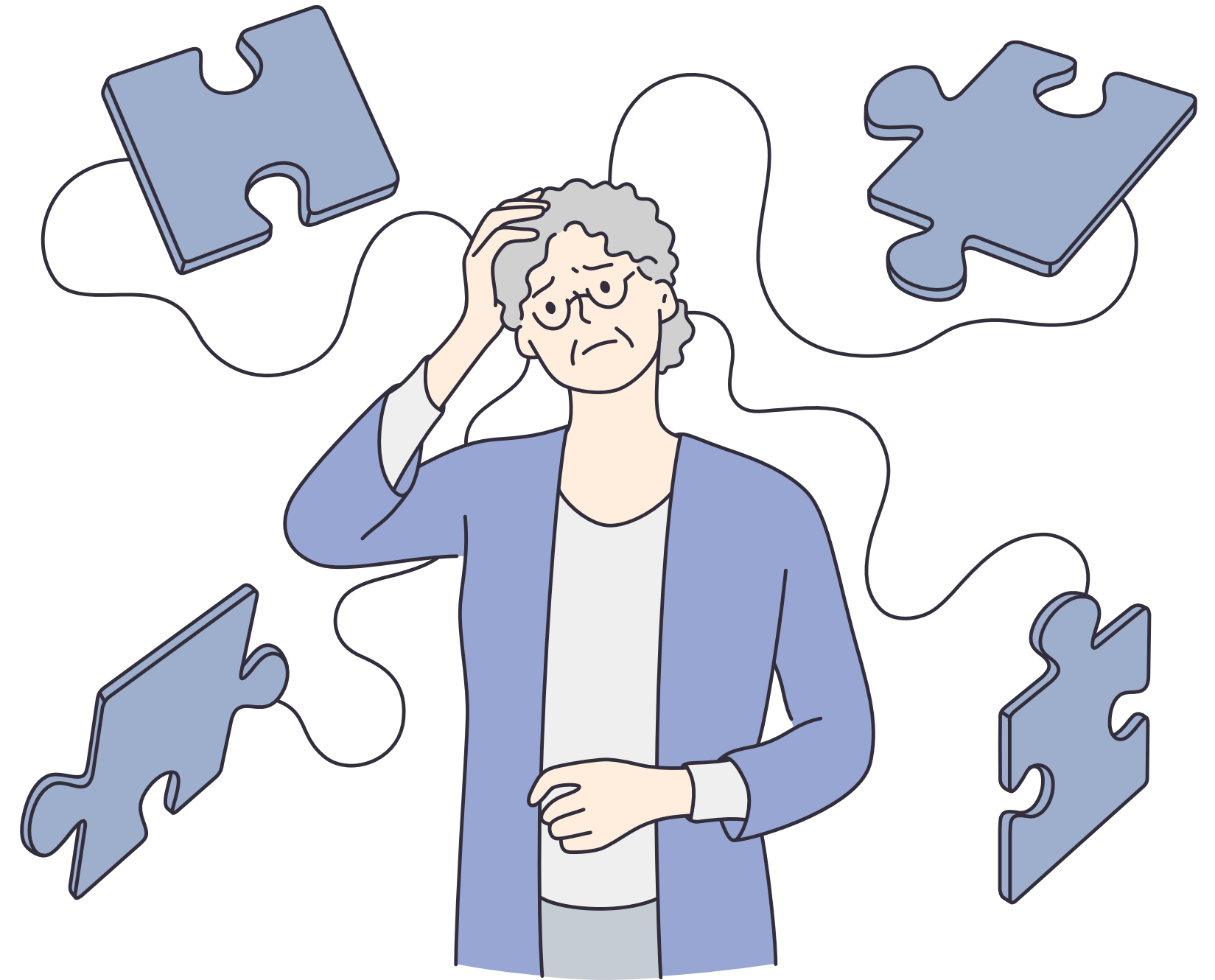


This is not Alzheimer's

An Overview of Vascular Dementia,
Lewy Body Dementia, &
Frontotemporal Dementia



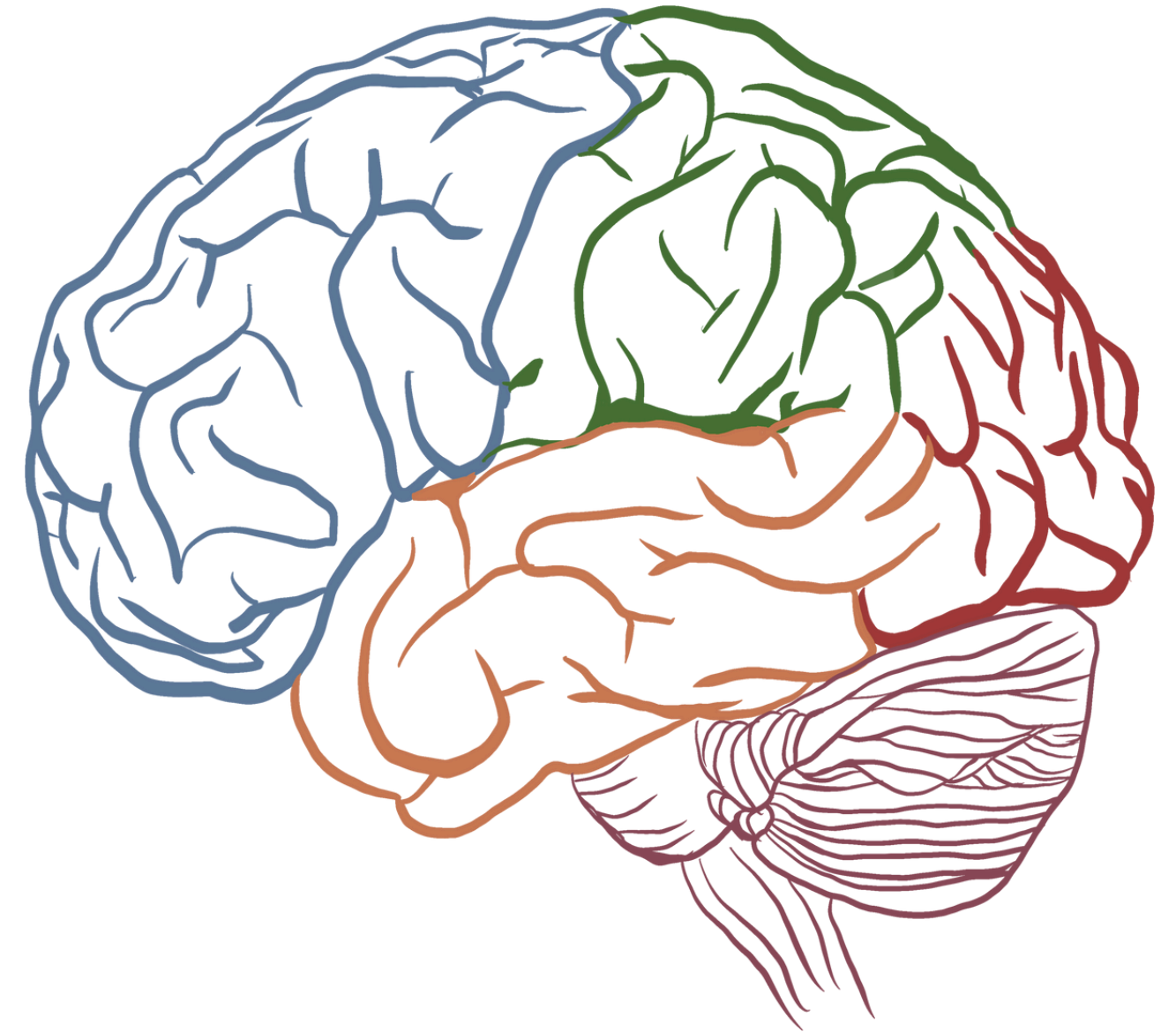
NCCDP In-service Toolkit



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Objectives

- Understand and recognize the characteristics of vascular dementia.
- Understand and recognize the characteristics of Lewy Body dementia.
- Understand and recognize the characteristics of Frontotemporal dementia.



