

A CARLAT PSYCHIATRY  
REFERENCE TABLE

Differentiating Among the Most Common Types of Dementia		
	Symptoms (most characteristic symptoms in bold)	Neuropathology
Alzheimer's dementia	<b>Short-term memory loss</b> Difficulty learning new information Impaired executive function	Amyloid plaques and neurofibrillary tangles
Dementia with Lewy bodies	<b>Visual hallucinations</b> Fluctuation in cognition REM sleep behavior disorder Neuroleptic sensitivity Parkinsonism	Intracellular deposits of misfolded alpha-synuclein (Lewy bodies)
Frontotemporal dementia	<b>Disinhibition, apathy, compulsive behavior</b> (behavioral variant) <b>Gradual language dysfunction</b> (primary progressive aphasia)	Atrophy of frontal and temporal regions of the brain Hyperphosphorylated tau protein
Vascular dementia	<b>Impaired executive function and complex attention</b> Symptoms vary depending on location	Large and small vessel disease Chronic progressive white matter disease Prior infarcts

From the Article:

**“How to Distinguish the Dementias”**

by **Jose Ribas Roca, MD**

*The Carlat Geriatric Psychiatry Report*, Volume 1, Number 1, January/February/March 2022

[www.thecarlatreport.com](http://www.thecarlatreport.com)