

## PICK'S DISEASE IN FRONTOTEMPORAL ATROPHY – LITERATURE REVIEW

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**Abstract: Introduction:** Pick's disease is a health condition that affects younger people compared to Alzheimer's disease, occurring in individuals under 65 years of age and, therefore, a difficult diagnosis for the patient and their family (GONÇALVES S, et al., 2019). **Objective:** Review the relationship between frontotemporal atrophy and Pick's disease. **Result:** Pick's disease is a rare neurodegenerative condition that affects younger people and is characterized by disinhibited behavior, irritability, and initial preservation of some cognitive functions. Diagnosis is based on clinical symptoms and changes in brain imaging, and, unfortunately, there is no definitive treatment available at this time (GIFFONI A, et al., 2023). **Conclusion:** The main focus of treatment is managing symptoms and promoting the patient's quality of life. This may include occupational therapy, psychological support and medical assistance to control specific symptoms, such as aggression or impulsivity (GONÇALVES S, et al., 2019).

**Keywords:** Cognitive impairment; Pick's disease; Lobar Atrophy of the Brain

## INTRODUCTION

There are a series of dementias caused by lack or excess of bodily substances, whether hormones, vitamins, infections, tumors or pathological conditions (LEIVAS EFL, 2021).

Examples of treatable dementias include hypothyroidism, vitamin B12 deficiency, neurosyphilis, AIDS, brain tumors, normobaric communicating hydrocephalus, etc. (LEIVAS EFL, 2021).

Every patient with dementia must undergo investigation of all these causes; An exception is made for anti-HIV, which requires the patient's consent. Therefore, we have to request, at the first consultation, free T4, TSH, serum B12 measurement, VDRL and head CT with and without contrast. Other causes of reversible

dementia are alcoholism and excessive use of Central Nervous System medications, such as benzodiazepines (LEIVAS EFL, 2021).

Dementia is a syndrome with multiple causes, characterized by the acquired deterioration of cognitive abilities that impair daily activities. In addition to memory, other mental functions are affected, such as language, visio-spatial skills, calculations and problem solving. Neuropsychiatric and social problems also arise, leading to symptoms such as depression, withdrawal, hallucinations, delusions, agitation, insomnia and disinhibition (CARONI, et al., 2023).

The most common causes of dementia in individuals over 65 years of age are: Alzheimer's disease (AD) (which accounts for approximately 60 percent), vascular dementia (15 percent), and mixed vascular and Alzheimer's dementia (15 percent). ). Other diseases accounting for approximately 10% include dementia with Lewy bodies; Picks disease; fronto-temporal dementias; normal pressure hydrocephalus (NPH); alcoholic dementia; infectious dementia, such as human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) or syphilis; and Parkinson's disease (BATES et al., 2004).

Pick's disease is a health condition that affects younger people compared to Alzheimer's disease, generally occurring in individuals under 65 years of age (GONÇALVES S, et al., 2019).

This condition presents a specific set of symptoms that may be distinct from other neurodegenerative diseases. Characteristic symptoms of Pick's disease include disinhibited verbal and sexual behavior, as well as irritability. It is important to note that in the early stages of the disease, certain essential cognitive functions, such as memory, calculation ability, and motor skills that require conscious thought, may remain relatively preserved. This means that, unlike some other neurodegenerative conditions,

memory and the ability to perform complex motor tasks may not be affected initially (GIFFONI A, et al., 2023).

The diagnosis of Pick's disease is established mainly based on observation of the clinical symptoms presented by the patient, such as social disinhibition and irritability. Additionally, imaging tests, such as MRI or CT scans, may show evidence of atrophy in areas of the brain known as the frontal and temporal regions. These changes in brain structure help to confirm the diagnosis (GIFFONI A, et al., 2023).

Unfortunately, to date, there is no specific treatment for Pick's disease that can reverse or stop its progress. The main focus of treatment is managing symptoms and promoting the patient's quality of life. This may include occupational therapy, psychological support, and medical assistance to manage specific symptoms, such as aggression or impulsivity (GONÇALVES S, et al., 2019).

## MATERIAL AND METHODS

The search was carried out in the PubMed database and was limited to articles between 2004 and 2023 that met the criteria of being literature reviews and case reports.

## REFERENCES

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2. CARONI, Danielly; RODRIGUES, Júlia Stuchi; SANTOS, Aliny Lima. Influência da alimentação na prevenção e tratamento do Alzheimer: uma revisão integrativa. **Research, Society and Development**, v. 12, n. 5, p. e14812541677-e14812541677, 2023.
3. LEIVAS, Elizabete De Figueiredo. A deficiência da Vitamina B12 no surgimento de demência em idosos: Uma revisão da literatura.
4. GONÇALVES, Simone de Andrade Baião et al. Investigação de correlatos neurais da apatia na variante comportamental da demência frontotemporal. 2019.
5. GIFFONI, Amanda; MIRANDA, Ana Luiza; OLIVEIRA, Beatriz. Efeitos da abordagem fisioterapêutica em idosos demenciados. 2023.

Next, the keywords in the article titles were analyzed and those whose themes best fit our objective were selected.

6 articles were selected for full reading.

## DISCUSSION

Unfortunately, to date, there is no specific treatment for Pick's disease that can reverse or stop its progress. The main focus of treatment is managing symptoms and promoting the patient's quality of life. This may include occupational therapy, psychological support, and medical assistance to manage specific symptoms, such as aggression or impulsivity (GONÇALVES S, et al., 2019).

## CONCLUSION

In summary, Pick's disease is a rare neurodegenerative condition that affects younger people and is characterized by disinhibited behavior, irritability, and initial preservation of some cognitive functions. Diagnosis is based on clinical symptoms and changes in brain imaging, and unfortunately, there is no definitive treatment available at this time (GIFFONI A, et al., 2023).