

LEWY BODY DEMENTIAS

SYMPTOMS AND DIAGNOSTIC CRITERIA

Dementia plus any combination of symptoms on this chart is adequate reason to suspect Lewy body dementia and pursue a differential diagnosis.

Symptom/Area of Deficit	Dementia with Lewy Bodies (DLB)	Parkinson's Disease Dementia (PDD)
Dementia 1. Memory impairment 2. Language impairment 3. Visuo-spatial function impairment 4. Executive function impairment	Required ✓ ✓ Usually prominent Usually prominent	Required Core Core Core Core
Parkinsonism	Core (can occur around the same time OR after dementia)	PD diagnosis required (usually years before dementia)
Fluctuating Cognition 1. Reduced attention 2. Excessive daytime sleepiness	Core Usually prominent ✓	✓ Core Supportive
Visual hallucinations	Core	Supportive
Severe neuroleptic sensitivity	Suggestive	✓
REM sleep behavior disorder	Suggestive	✓
Changes in personality and mood 1. Depression 2. Anxiety	Supportive ✓	Supportive ✓ ✓
Delusions	Supportive	Supportive
Apathy	✓	Supportive
Hallucinations in other modalities	Supportive	✓
Severe autonomic dysfunction	Supportive	✓
Repeated falls and syncope	Supportive	✓
Transient, unexplained loss of consciousness	Supportive	
Diagnostic Criteria:	<p style="text-align: center;">Probable DLB:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dementia plus 2 Core • Dementia plus 1 Core, 1 Suggestive <p style="text-align: center;">Possible DLB:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dementia plus 1 Core • Dementia plus 1 Suggestive 	<p style="text-align: center;">Probable PDD:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parkinson's, Dementia plus 2 Core <p style="text-align: center;">Possible PDD:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parkinson's, Dementia plus 1 Core

✓ = Common symptom not required for diagnosis.