DIAGNOSIS OF DEMENTIA IN THE OUTPATIENT SETTING

DUKE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE



FINANCIAL DISCLOSURES

Dr. Little has no relevant financial disclosures to report

Dr. Little will not be discussing any off label or unapproved medications

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

By the end of the session, participants will be able to \ldots

- Define and distinguish dementia and mild cognitive impairment
- Describe the impact dementia has on the patient and caregiver
- Identify the most common types of dementing illnesses
- Successfully perform brief cognitive screens that can be used in daily clinical practice



BACKGROUND



- I in 3 elderly individuals develop some form of dementia
- 5.7 million Americans are currently living with Alzheimer's and this number is expected to rise to 14 million by the year 2050
- Between 2000 and 2015, deaths from heart dz declined by 11% but deaths due to dementia have increased by 123%!! Dementia is the only cause of death in the top 10 causes of death in America that cannot be prevented, cured, or slowed
 - Nearly $\frac{1}{2}$ of patients with dementia suffer from depression
 - Nearly $\frac{1}{2}$ of caregivers also suffer from depression





BACKGROUND: DEFINITION OF DEMENTIA

- Memory impairment plus a decline in one or more cognitive domains—learning ability, social function, visuo-spatial function, language, complex attention, executive functioning
- Significant decline from previous abilities
- +Impairment in daily functioning
- Decline is progressive, disabling
- Caused by damage to the brain



ARE THERE "NORMAL" CHANGES IN MEMORY WITH AGE?

- Yes!!
- Slower recall of information, such as names
- Increased effort needed to learn new tasks
- Greater difficulty multi-tasking
- Easier distractibility
- Slower processing
- But, dementia is NOT NORMAL in the older adult











WHAT ARE THE IMPLICATIONS FOR HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS?

- Dementia dx changes in our approach with the patient:
- Do caregivers need to be present during office visits or called to be updated after visits?
 Should written and verbal instructions be provided?
- Is there a pattern to repeat hospitalizations, ER visits, etc., that may need to be addressed → is the pt receiving enough oversight at home!
- Are there signs of caregiver burnout that we can assist with?
 What is the overall life expectancy and how does seeing the "big" picture change our management?



NOW ON TO MAKING THE DIAGNOSIS...





DIAGNOSIS

- Complete medical history
- Physical and neurological examinations
- "Memory Test"→ Saint Louis University Mental Status Examination (SLUMs) or Rapid Cognitive Screen (RCS)
- Neuroimaging
- Laboratory testsNeuropsychological assessment (optional)

**At the present time, there is no single diagnostic test for detecting mild cognitive impairment, Alzheimer's Disease or other types of dementia

REVERSIBLE CAUSES OF MCI/DEMENTIA Drugs E motional (depression) M etabolic (hypothyroidism,B12) E yes and ears (sensory isolation) Normal Pressure Hydrocephalus (ataxia, incontinence, and dementia) T umor or other space-occupying lesion I nfection (syphilis, chronic infections) A trial fibrillation/Alcoholism S leep Apnea ~10 % of all Dementias

DETECTING MCI

Which of the following dementia screening tools can also be used to screen for MCI?

- I. Mini Mental Status Examination (MMSE)
- 2. Saint Louis University Mental Status Examination (SLUMS)
- 3. Montreal Cognitive Assessment (MoCA)
- 4. Mini-CogTest
- 5. Rapid Cognitive Screen (RCS)
- 6. All of the Above









SLUMS: SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY MENTAL STATUS EXAM Sensitivity to detect MCI according to area under the curve (AUC) analysis*						
Education	Less tha	n HS	More th	an HS		
Instrument	MMSE	SLUMS	MMSE	SLUMS		
AUC (Sensitivity)	67%	93%	64%	94%		
What are we measu > Q1-Q3:Attention, Ir > Q4 & Q7: Delayed R > Q5: Numeric Calcu > Q6: Immediate Reca > Q8: Registration and > Q9: Visual Spatial and > Q10:Visual Spatial	ring in each SLUMS iter mmediate Recall, and Orien tecall with Interference. lation and Registration. Il with Interference (time of I Digit Span. d Executive Function.	n? tation. onstraint).				
 QII: Executive Funct *Tariq SH, Tumosa N, Chibnall JT, B Disorder- A Pilot Study. Am J Geria 	tion plus Extrapolation. Perry MH, Morley J. Comparison of the Saint L pr Psychiatry. 2006; 14(11):900-10.	ouis University mental Status Examinatio	in and the Mini-Mental State Examination for I	Detecting Dementia and Mild Neuroco		

SLUMS: SAIN	NT LOUIS UNIV	ersity me	INTAL STAT	US EXAM CRI	IZ, JAMDA
Cogniti	ve Impairment Scree	ening Instrum	ents ability in d	etecting <u>Dement</u>	ia
Authors	Instrument	Sensitivity, %	Specificity %	Comparison to MMSE	Class of evidence *
Tangalos et al.	MMSE	82	99	-	11
Kokmen et al.	STMS	86	88	Y	111
Solomon et al.	7-Minute Screen	92	96	Y	ш
Buschke et al.	MIS	87	96	Y	1
Borson et al.	Mini-Cog	76	89	Y	III
Cahn et al.	CDT	83	72	-	I
Nasreddine et al.	MoCA	100	87	Y	I
Tario et al.	SLUMS**	100/98	98/100	Y	11

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MINI-COG

 I. Instruct the patient to listen carefully and repeat:

 APPLE
 WATCH
 PENNY

 2.Administer the Clock Drawing Test

 3.Ask the patient to repeat the three words

Score:

- 0 Positive for cognitive impairment
- I-2 Abnormal CDT then positive for cognitive impairment
- I-2 Normal CDT then regative for cognitive impairment
- 3 Negative screen for dementia (no need to score CDT)
- Benefit: QUICK! Drawback: Low sensitivity





















WHY IS AN EARLY DIAGNOSIS IMPERATIVE?

- Early diagnosis of dementia is important because:
 Ic can identify any potentially reversible or treatable causes and these can be corrected before permanent damage to brain is done
- It can facilitate planning for patients and families
- Includes naming POA, getting finances "in order," discussion of medical preferences
- Can address critical safety issues such as driving and living alone before a crisis occurs
- It can explain why the patient acts and thinks "different" and allow families to place blame on the disease process and not the patient themselves

MAIN TYPES OF DEMENTIA

ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE, VASCULAR DISEASE, LEWY BODY DEMENTIA, PARKINSON'S DISEASE WITH DEMENTIA, FRONTOTEMPORAL DEMENTIA, HIPPOCAMPAL SCLEROSIS OF AGING, PRIMARY TAUOPATHY





ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

History:
Named in 1901 by German psychiatrist Alois Alzheimer Pathophysiology:

- Caused by Dalques and tangles
 Plaques occur outside of nerve cells and are made of an abnormal protein fragma amyloid beta
 Neurofibrillary tangles occur inside nerve cells and are made of tau protein
- This abnormal protein accumulation also leads to increased inflammation and cellular death, causing more damage



nt called











	Functional Assessment Stagin	g (FAST)	Duration
	FAST Stage and Characteristics	Clinical Diagnosis	of stage*
	1. No functional decrement	Normal Adult	50 years
S DISFASE STAGING	2. Subjective word difficulties	Normal Aged Adult	15 years
	 Decreased function in demanding employment settings 	Compatible with possible incipient Alzheimer's disease in minority of cases	7 years
	 Decreased ability to handle complex tasks such as finances or planning dinner for guests 	Mid Alzheimer's disease	2 years
	5. Requires assistance in choosing proper clothing	Moderate Alzheimer's disease	18 months
	6. a) difficulty dressing properly	Moderately severe Alzheimer's	5 months
	b) requires assistance bathing	disease	5 months
	c) inability to handle mechanics of tolletting		5 months
	d) urinary incontinence		4 months
	e) fecal incontinence		10 months
	a) ability to speak limited to about six words	Severe Alzheimer's disease	12 months
	b) intelligible vocabulary limited to single word		18 months
	c) ambulatory ability lost		12 months
	d) ability to sit up lost		12 months
	 ability to smile lost 		18 months
	f) ability to hold head up lost		Not applicable



VASCULAR DEMENTIA

- Sudden onset and stepwise progression
- Abrupt changes in cognitive ability
- Future damage can be prevented or slowed by aggressive control of chronic medical conditions





	TABLE 4: HACHINSKI ISCHEMIC SCORE444		
	Feature	Score	
	Abrupt onset	2	
VASCOLAR DEMENTIA	Stepwise deterioration	1	
	Fluctuating course	2	
	Nocturnal confusion	1	
	Preservation of personality	1	
	Depression	1	
Multi infarct domontia Auroquian	Somatic complaints	1	
dementia	Emotional incontinence	1	
	History of hypertension	1	
	History of stroke	2	
	Associated atherosclerosis	1	
	Focal neurological symptoms	2	
	Focal neurological signs	2	
	A score of 4 or less suggests der ease, a score of 7 or greater sug	mentia is due to Alzheimer's dis- gests vascular dementia.	

