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# ***Dementia***

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## ***Dementia***

- Syndrome of acquired global impairment of intellectual function which is usually progressive, and occurs in a setting of clear consciousness.
- Affects:  
Memory, language, abstract thinking and judgement, praxis, visospatial or perceptual skills, personality and social conduct

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## ***Epidemiology***

- Prevalence:
  - 1% at age 60
  - Doubles every five years
  - 30% by age 80
  - Prevalence curve flattens out at about age 90
- 4<sup>th</sup> leading cause of death in the elderly
- Life expectancy after diagnosis 3-15 years

Wolfson, NEJM April, 2001

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## ***Alzheimer's disease***

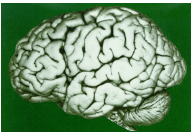
- Accounts for 60-70% of dementia cases
- Risk factors:
  - Aging
  - Family history - maternal
    - (Apo ε4 allele and other chromosomal defects)
    - 3x risk with 1st degree relative
    - Female gender
  - Lower education level (unable to mask)
  - Previous brain trauma or stroke?

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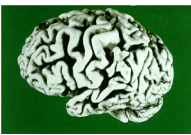
### Anatomical features of AD

**Gross atrophy**

- shrinkage of brain
- thinning of gyri
- widened sulci



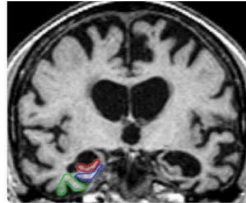
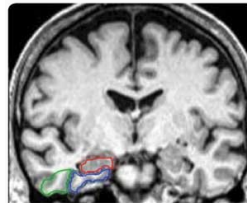
Normal brain



Alzheimer brain

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### Alzheimer MRIs

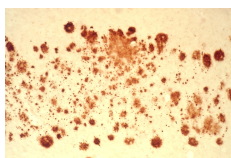


Early                      Advanced

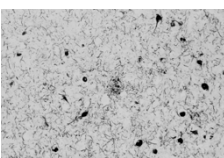
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### Alzheimer's disease

Cortical pathology




Extracellular  $\beta$  amyloid



tau neurofibrillary tangles

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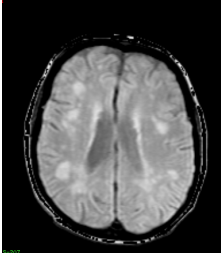
### Alzheimer patient



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### Vascular dementia

- May be progressive or stepwise
- Overlap with Alzheimer features
- Risk factors
  - Aging
  - Male > female, Black/Asian > Caucasian
  - Hypertension
  - Cigarettes, atrial fibrillation, DM, hyperlipidemia
- Ischemic stroke survivors: 9x increased dementia risk



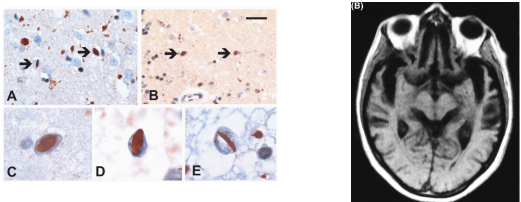
T2-weighted MRI

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### Frontotemporal dementia

Personality changes, euphoria, apathy or disinhibition. Compulsive and obsessional behaviors. Relatively preserved visuospatial function.

Pathology: Pick's or TDP43 inclusions, spongioform degeneration



Pick bodies  
(3 repeat tau inclusions)

MRI  
Temporal atrophy

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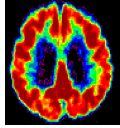
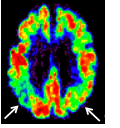
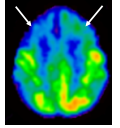
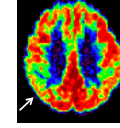
### Frontotemporal dementia



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### Brain glucose metabolism

<sup>18</sup>F-FDG PET

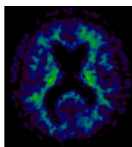
Normal	Alzheimer	Frontal	Apo ε4 carrier
			
	-20%	-22%	-18%

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### Detecting amyloid in dementia

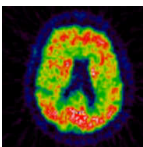
<sup>11</sup>C-PIB PET

Normal



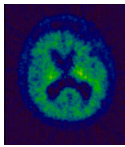
MMSE 28

Alzheimer



MMSE 20

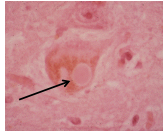

Frontal



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### Other dementias

- \* **Lewy body:**
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> most common: male > female
  - Parkinsonism
  - visual hallucinations
  - fluctuating confusion
- \* **Subcortical:**
  - Progressive supranuclear palsy  
Parkinsonism, failure of eye movement control
  - Huntington's disease  
Chorea, depression, dementia due to a CAG repeat expansion of the htt gene

