



LEWY BODY DEMENTIA

FACT SHEET

AMG SENIOR MEDICAL GROUP



WHAT IS LEWY BODY DEMENTIA?



Lewy body dementia, accounting for approximately 4-5% of dementia diagnoses, is a broad term including both dementia with Lewy bodies and Parkinson's disease dementia. Lewy bodies are protein deposits in nerve cells in the brain that can affect brain regions involved in thinking, memory, and movement. People with Lewy body dementia experience a decline in mental abilities, visual hallucinations, and often exhibit symptoms of Parkinson's disease.



SYMPTOMS OF LEWY BODY DEMENTIA



- Changes in thinking and reasoning
- Fluctuating cognition that is delirium-like
- Recurrent visual hallucinations
- Movement symptoms (ie. muscle rigidity, tremor, shuffling walk, etc.)
- Trouble with sleep
- Fluctuating attentions and alertness
- Depression and anxiety
- Mistakes in perception of objects or textures
- Acting out ones dream
- Memory loss

Progression of Lewy Body Dementia

Early Stages



Delusions, restlessness, REM sleep disorder, movement difficulties, urinary issues

Middle Stages



Motor impairment, speech difficulty, decreased attention, paranoia, significant confusion

Later Stages



Extreme muscle rigidity and speech difficulties, sensitivity to touch, susceptibility to infections



QUESTIONS?

See back for more resources & education. Reach out to your provider or local Alzheimer's Association Chapter with any questions about Lewy Body Dementia!

EDUCATIONAL ARTICLES

Alzheimer's Association	https://www.alz.org/alzheimers-dementia/what-is-dementia/types-of-dementia/dementia-with-lewy-bodies#symptoms
Alzheimer's Society CA	https://alzheimer.ca/en/about-dementia/other-types-dementia/lewy-body-dementia#Symptoms
Lewy Body Dementia Association	Overview of LBD: https://www.lbda.org/about-lbd/
Lewy Body Dementia Association	10 Things You Should Know About LBD: https://www.lbda.org/10-things-you-should-know-about-lbd/
Lewy Body Dementia Resource Center	https://lewybodyresourcecenter.org/caregiving-support/ Helpline: 516-218-2026

EDUCATIONAL VIDEOS, PODCASTS, AND BOOKS

University of Utah Health (Podcast)	https://healthcare.utah.edu/the-scope/health-library/all/2014/07/dementia-lewy-bodies
Dementia Careblazers (YouTube)	What is Lewy Body Dementia: https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=jhgKhiWB8_8
Dementia Careblazers (YouTube)	Lewy Body Dementia vs. Parkinson's: https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=nHn-Thz kfVA
Lewy Body Dementia Resource Center: Publications	https://lewybodyresourcecenter.org/publications/

