Amyloid Brain Imaging

When should amyloid PET imaging be used to help diagnose Alzheimer’s?

Evaluation by dementia expert to assess need for diagnostic testing

Cognitive complaint with objectively confirmed impairment?

Uncertain diagnosis?

Increased certainty in the diagnosis and altered treatment plan likely?

APPROPRIATE
- Persistent or progressive unexplained memory problems and impairments demonstrated by standard medical exams
- Unusual clinical presentation
- Atypical early age of onset

INAPPROPRIATE
- 65 or older and meet standard definitions and tests for Alzheimer’s
- No clinical confirmation of impairment
- To determine dementia severity
- Requested solely based on a family history of dementia
- As a substitute for genotyping
- For non-medical reasons

Impact on Patient Care

Change in medication management

Change in ordering other tests

Value of knowing

Keep in Mind

Amyloid PET imaging is only part of the diagnosis

Not currently covered by insurance; a PET scan of the brain can cost several thousand dollars.

Learn more: www.snmmi.org/amyloididauc

Sources: