BRAIN 2024

SESSION 10: DEMENTIA

Dementias are the quintessential neuropsychiatric disorders, existing at the interface of Psychiatry and Neurology. The impact on society is enormous: an estimated 6.7 million people in the US are living with Alzheimer's dementia, a number expected to double in the next 30 years. While the epidemiological data are stark, there is reason for hope. We have a range of effective behavioral and psychosocial interventions and new neuroscience findings are pointing the way to disease-modifying treatments.

Check out this session's materials to learn what's going on!

On Your Own

Watch:

Neurobiology of Alzheimer's Disease

A Journey Through Memories

Read:

Amyloid: From Starch to Finish

Metabolism and Memory: Obesity, Diabetes, and Dementia

With Your Pod (Or on Your Own)

Neuroscience in the Media: Shining the Light on Alzheimer's
note: the first part of this session involves listening to a 36 minute podcast episode — we promise it's worth it! You may want to agree with your group to listen independently before you meet.

Optional:
Cut and Paste: Neurodegenerative Disorders (click here for the shared Jamboard)

Assessment

At the end of Session 10, you should be able to answer the following:

You're seeing a 76 yo gentleman who presented to your clinic with several years of progressive memory loss. Based on his work-up, he has Alzheimer's Disease at a mild-moderate stage of dementia. His wife is present with him during the interview. She says she heard hype about a new drug but thinks, "it's all nonsense. My husband is dying and there's nothing you can do to help him."
How would you respond to the wife's concerns? What would you say to her about recent trials and about other treatment options?

When you're ready, click here to submit your response.

Fun Extras!

Read:

A brief history of "Alzheimer disease": Multiple meanings separated by a common name

Whose name is it anyway? Varying patterns of possessive usage in eponymous neurodegenerative diseases