

Non Alzheimer's Dementias

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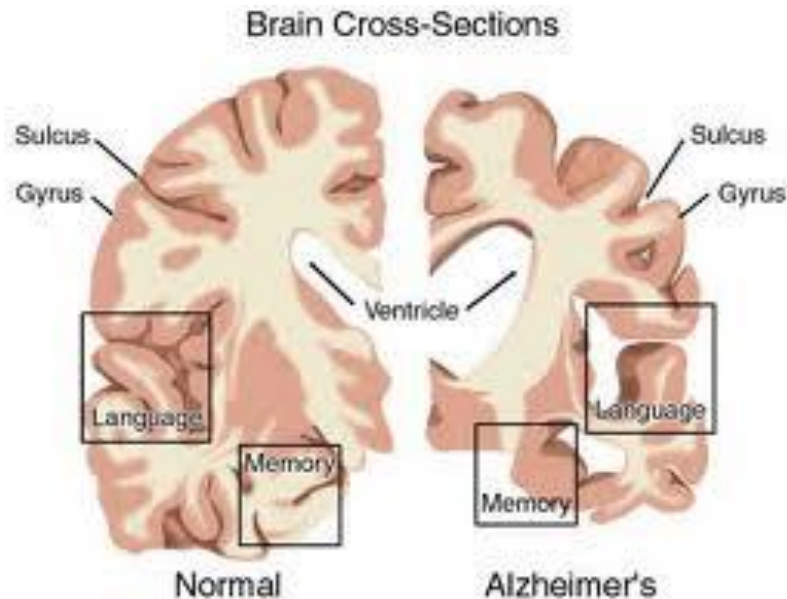


Learning Objectives

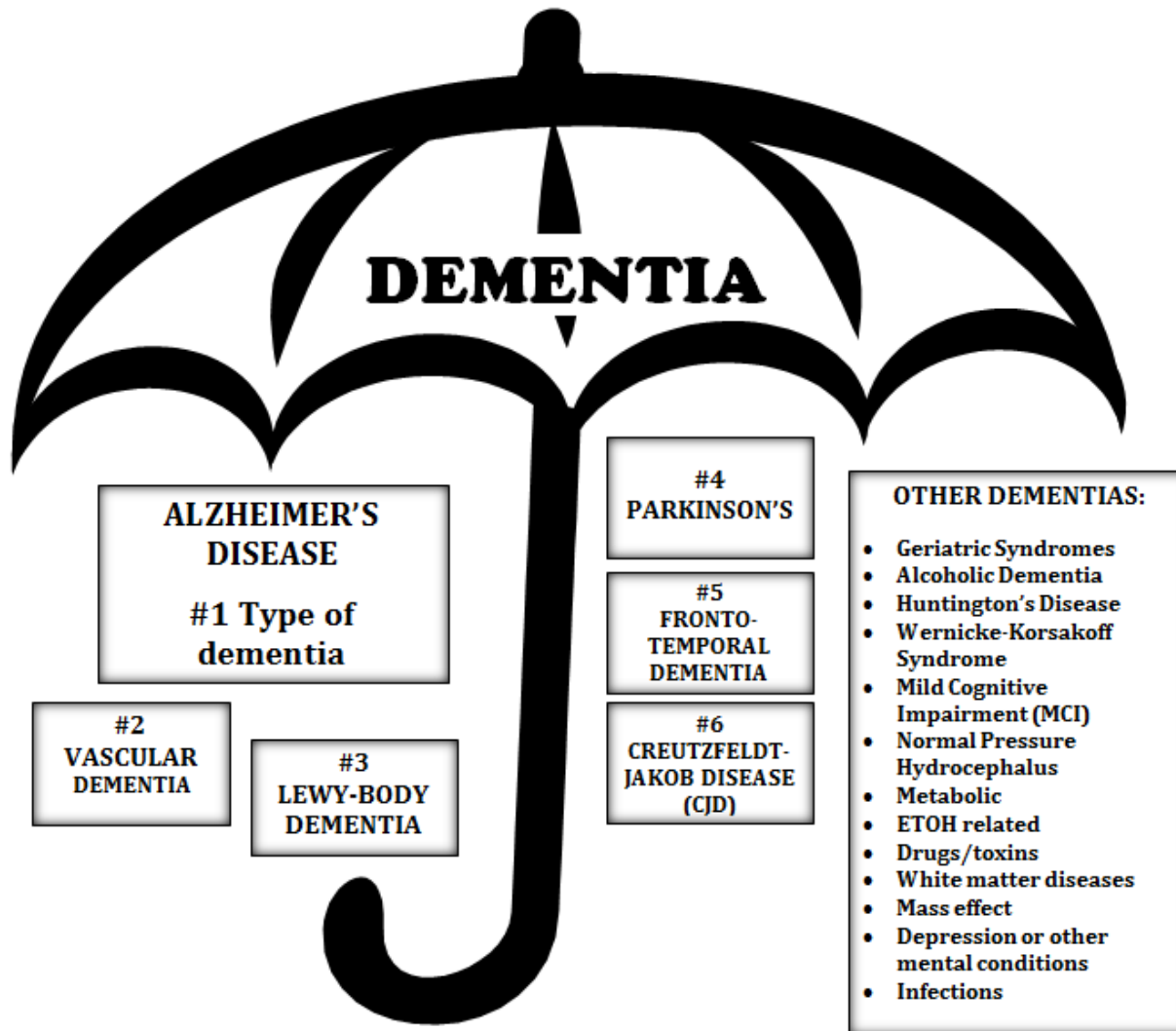
- To understand the common dementias other than Alzheimer's that afflict patients
- Learn the basic differences between the top five dementias and how each presents different challenges
- Adapt best care practices to each type of dementia based on needs

