

Introduction and Process

Norman L. Foster, MD

2BS.002
**IMPROVING ACCURACY OF DEMENTIA DIAGNOSIS:
CASE STUDIES WITH NEUROPATHOLOGY**

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6:45 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.
Sunday, April 13, 2008
Breakfast Seminar

Introduction and Process

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Potential Conflicts: Scientific Advisory Board for Myriad Pharmaceuticals and GE Healthcare
Research support to conduct clinical trials for Merck, Myriad, Eisai and Wyeth

Overview

- An interactive discussion of clinical cases with FDG-PET scans and autopsy diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease (AD) or frontotemporal dementia (FTD)
- Review FDG-PET and its interpretation in dementia
- Review clinical criteria for AD and FTD
- Review the histopathology of AD and FTD
- Present cases for discussion
- Ask the audience to vote on diagnosis

Objectives

- Medicare reimburses FDG-PET for dementia only to distinguish AD from FTD
- Neurologists need to better understand when and how to utilize this technology
- Better apply diagnostic criteria for dementing disorders in individual patients
- Improve accuracy and confidence in determining the cause of dementia

Why FTD and AD?

- AD and FTD are common causes of dementia
 - AD is the most common cause of dementia in the elderly in the US
 - FTD is much less prevalent, but under age 60 probably the second most common neurodegenerative cause of dementia
- Neither has characteristic physical findings that aid the diagnosis of other dementias
- Clinically difficult to distinguish
- FDG-PET can help make this clinical decision

Clinical Summaries

- Collected all available medical records
- Removed personal identifiers, imaging results, and autopsy reports
- Several page clinical narrative from these records summarizing the patient's entire clinical course
- Developed by a dementia expert unaware of diagnosis who did not serve as a rater

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How We Will Consider Cases

- Review scenario, vote, then discuss
 - Review with FDG-PET, vote then discuss
 - Present neuropathological findings
 - Tabulate vote and post results on the web
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- www.utahmemory.org (for students tab)

Voting Card Example

1. What is your best diagnosis after reviewing? (select only one)
- 1) AD
 - 2) FTD
2. What is your confidence in this diagnosis? (select only one)
- 1) Very confident
 - 2) Somewhat confident
 - 3) Uncertain

Scenario # _____

Scenario only
Scenario and PET