



Memory Clinic

Assessment, diagnosis and short term management of dementia and related conditions

Information Required

- Name and address of referring doctor
- Next of kin's name and contact details
- Comorbidities (physical, psychiatric, developmental)
- Accurate medication list including - PRN, over-the-counter and complementary medicines and administration method (e.g. Webster pack), name of community pharmacy
- Community services involved (Dementia Australia (formerly Alzheimer's Association of SA), Dementia Support Australia – DBMAS/SBRT)
- My Aged Care registration details, ACAT status
- Presence or absence of Enduring Power of Attorney and /or Advanced Care Directives (or older equivalent), details of any SACAT Guardianship or Administration Orders
- Whether current driver and any restrictions, any formal driving assessment details
- Specific issues of concern






Investigations Required

- Electrolytes, renal function, liver function tests, calcium/phosphate, glucose
- Complete blood picture
- ESR or CRP
- Vitamin B12, red cell folate
- Thyroid function, including free T4 if on supplemental thyroxine replacement
- CT Brain or other cerebral imaging
- Any other relevant investigations or previous assessments, including previous cognitive assessment scores - to assist with efficient and accurate diagnosis at time of first consult

Fax Referrals to

- 4th Generation Outpatient Clinic, Flinders Medical Centre Fax: (08) 8404 2263

Red Flags

-  Rapid progression of cognitive impairment over weeks, especially if associated with focal neurological deficits
-  Wandering
-  Severe behavioural disturbance
-  Suspected neglect or abuse
-  Severe carer stress, at risk of carer burnout and crisis hospital admission

Suggested GP Management

- Presence of red flags – consider referral to our Community Geriatric Service Ph. (08) 8204 7640
- Assess risk of delirium – treat identified precipitating cause(s); in high risk settings, use evidence based preventative strategies; minimise psychoactive medication burden (lowest number, lowest effective dose, for shortest duration necessary) – especially those with anticholinergic effect
- Referral to community services including Dementia Australia Dementia Link Worker- <https://www.dementia.org.au/support/support-in-your-region/services-and-programs-sa/dementia-link-workers>

Clinical Resources

- <https://www.myagedcare.gov.au/eligibility-and-assessment/acad-assessments>
- <https://www.dementia.org.au/support/in-your-region/sa>
- <https://www.myagedcare.gov.au/>
- <https://www.dementiaresearch.org.au/bpsdguide.html>
- <https://www.cotasa.org.au/programs/life/hpforms.aspx>
- http://sydney.edu.au/medicine/cdpc/documents/resources/CDPC-Dementia-Recommendations_WEB.pdf
- <https://www.racgp.org.au/download/Documents/AFP/2016/December/AFP-Dec-Clinical-Laver-V2.pdf>
- <https://www.dementia.com.au/>

General Information to assist with referrals and the and Referral templates for SALHN are available to download from the SALHN Outpatient Services website www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/SALHNoutpatients

Version	Date from	Date to	Amendment
1.0	September 2014	September 2016	Original
2.0	February 2018	February 2020	Updated contact details, information required and clinical resources/GP management