LEWY BODY DEMENTIA

- Caused by abnormal protein deposits "Lewy Bodies"
- On the same spectrum as Parkinson's Disease
- More common in men
- Symptoms: visual hallucinations, fluctuating attention, motor dysfunction, abnormal movements during sleep
- Widely under-diagnosed













PARKINSON'S DISEASE WITH DEMENTIA



- Parkinson's Disease is a chronic, progressive neurological condition
- Symptoms: tremors, muscle stiffness, masked faces, and slow, shuffling gait
- Most people with Parkinson's will eventually develop dementia Memory loss is accompanied by depression, anxiety, and hallucinations Often have marked impairment in visual-spatial functioning, causing earlier concern with driving

PARKINSON'S DISEASE WITH DEMENTIA

- Parkinson's disease with dementia is very similar to Lewy Body Dementia and the two can be hard to tell apart at later stages
- Timing differentiates:
- Lewy Body → memory impairment precedes or accompanies motor symptoms
- Parkinson's disease with dementia → Motor symptoms precede memory impairment by >1 year, but usually by many years

FRONTOTEMPORAL DEMENTIA (FTD)

- AKA "Pick's Disease"
- Results from progressive degeneration of frontal and temporal lobes
- Affects personality, causing a decline in social skills and inability to understand/read another's emotions Can affect language and motor skills
- Behavior and personality changes manifest long before memory loss
- Occurs at a younger age and is more common than Alzheimer's in people <60



NOW A QUICK WORD ON TREATMENT...



TREATMENT

- There are no proven cures or disease-slowing treatments
- Goal is to maximize cognitive abilities for as long as possible (improve symptoms)
- Medications only work in a small subset of patients and on average improve memory test scores by I-2 points
- There are 4 FDA approved medications:
- Donepezil (Aricept)
- Rivastigmine (Exelon)
- Galantamine (Razadyne)
- Memantine (Namenda)

		Sun Improv	nmary of Drugs to e Cognitive Func	lion	
Generic Name	Brand Name	Dosage Forms	Nechanism	Starting Dosage	Goal Dosage
Donepeal	Aricept	IR tablet COT	Cholinesterzse inhibitor	5 mg/day	10 mg/day
Galantamine	Razadyne	IR tablet ER tablet	Cholinesterase inhibitor	4 mg bid or 8-12 mg/day	8 mg/day (ER) 16-24 mg/day (ER
Menantine	Namenda	IR tablet	NMDA inhibitor	5 mg/day	10 mg bid
Rivastigmine	Exelon	Patch IR capsules Oral solution	Cholinesterase ishibitor	4.6 mg per 24 h 1.5 mg bid	9.5 mg per 24 h 6 mg bid

TREATMENT SOAPBOX

- Disclaimer: I am biased against "anti-dementia" medications in most cases
- If they worked, there would be no dementia
- Medications are aimed at only one pathway causing dementia, but we know it is more complicated than one pathway
- The public is mislead into thinking that these are "must-have" cures and are effective for all