Dementia – is it the disease of the 21st century?



- More older patients = more dementia.
- Dementia is most closely associated with growing old.
- Dementia is one of the world's fastest-growing diseases — it won't go away and is fast becoming "everyone's problem."
- Statistics surrounding dementia are staggering: worldwide, 24 million people are living with some form of dementia — 84 million by the year 2040.

Types of Dementia



- Alzheimer's accounts for 50-80% of dementia cases.
- There are as many as 50 other known causes for dementia.
- Vascular Dementia accounts for 10-20% of cases.
- Lewy Body accounts for 5-10% of cases.
- Frontotemporal accounts for 4-20% of cases.
- Mixed Dementia: 10-30%.

Alzheimer's Disease



- Since Alzheimer's Disease accounts for two-thirds of all dementia cases, we tend to assume that most cases are Alzheimer's.
- Have you met a patient that made you wonder if it was really Alzheimer's Disease affecting their brain?

Initial Dementia Evaluation



(Will Include the Following Tests, But Is Not Limited To):

- CBC.
- Glucose, electrolytes, BUN/creatinine, liver function tests.
- Serum Vitamin B12.
- Thyroid function tests.
- Depression screening.
- Substance abuse/misuse screening.

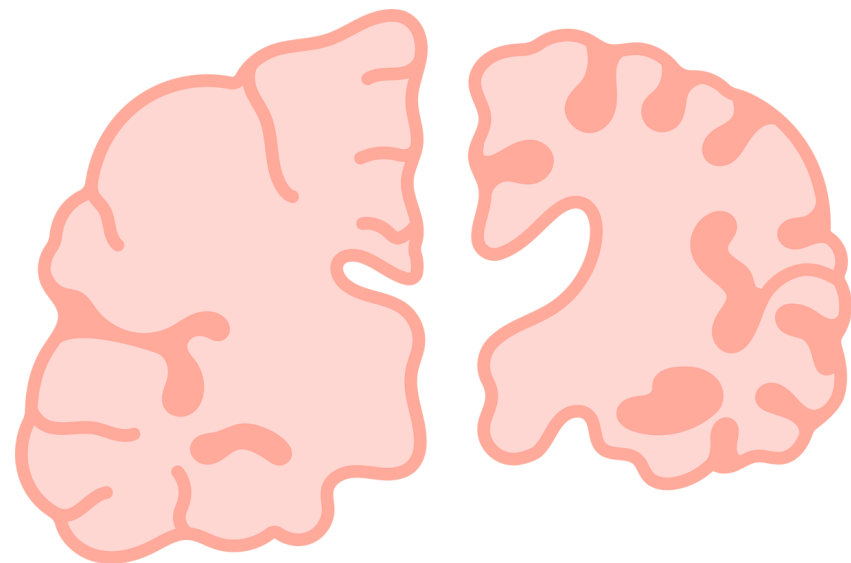
Vascular Dementia



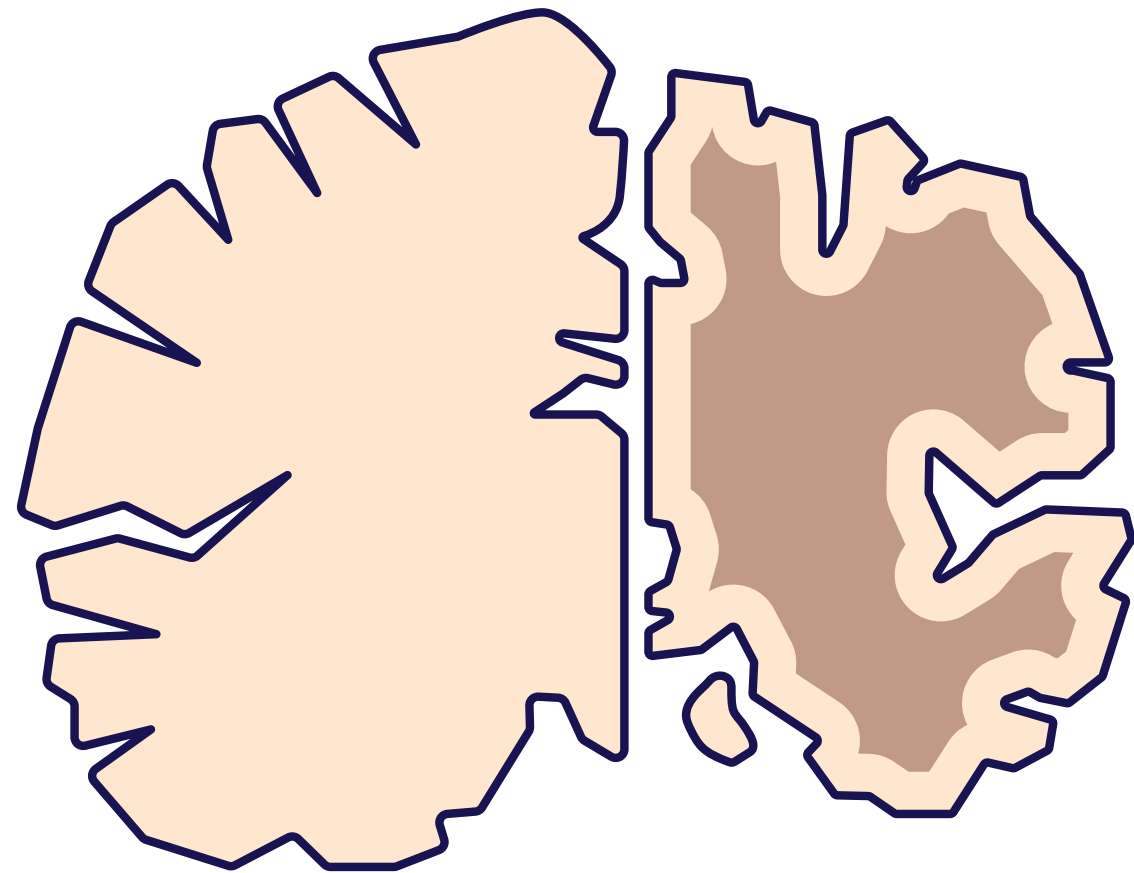
- Second most common in the U.S., especially in older patients.
- Memory loss, plus loss in at least one other cognitive area.
- Occurs as a result of cerebrovascular disease.

