

Imaging of Human Dementia

Dementia is most commonly a condition of older age and most dementias show mixed, rather than a solitary, pathology are contributing to the clinical expression of cognitive impairment. The commonest dementia is Alzheimer's disease with vascular dementia a close second and much overlap between these two. Clinical neuroimaging methods (CT, MRI, molecular imaging eg PET) can demonstrate features that are thought to be related to specific dementias, but often several features are present, and research needs to assess these features together. There is also a wide range of normal changes in the brain with advancing age that should be considered when assessing an individual. This short talk will consider neuroimaging features that are associated with various forms of dementia and their overlap and potential relevance to dementias in other mammals.