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i		A Bisk-Senetit Assessment of Derwantia Medications: Systematic Review of the Eviden https://www.instructions.com/ & Author Information Bisenet Bisenet Bisenet Bisenet Andre Statemanne (Statemanne) Bisenet Bisenet Bisenet Andre Statemanne settemation environment and formation and no transmission to the to reverse the source of the desease. Transmission assessment intervencements and formation and no transmission to the to reverse the source of the desease. Transmission assessment intervencements and formation and non- ments and the source of the desease.
	TREATMENIT	OBJECTIVE: Our objective was to review the basis of pharmacological treatments for dementia and to summarias the benefits and risks of dementia treatments.
	IREATTIENT	METHOOS: We performed a systematic iterature search of MEDLINE through November 2014, for English-language trais an observational studies on treatment of demontia and mild coprilive impairment. Additional inferences were identified by search
	257 studies included in review	biolographies of relevant publications. Whenever possible, posted data from netal-analysis or systematic ministes were dista- Studies were included for mixel of they were indontrated take or observational includes on derevanties mild cognitive impairm that evaluated afficiary outcomes or adverse accounce associated with treatment. Studies were excluded if they evaluated to TOA approved amateries, or Eflexy evaluated treatment in decretes other time comments and mild cognitive impairment.
1	 Cholinesterase inhibitors (ChEls) produce small improvements in cognitive function in pts w' mild to moderate Alzheimer's and Lewy Body dementia, but clinical significance is unclear 	EELET The iterature search local trajl potential ywares tables of entrol 32 mer schader to the spennet memory, and an analysis of the spennet search and the
	 No improvement w/ vascular dementia 	barrell is small and may wane over the course of several months. Memantine exhibits no significant barrell in mild denentia on Levy body dements or as an add-or treatment with ChEts. Memantine has a relatively favorable side effect profile, at least un controlled trust conditions.
ł	Efficacy wanes over time w/ minimal benefit after lyr of tx	CONCLUSIONS: ChEls produce small, shon-lived improvements in cognitive function in mild to moderate dementia, which ma not transitive into clinically meaningful effects. Marginal benefits are seen with severe disease, long-term treatment, and advant
÷	No evidence for benefit in advanced dz or in those >85 y/o	spe. Oncinengia side effects, including weight loss, dobitity, and syncope, are clinically significant and could be especially detrimental in the hall eliberty population, in which the nisks of treatment outwarp the benefits. Memantine monotherapy may the second to another is another because thereads. Indexed the second states which

 Adverse effects are significant and occur in a dose-dependent manner 2-5x increase in side effects, particularly weight loss, syncope, and debility
 Those >85 have 2x the risk of side effects seen in younger pts

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	Cathala Castala Dist Tax 200 An With CONDINA
TRFATMENT	Memantine for dementia.
	frame.DA. Storref.C. Wolfmann.Th
	Opdate in Menantine for dementia, (Costraine Database Byst Rev. 2008)
	Abstract BACKDOND: Mamantee, a low affinity antagonise to glutamate NMDA receptors, may prevent excitatory reunstability in demonds
	GBJECTINES: To determine efficacy and safety of memanitine for people with Alzheimer's disease (AD), vascular (VD) and not demantia.
	SEARCH STRATEOPT The Specialized Register of the Contrarie Detretis and Copyline Improvement Coup was asserted on 20 May 2025. This register contrare inferences from a Import healthcare addresses and many copyong this distances and a opticated registery. In weldow, here send registers Copyring and Copyline results to Submy uncelleder that through respect of the webbies of forming posters like The TON, EMEA and NCE and of companies' weblies (Lundbeck, Minz, Fores), Surror adjust and straight any registers.
 Momentine (Nemende) is EDA approved for treating moderate 	SELECTION CRITICIES. Double-blind, parallel group, placebo controlled, randomized trails of memantine in people with deman
 Themanune (Namenda) is FDA approved for treating moderate to severe dementia. 	SATA COLLECTION AND ANALYBIE Data were pooled afters possible. Interdon to-treat (TT) and observed case (DC) analy are reported
to severe demenua	MAN RESULTS 1. Moderate to severe AO. Two out of three six month studies show a small beneficial effect of memortane.
It is often used in combination with donepezil because the	0.00001), activities of daily twing (1.27 points on the 54 point ADCS-ADLaw, 95% Cr 0.44 to 2.00, P = 0.002) and behaviour (2
ie is oreen abee in combination with conceptin because are	points on the 144 NPI, 85% CI 0.88 to 4.63, P = 0.004), supported by clinical inpression of change (3.28 points on the 7 point. CBBC+, 95% CI 0.15 to 0.41, P <0.00011.2, Mid to moderate 60, In a sincle als month line, menantine has a temploar effect.
studies for monotherapy are not impressive	ITT analysis of cognition, (1.9 ADA5-Cog points, 85% Ci 0.35 to 3.45, P = 0.02) and behaviour (3.50 NPI points 85% Ci 0.15 to
Even though it is not as hopeficial for cognition there are	It do, P = 0.04) supported by circular global information of change (0.30 Cells)* points, etch CH 0.07 to Co17, P = 0.001), tubito effect on activities of daily twing or OC analysis of cognition. The statistical significance of these benefits could be overfurred by
 Even though it is not as beneficial for cognition, there are 	data from two unpublished studies which are known to show no significant effect, 3. Mild to moderate vascular dementa, In two six month studies, memantine improved cognition (1.85 ADAD-Cog points, 95% CI 0.88 to 2.80, P + 0.0002), and behaviour (0.
several positive studies that show improvements in behavior	405. Cli 0.0 to 0.11, P = 0.02) to 0.11 as easi non-supported by chiral gold measures. A Patients billing memorities appeared to the less billing to 0.61, P = 0.02) To 151 (P (E)) years \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$
	AUTHORS CONSUMBER Published data suggest a small beneficial effect of memorities at as months in moderate to server AD. The beneficial effect or cognition in patients with nell tu moderate vescular dementia was not destudate on global assessment at all is nonthis. Whether memorities have vefect in nothis to includate AD as unknown.

