

Neuro-imaging in Patient's with Dementia

Author: Dr Rice (CT3) Ack: Dr Bedi (consultant)

Methodology:

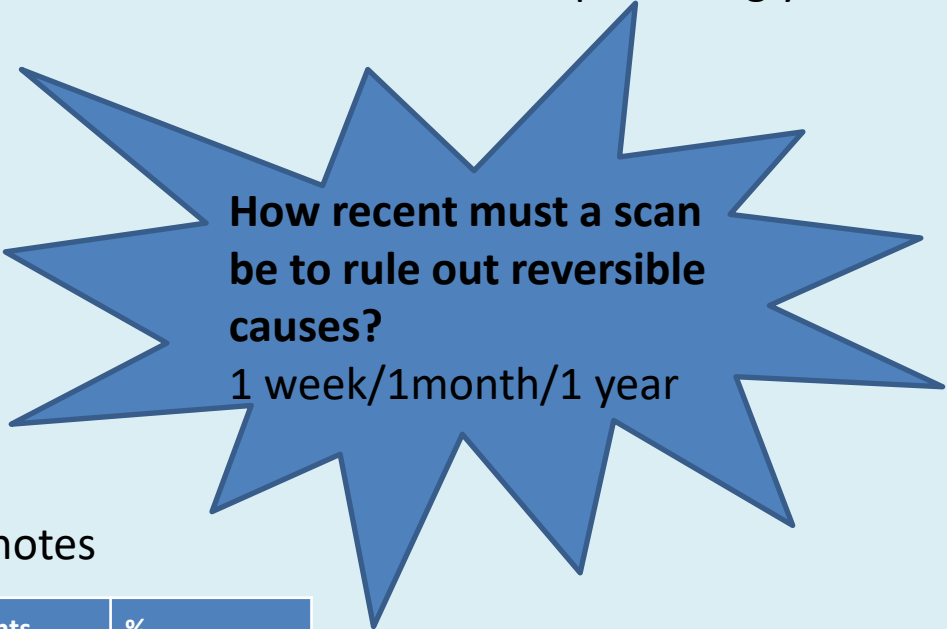
The case notes of 158 patients who were newly diagnosed with dementia between January 2017 and June, 2018 in the locality of Windsor and Ascot were reviewed.

Standards:

Current Nice guidelines: 1.2.13: Offer structural imaging to rule out reversible causes of cognitive decline and to assist with subtype diagnosis, unless dementia is well established and the subtype clear

Points for discussion:

- Scans dated back up to 10 year
- Scan > 1 year: dementia subtype was not clear
- 73% were done within the preceding year.



How recent must a scan be to rule out reversible causes?

1 week/1month/1 year

Data collection October 2018 by reviewing case notes

| Results of Neuroimaging Audit | Patients | % |
|---|------------|-------------|
| Had Scan | 115 | 73 |
| Refused scan | 9 | 6 |
| Previous scan | 33 | 21 |
| Exception – referred for scan (passed away prior to scan) | 1 | 0.6% |
| Total | 158 | 100% |

Recommendations:

Seek specialist opinion about timeframe of scans excluding reversible cause and incorporate into local policy