Supranuclear gaze palsy

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### Diagnosis of Dementia

- Multiple cognitive deficits manifesting as impaired memory plus:
  - Impaired language or
  - Apraxia or
  - Agnosia or
  - Impaired executive function
- Deficits:
  - Significant enough to impair function
  - Interferes with work or social activities
- Normal conscious level
- Progressive syndrome

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### Cognitive Impairment: other causes

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Post-anoxic toxic</li> <li>■ Hydrocephalus</li> <li>■ Hypoglycaemia</li> <li>■ B12</li> <li>■ Hypothyroidism</li> <li>■ Hypercalcemia</li> <li>■ Alcohol / thiamine</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Encephalopathy                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Uremic</li> <li>- Hepatic</li> <li>- autoimmune</li> </ul> </li> <li>■ Encephalitis                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Syphilis</li> <li>- Lyme's</li> <li>- HIV</li> <li>- Prion disease</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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## Differential Diagnosis

- Delirium
- Depression
- Psychotic disorders
- Medication induced cognitive problems
- Sensory deficits
- Aphasia
- Developmental disability
- Low literacy or education

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## Investigations

- History: onset, personality, meds, family, social supports, functioning
- Examination: Neurological / systemic
  - Labs: electrolytes, Ca, Cr, LFT, Glu, TSH, B12
  - Consider: HIV, RPR, drug / heavy metal screen, autoantibodies, LP (A $\beta$ , tau)
- Neuroimaging: Highest yield in young, rapid onset, seizures, gait abnormality, focal exam  
Patterson 1999

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## Neuropsychology tests

- Helpful to quantitate cognitive deficits
- Aids differential diagnosis
- Detect mild early impairments
- Allows treatment efficacy to be monitored
- May help in competency determination
- May help with management and family recommendations

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## Abbreviated mental test score

- What is your age?
- What is the time to the nearest hour?
- Give the patient a 3-line address, and ask him or her to repeat it at the end of the test
- What is the year?
- What is the name of the hospital or number of the residence where the patient is situated?
- Can the patient recognize two persons (the doctor, nurse, home help, etc.)?
- What is your date of birth?
- In which year did the xxx (eg First World War) begin (choose a world event the patient would have known during childhood)?
- What is the name of the present monarch (head of state, etc.)?
- Count backwards from 20 down to 1.

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### Mini Mental State Examination

- Orientation**  
 What is the year, season, date, day and month  
 (1 point for each; maximum total 5 points).  
 Where are we: town, county, country, which hospital, surgery or house, and which floor (1 point for each; maximum total 5 points).
- Registration**  
 Name 3 objects (e.g., apple, table, penny) taking 1 second to say each one. Then ask the individual to repeat the names of all 3 objects.  
 Give 1 point for each correct answer.  
 Repeat the object names until all 3 are learned (up to 3 trials).  
 Record number of trials needed (maximum total 3 points).
- Attention and Calculation**  
**Serial 7s:**
  - Ask the person to take 7 away from 100. Continue until I ask you to stop (i.e., 93, 86, 79, 72, 65).
  - Stop after 5 subtractions.
  - Give one point for each correct answer. If one answer is incorrect (e.g. 92) but the following answer is 7 less than the previous answer (i.e., 85), count the second answer as being correct. 1 point for each subtraction (maximum total 5 points).**Spell "world" backwards.** Give 1 point for each letter that is in the right place (e.g., DLROW = 5 points, DLORW = 3 points).

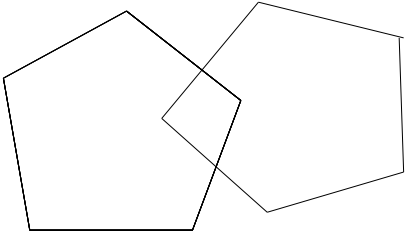
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- Recall**  
 Ask for the 3 objects repeated above (e.g., apple, table, penny). Give 1 point for each correct object (maximum total 3 points).
- Language (naming and repetition)**  
 Point to a pencil and ask the person to name this object (1 point).  
 Do the same thing with a wrist-watch (1 point). (maximum total 2 points)  
 Ask the person to repeat the following: "No ifs, ands or buts" (1 point). Allow only one trial (1 point).
- Praxis**  
 Give the person a piece of blank white paper and ask them to follow a 3-stage command: "Take a paper in your right hand, fold it in half and put it on the floor" (1 point for each part that is correctly followed). (maximum total 3 points)
- Write "CLOSE YOUR EYES" in large letters and show it to the patient. Ask him or her to read the message and do what it says (give 1 point if they actually close their eyes).**
- Ask the individual to write a sentence of their choice on a blank piece of paper. The sentence must contain a subject and a verb, and must make sense. Spelling, punctuation and grammar are not important (1 point).**

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### Intersecting pentagons

- Show the person a drawing of 2 pentagons which intersect to form a quadrangle. Each side should be about 1.5 cm. Ask them to copy the design exactly as it is (1 point). All 10 angles need to be present and the two shapes must intersect to score 1 point. Tremor and rotation are ignored.