SO IF MEDICATIONS DON'T REALLY WORK, WHAT TREATMENTS CAN WE OFFER?

EXERCISE AND DEMENTIA

- Exercise has been shown to improve quality of life for all stages of Dementia and Alzheimer's
- It likely works better than our best medications in improving symptoms and behavioral issues
 Can reduce risk of stroke and improve high blood pressure, diabetes, and cholesterol, all of which are risk factors for
 vascular dementia
 - vascular dementia

 Improved physical fitness can allow for longer independence
- Improved physical fitnes
 Reduces risk of falls
- Reduces risk of fa
 Improves mood
- Improves sleep



COGNITIVE STIMULATION THERAPY (CST)

- Organized group therapy program for those w/ mild to moderate dementia
- Uses a structured approach to focus on:
 Reminiscence
- Reminiscence
 Orientation
- Orientation
 Mental stimulation
- Not only enhances cognitive function, but has been shown to improve quality of life for both patient and caregiver
- Typically structured as a 14 session course which meets 2x/weekly
 - Can take place in nursing home, adult day centers, assisted living, or home









COMPLICATING FACTORS	McGeer Criteria: Antibiotic Prescribing for Urinary Tract Infections		
	Without Urinary Catheter	With Urinary Catheter	
Infections:	Criteria 1 and 2 must be present:	Criteria 1 and 2 must be present:	
	 At least one of the following: Acute dysuria or acute pain, swelling, or acute 	 At least one or the tollowing: Fever, rigors, or new onset hypotension, 	
 UTI 	tenderness of the testes, epididymis, or prostate	with no alternate site of infection • Either acute change in mental status or functional decline, with no alternate site of infection • May operat representing or contractional	
Pneumonia	And at least one of the following submitteria:		
- Theunoma	 Acute costovertebral angle/pain/tendemess 	angle pain/tendemess	
Change in environment	Suprapubic pain Gover hereaturia	 Purulent discharge from around the catheter or acute pain, swelling, or tendemess of the testes. 	
	 New or marked increase in incontinence 	epididymis, or prostate	
 Hospitalizations 	New or marked increase in organicy New or marked increase in featurency	2.And the following: I because artification provinces and two with at least	
 Move to higher level of care 	In the blocker of faces of lankorsteris these	10 ³ clumi, of any organism(s)	
	two or more of the following subcriteria:		
Change in routine	Subrapuble pain Gener bereaturia		
	 New or marked increase in incontinence 		
	 New or marked increase in urgency 		
	 new or manad increase in frequency 		
	 At least 10⁻¹ cfu/ml, of no more than two species. 		
	of microorganisms in volded urine sample		
	 At least 10⁻² cfu/mL of any number of organisms 		

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		_
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Explore feelings regarding when placement outside of the home may be needed



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ADVANCE DIRECTIVES

- Advance Directive:
- Legal document containing preferences for health care decisions should one become unable to make decisions/incapacitated due to illness (dementia) or injury Living will:
- One form of advance directive that discusses specific preferences such as feeding tube placement, ventilator usage, CPR preferences, etc
- Durable power of attorney (DPOA):
- Individual named to make decisions should one become incapacitated

ADVANCE DIRECTIVE FOR HEALTH CARE RAVING WILL AND HEALTH CARE PROCES

- This form may be used in the earce of Alabama to make your wirkles known about what medical treatment or other care your would are would are want of your houses top with the yound for yound a form any other and the your about the prove about the prove about the start of the start o <text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text>

 - OR INTERIAS BY EITHER "YES" OR NO?



