

DEMTEST

Biomarker based diagnosis of rapid progressive dementias - optimisation of diagnostic protocols

DEMTEST has established a large European and global collaboration between national surveillance units and dementia research centres, facilitating cooperation between neurologists, neuropathologists and neuroscientists.

Our goals are:

- to harmonize the protocols involved in patient documentation, biomaterial sampling/ storage, biomarker testing/assay analysis and data sharing
- to standardise a more precise diagnosis in patients with rapidly progressive dementia by analysis of the biochemical markers in the cerebrospinal fluid and blood.
- to improve CSF based diagnosis in dementia by application of new methodologies

We work on standardisation of tests that are currently available and harmonise their use between centers worldwide. We define standards for biochemically based diagnosis in most relevant rapid progressive dementia such as CJD and rapidly progressive Alzheimer's disease. We will improve innovative methods for amplification assays for mis-folded proteins and introduce their use into clinical routine. As an add-on value, we will define criteria for early differential diagnosis between rapidly progressive neurodegenerative or potentially reversible dementia.

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