Uncommon	Common
"Don't know"	Uncommon	Common
Affect	Labile, blunted	Depressed

# Natural history of Alzheimer's disease



Reproduced from Feldman and Gracon, 1996

# Alzheimer's Disease Treatment

- Prescription medication
  - cholinesterase inhibitors (CI)
- Other medications
  - vitamin E, ginkgo biloba, memantine, others
- For behavioral disturbances
  - psychotropic medications
- Nonpharmacologic intervention
  - caregiver support
  - behavioral and environmental modifications

# Acetylcholinesterase Inhibitors

## Used in the Treatment of Dementia

<i>Drug</i>	<i>Dosage</i>	<i>Target dosage</i>	<i>Minimum therapeutic dosage</i>
<b>Donepezil (Aricept)</b>	Start at <b>5 mg</b> once daily, taken at bedtime; after <b>6 weeks</b> , increase to <b>10 mg</b> once daily.	<b>10 mg once daily</b>	<b>5 mg daily</b>
<b>Rivastigmine (Exelon)</b>	Start at <b>1.5 mg</b> twice daily, taken with food; at 2-week intervals, increase each dose by <b>1.5 mg</b> , up to a dosage of <b>6 mg</b> twice daily.	<b>6 mg twice daily</b>	<b>3 mg twice daily</b>
<b>Galantamine (Reminyl)</b>	Start at <b>4 mg</b> twice daily with food; at 4-week intervals, increase each dose by <b>4 mg</b> , up to a dosage of <b>12 mg</b> twice daily.	<b>12 mg twice daily</b>	<b>8 mg twice daily</b>

# N-methyl-D-aspartat (NMDA) antagonist

- Memantine (Ebixa)
  - for treatment of moderate-to-severe AD
  - Recommended dose:
    - 2x10 mg per day
      - Start at 1x5 mg per day
      - Increase with 5mg per day each week to max.  
2x10 mg per day