What is Dementia?

- Decline in mental function from a previous level of performance
- Decline severe enough that it impairs ability to reason, think abstractly or use judgment
- Many types- Alzheimer's is the most common



What are other dementias?



Brain Diagram

The Control Tower



FRONTAL LOBE

Judgment
Attention
Cognition

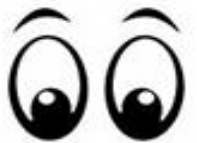
Got Senses?



PARIETAL LOBE

Sensory Perceptions

Eye Spy



Occipital Lobe

Visual

The Memory Glue Guy



HIPPOCAMPUS

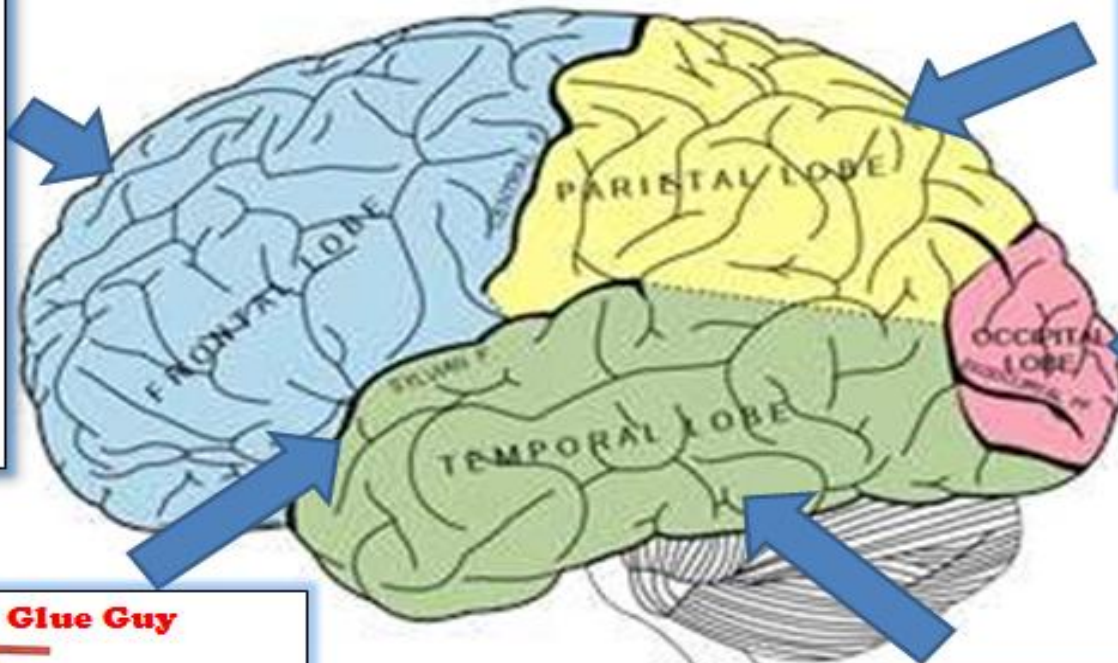
Learning & Memory

The Translators



TEMPORAL LOBE

Language



Dementia Differential

- Alzheimer's
- **Vascular**
- **Lewy-Body**
- **Frontotemporal**
- **Alcoholic**

Vascular Dementia

- ❑ Vascular disease
- ❑ Diabetes Mellitus
- ❑ Inflammatory Disease
 - Multiple Sclerosis, Lupus, Rheumatoid Arthritis
- ❑ Diagnosis
 - Head CT- small vessel disease, lacuna

Vascular Dementia

□ Symptoms

May seem fine in an office interview, may score well on the MMSE (Mini Mental State Examination), but not remember the next day

“I’m fine, you are crazy, leave me alone.”

□ Deficits related to area of strokes;

vision, balance, mood, calculations, risk assessment

Often a stepwise decline in function

Vascular Dementia

□ Treatments

- Control risk factors- HTN, DM, Chol
- Do not over treat BP ~ 140 or glu 100-200
- Exercise
- Anticoagulant
Aspirin, Plavix, Elequis

Lewy Body Dementia

❑ Diagnosis

Often occurs with Parkinson's Disease

Early visual hallucinations

