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Lewy Body Dementia

Lewy body dementia encompasses a spectrum of neurodegenerative disease causing progressive cognitive impairment. The disease entities included under a Lewy body dementia umbrella are dementia with Lewy bodies and Parkinson's disease dementia. These two conditions are currently best distinguished by the timing of onset and relative prominence of motor versus cognitive symptoms, yet they share many clinical and pathological characteristics. Criteria have also been developed or proposed to identify their respective prodromal stages, including mild cognitive impairment in Parkinson's disease and prodromal dementia with Lewy bodies. This article will overview the spectrum, clinical features, pathophysiologic mechanisms, diagnostic criteria, and management of LBD.