What does Vascular Dementia look like?

- Vascular dementia has a stepwise progression with periods of stability.
- Frequently combined with other dementias, so vascular dementia by itself is likely uncommon.
- Common for the patient to also have depression along with the dementia.



Lewy Body Dementia



- Lewy Body dementia is an irreversible brain disease.
- It is caused by abnormal microscopic deposits of protein in nerve cells, called Lewy bodies.
- Lewy Body protein destroys the cells over time.
- Often found in damaged regions of the brains of persons with Parkinson's disease.
- Has symptoms similar to those of Alzheimer's disease.
- In rare cases, the disease is passed from generation to generation.

What does Lewy Body Dementia look like?

- Progressive cognitive decline, occurring before or with parkinsonism (tremors, rigidity, postural instability, and slow movement).
- Patient's behavior may have delirium-like features at times.
- Patient may present with visual hallucinations.
- Dementia begins within 12 months of motor features of parkinsonism (tremors, rigidity, postural instability, and slow movement).

Frontotemporal Dementia (FTD)



- Is an inherited disease (first-degree relative, such as a parent or sibling).
- Caused by an abnormal change (mutation) in a gene that makes "tau protein."
- The tau protein becomes altered and cannot carry out its normal functions.
- The tau protein bundles up into tangles and chokes healthy nerve cells.

