

History of memory problems (1)

Memory

Anterograde memory:

1. Any problem in remembering telephonic conversations
2. Difficulty in remembering last episodes of TV programmes
3. Loosing things at home

Retrograde memory

1. Can the patient remember family events e.g. weddings, holidays
2. Ask about past jobs

Semantic

1. Ask the names of the Queen and the PM
2. Any word finding difficulties

Language

1. Decrease in leisure reading
2. Problems with writing

Numerical skills

1. Difficulty in using money and shopping alone.
2. Any problems in managing of household accounts?

Visuospatial

1. Any change in dressing abilities.
2. Do you get lost in familiar surroundings?

Visual Perception

1. Do you confuse family members or friends?
2. Problems with colour recognition

Personality changes

1. Decreased motivation
2. Easily distracted

History of alcohol abuse & smoking

Family history of dementia and psychiatric illness

Medical history

1. History of head injury
2. Hypertension
3. Diabetes
4. Stroke

Social history

History from informant (2)

1. Onset (sudden/gradual) and progression (progressive/stepwise)

2. When was the person last themselves?
3. Duration of problems
4. Any fluctuation/diurnal variation (sun downing)
5. Does the patient drive? Any problems?
6. Any change in hobbies and interests?
7. Ask about social encounters (odd behaviour, able to recognize family & friends)
8. Impact on relationships
9. Impact on general house hold work like cooking
10. Ask about grooming & personal hygiene
11. Condition of the accommodation. Is it secure? Does it have a central alarm system?
12. What is the level of social support?
13. Able to shop and pay bills
14. Any wandering behaviour?
15. Other risky behaviours (getting lost, leaving gas on or leaving lit cigarettes on couch/table)
16. Is the patient irritable/looses temper quickly?
17. Ask about change in appetite and sleep
18. Psychotic symptoms
19. Past psychiatric history
20. Current medications and compliance with medications
21. Gait problems
22. Incontinence or change in bowel habits
23. Medical history
24. Family history