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### Copying shapes



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## CLOCK DRAWING

*The person undergoing testing is asked to;  
Draw a clock  
Put in all the numbers  
Set the hands at ten past eleven.*

- Scoring system for Clock Drawing test (CDT)**  
 There are a number of scoring systems for this test. The Alzheimer's disease cooperative scoring system is based on a score of five points.  
 1 point for the clock circle  
 1 point for all the numbers being in the correct order  
 1 point for the numbers being in the proper special order  
 1 point for the two hands of the clock  
 1 point for the correct time.
- A normal score is four or five points.

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## Neuropsychometric testing

<b>Mental Status:</b>	Mini Mental State Examination (Folstein)
<b>Recognition memory:</b>	Warrington recognition memory test
<b>Verbal Memory:</b>	1- Alzheimer's Disease Assessment Scale Word 2- List Learning test & 30-minute delayed recall (Rose et al., 1984)
<b>Visual Memory:</b>	Immediate & delayed recall of modified complex figure (Becker et al., 1987)
<b>Attention:</b>	1- Digit Span forwards (WAIS-R: Wechsler, 1981), 2- Trail Making Part A (Reitan, 1958)
<b>Executive/ Working</b>	1. Trail Making Part B (Reitan, 1958 ); 2. Clock drawing (Freedman, 1994)
<b>Visuoconstruction:</b>	Copy of modified complex figure (Becker et al., 1987)
<b>Language:</b>	1. 30-item Boston Naming Test (Saxton et al., 2000); 2. Letter fluency (F.A S)(Benton, 1968), 3. Category fluency (animals, birds and dogs).

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## Famous people

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## Complex figure

F-18-0003 TR0 10-10; PR ALZHEIMER DISE REC CTR; FOX HEL 410806010

Key-Osterrieth Figure

CP: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

	CDPP	PR	DELAY
1. Cross upper left corner, outside rectangle			
2. Large rectangle			
3. Diagonal cross			
4. Horizontal middle of 8			
5. Vertical middle of 1			
6. Small rectangle, top 2 to left			
7. Triangle above 2, upper right			
8. Circle with 2 dots, top 2			
9. 2 parallel lines top 2, crossing 3, lower right			
10. Side of triangle attached to 2, on right			
11. Element attached to 10			
12. Horizontal line in 10, continuing 4			
<b>Total Score</b>			

Current: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Previous: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Previous: \_\_\_\_\_

12. Horizontal line in 10, continuing 4

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### ADAS Word List Learning Test

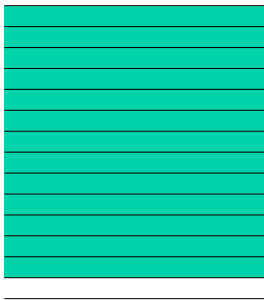
- Butter
- Arm
- Shore
- Letter
- Queen
- Cabin
- Pole
- Ticket
- Grass
- Engine

3 attempts

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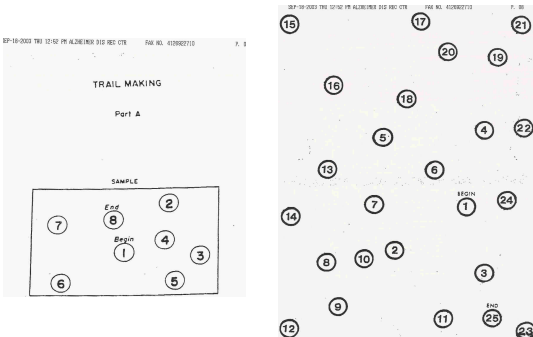
### Digit Span Forward

- 5-8-2
- 6-9-4
- 6-4-3-9
- 7-2-8-6
- 4-2-7-3-1
- 7-5-8-3-6
- 6-1-9-4-7-3
- 3-9-2-4-8-7
- 5-9-1-7-4-2-8
- 4-1-7-9-3-8-6
- 5-8-1-9-2-6-4-7
- 3-8-2-8-5-1-7-4
- 2-7-5-8-6-2-5-8-4
- 7-1-3-9-4-2-5-6-8



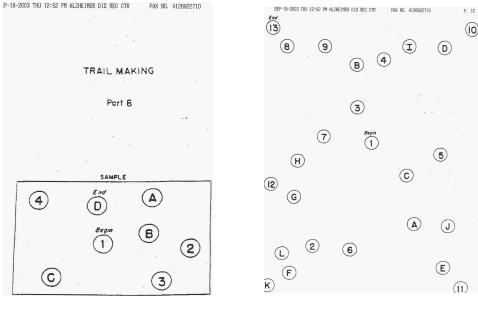
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### Trail Making A