FTD Causes Frontal Lobe Deficits



Frontotemporal Dementia (FTD)

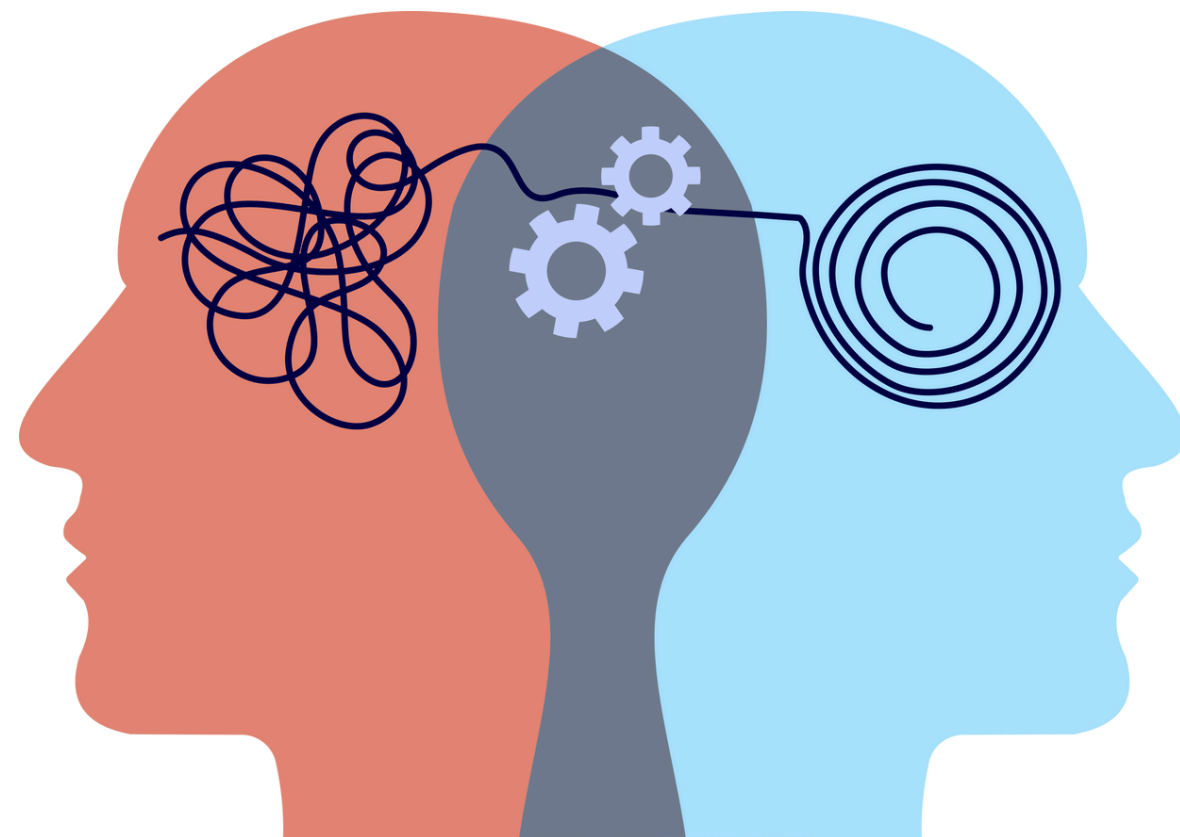
Causes deficits in the frontal lobe of the brain:

- Impairs verbal fluency.
- Impairs attention.
- Impairs planning ability.
- Impairs ability to problem-solve.
- Impairs abstract thinking.

What does Frontotemporal Dementia look like?

- Symptoms start at a younger age group (40's–60's).
- Loss of insight.
- Early personal and socially inappropriate behaviors / unsocial attitudes or actions.
- Repetitive and ritualistic behaviors, including hoarding and gluttony.
- Uncaring and apathetic attitude.
- Verbal expressions out of context of the situation.
- Eventually, the patient becomes mute.
- Weakening of the limb muscles, swallowing ability, and breathing.
- There is no evidence that current anti-dementia medications are effective for FTD.

Certifications & Additional Information



National Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners (NCCDP)

www.nccdp.org

- ADDC Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia Care curriculum
- CDP Certified Dementia Practitioner
- CADDCT Certified Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia Care Trainer
- CDCM Certified Dementia Care Manager
- CDSGF Certified Dementia Support Group Facilitator
- CFRDT Certified First Responder Dementia Trainer

International Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners (ICCDP)

www.iccdp.net

- CMDCP Certified Montessori Dementia Care Professional
- CDP Certified Dementia Practitioner