



MAJOR FORMS OF DEMENTIA

DISEASE	CAUSE	SYMPTOMS
Alzheimer's	Lack of chemical in brain causing "neurofibrillary tangles"	Onset age: 60 – 80 Slow and steady progression of dementia
Vascular or multi-infarct dementia	Multiple infarctions (strokes) from rupture of small vessels; linked to hypertension	Onset age: 55 – 70 Step-wise progression of dementia
Parkinson's	Deficiency of dopamine (chemical in brain)	Onset age: 55 – 65 Mild dementia along with tremor; rigidity; abnormal body movements
Normal Pressure Hydrocephalus	Increase in fluid in lateral ventricles	Dementia along with incontinence and gait disturbance
Wernicke-Korsakoff	Thiamine deficiency from alcoholism and poor nutrition	Psychosis; disorientation; hallucinations; ataxia
Creutzfeldt-Jakob	Non-inflammatory virus; changes in brain	Onset age: 50 – 60; rapidly progressive
Pick's Disease	Neurological disease involving frontal and temporal regions of cortex	Often confused with Alzheimer's Disease; memory disturbance; apathy; poor personal hygiene; decreased attention span
Lewy-Bodies Disease	Neurological	Resembles Parkinson's and Alzheimer's Disease; dementia and abnormal body movements

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