Mood lability

Anticholinergic medications, Benzos worsen

Avoid Haldol, Risperdal, Zyprexa..

Severe extrapyramidal symptoms

Lewy Body Dementia

Key differences between Alzheimer's and LBD

- ▣ Memory loss
- ▣ Hallucinations
- ▣ REM sleep disorder
- ▣ Disruption of the autonomic nervous system

Lewy Body Dementia

Treatments:

- ▣ Cholinesterase
- ▣ Antipsychotic drugs should be used with extreme caution in DLB.
- ▣ Antidepressants
- ▣ Avoid Benzodiazepines, Hypnotics

Frontotemporal

Symptoms:

- Loss of judgement, risk assessment, language
- Frontotemporal dementia (FTD) or frontotemporal Includes dementias such as behavioral variant FTD (bvFTD), primary progressive aphasia, Pick's disease and progressive supranuclear palsy

Frontotemporal

Behaviors:

- ❑ Loss of empathy & other interpersonal skills
- ❑ Lack of judgement & inhibition
- ❑ Apathy
- ❑ Repetitive compulsive behavior
- ❑ Oral stimulation- overeating

Frontaltemporal

Key Differences Between FTD and Alzheimer's

- Memory
- Behavior changes
- Problems with speech.
- Hallucinations and delusions

Alcoholic

- Difficult to determine level of capacity or mental illness if one is drinking alcohol. Definitive diagnosis when elder has been “dry” for 6 months.
- Work to decrease harm
 - Dilute the alcohol
 - Engage with enjoyable activities
 - Avoid sleeping pills

Dementia Differential

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COMMENTS? QUESTIONS?

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