

RED FLAGS

FOR CORTICOBASAL DEGENERATION (CBD)



CBD is a terminal degenerative neurological condition.

Diagnosing CBD can be difficult, but it is important to get an early accurate diagnosis. There are RED FLAGS to help diagnosis, or for making a referral to a specialist.

Remember to think of CBD in patients diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease, if the illness and treatment response is not typical. Be suspicious of CBD if the patient shows little response to levodopa or who develops extra features below, or worsens rapidly.

CBD – what to look for in a patient consultation:

1	Highly asymmetric presentation	Which is progressive One side affected much earlier and worse than the other
2	Apraxia	Clumsy, awkward hands
3	Dystonia	Odd posture of hand, foot, arm or leg
4	Myoclonus	Quick involuntary jerks
5	Alien limb	Reaching or grasping automatically
6	Speech	Slurring or distortion of speech, halting, stuttering
7	Cognitive and behavioural changes	Change in personality, irritability, apathy, low mood, difficulties with organisation and planning
8	Poor response to levodopa	Sinemet, Madopar

Unlike PSP, patients with CBD are less likely to experience eye or balance symptoms.

Problems with swallow can occur, usually in late stage disease.

If your patient has one or more of these symptoms please refer to Neurology and state possible CBD in the referral letter.

PSPA Helpline and Information Service

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