

Neurocognitive Disorders: Clinical Features, Etiology, Assessment and Contemporary Approaches to Management

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Abstract: *Neurocognitive disorders constitute a clinically significant group of conditions characterized by decline in cognitive functioning resulting from neurological disease, brain injury, substance-related factors, or other medical conditions. These disorders can affect attention, executive functioning, learning and memory, language, perceptual-motor abilities, and social cognition. They range from mild neurocognitive impairment, in which cognitive decline may occur without substantial loss of independence, to major neurocognitive disorder, in which cognitive deficits interfere significantly with everyday functioning. Delirium represents an important acute neurocognitive syndrome characterized by disturbances in attention and awareness, rapid onset, and fluctuating severity. Major neurocognitive disorders may occur in association with neurodegenerative conditions such as Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, and Huntington's disease. Amnesic disorders are particularly characterized by impairment in memory while other cognitive abilities may remain relatively preserved. The present review examines the conceptualization, clinical manifestations, etiological factors, assessment, and management of major neurocognitive conditions, with particular attention to Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, Huntington's disease, delirium, and amnesic disorders. The review also emphasizes the psychological, social, and functional consequences of neurocognitive decline for affected individuals and caregivers. A multidisciplinary approach involving medical management, cognitive assessment, psychological intervention, behavioral strategies, rehabilitation, environmental modification, and caregiver support is essential. Early identification and appropriate intervention may improve quality of life, preserve functional abilities, reduce behavioral difficulties, and support caregivers.*

Keywords: Neurocognitive disorders; delirium; dementia; Alzheimer's disease; Parkinson's disease; Huntington's disease; amnesic disorder; cognitive impairment; neuropsychology; caregiver support