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### Trail making B






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**30-item Boston Naming Test**

Tree	Knocker	Snail
Pencil	Stethoscope	Dart
Scissors	Unicorn	Globe
Comb	Funnel	Wreath
Flower	Compass	Beaver
Toothbrush	Tripod	Acorn
Broom	Scroll	Stilts
Mushroom	Trellis	Dominoes
Camel	Palette	Cactus
Bench	Abacus	Harp

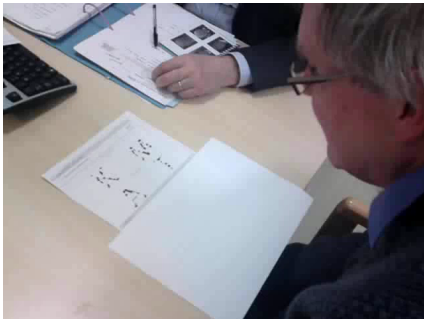
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**Naming test**



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**Degraded letters**

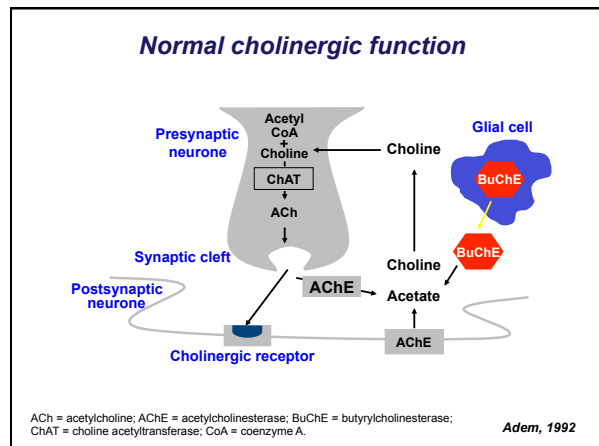
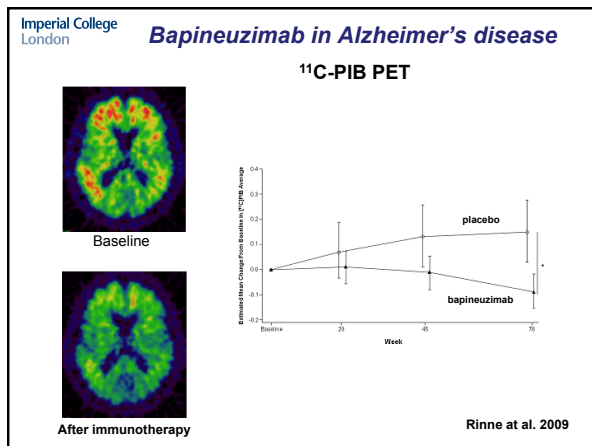


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**CATEGORY FLUENCY**

- **CATEGORY FLUENCY INSTRUCTIONS**  
The categories are: *Animals, Birds, and Dogs*
- "Tell me all the animals you can think of. You have one minute. Tell me as many animals as you can. Start now."
- "Now tell me as many different birds as you can. Start now."
- "Now tell me as many dogs as you can – *breeds* of dogs. Start now."





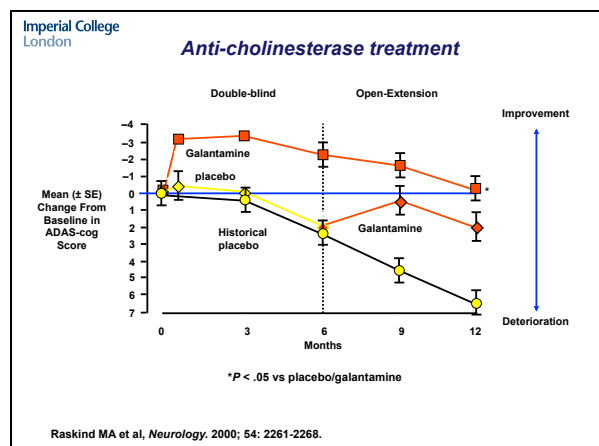
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### Cholinergic dysfunction in AD

Reduced:

- Choline acetyltransferase
- Choline uptake
- Acetylcholine release
- Cholinergic neurons
- Nicotinic receptors

= progressively impaired memory and cognition



### ***Summary***

- No cure or proven neuroprotection
- Symptomatic drugs mildly effective – acetylcholinesterase and glutamate inhibitors
- Anti-amyloid strategies – experimental and may cause inflammation
- Supportive care still mainstay of treatment