

6. Mottow-Lippa L, Boker JR, Stephens F. A prospective study of the longitudinal effects of an embedded specialty curriculum on physical examination skills using an ophthalmology model. *Acad Med* 2009;84:1622–1630.
7. Jones S, Edwards RT. Diabetic retinopathy screening: a systematic review of the economic evidence. *Diabet Med* 2010;27:249–256.
8. Younis N, Broadbent DM, Harding SP, Vora JP. Incidence of sight-threatening retinopathy in Type 1 diabetes in a systematic screening programme. *Diabet Med* 2003;20:758–765.

CLINICOPATHOLOGIC DIFFERENCES AMONG PATIENTS WITH BEHAVIORAL VARIANT FRONTOTEMPORAL DEMENTIA

Michael Hornberger, Sydney: Mendez et al.¹ found that distinguishing between pathologically confirmed bvFTD and AD can be determined by personality changes, problem-solving, and episodic memory deficits. This could have implications on future bvFTD diagnostic criteria. The higher incidence of episodic memory problems in AD raises the controversial issue: is a memory deficit a reliable diagnostic criterion in distinguishing between the pathologies? There is increasing evidence that an episodic memory deficit is a poor diagnostic predictor for bvFTD and AD, even in pathologically proven cases.^{2–5} Closer inspection of the authors' findings reveals that their neuropsychological memory measures confirm these findings by showing no episodic memory difference between bvFTD and AD. The authors based their recommendation on the binary informant-based decision of episodic memory deficits presence, which does not converge with their more objective neuropsychological findings. This discrepancy is concerning. The recommendation to discriminate between bvFTD and AD on the basis of memory deficits may not be war-

ranted by their data. The authors should have mentioned this caveat in their publication.

Author Response: Mario F. Mendez, Los Angeles:

We thank Dr. Hornberger for his comments and agree that there is a discrepancy between the informant-based and neuropsychological memory deficits. We also agree that this should have been discussed further in our article. Dr. Hornberger and colleagues have shown that episodic memory deficits may not be good discriminators of bvFTD from AD.

However, our study was not a direct comparison of patients with bvFTD and AD. It was a select group of patients who were clinically diagnosed with bvFTD—some with proven AD on pathology. In this group, their presenting symptoms—including reports of memory deficits (not episodic memory impairments on testing)—appeared helpful in distinguishing those who then showed AD on neuropathology.

© 2013 American Academy of Neurology

1. Mendez MF, Joshi A, Tassniyom K, Teng E, Shapira JS. Clinicopathologic differences among patients with behavioral variant frontotemporal dementia. *Neurology* 2013;80:561–568.
2. Hornberger M, Piguet O, Graham AJ, Nestor PJ, Hodges JR. How preserved is episodic memory in behavioral variant frontotemporal dementia? *Neurology* 2010;74:472–479.
3. Hornberger M, Wong S, Tan R, et al. In vivo and post-mortem memory circuit integrity in frontotemporal dementia and Alzheimer's disease. *Brain* 2012;135:3015–3025.
4. Papma JM, Seelaar H, de Koning I, et al. Episodic memory impairment in frontotemporal dementia; a 99 m Tc-HMPAO SPECT study. *Curr Alzheimer Res* 2013;10:332–339.
5. Frisch S, Dukart J, Vogt B, et al. Dissociating memory networks in early Alzheimer's disease and frontotemporal lobar degeneration: a combined study of hypometabolism and atrophy. *PLoS One* 2013;8:e55251.

Commenting Online is Easier Now with WriteClick™

Have a comment on a recent *Neurology*® article you would like to share? Now it is easier and more convenient. *Neurology.org* has launched WriteClick on the home page and sidebars of each article to encourage remarks and debate among users.

WriteClick is restricted to comments about studies published in *Neurology* within the last eight weeks.

Learn more at <http://www.neurology.org/letters>

Author disclosures are available upon request (journal@neurology.org).

Neurology®

Clinicopathologic differences among patients with behavioral variant frontotemporal dementia

Michael Hornberger and Mario F. Mendez

Neurology 2013;81;775

DOI 10.1212/01.wnl.0000433967.51714.84

This information is current as of August 19, 2013

Updated Information & Services	including high resolution figures, can be found at: http://n.neurology.org/content/81/8/775.full
References	This article cites 5 articles, 2 of which you can access for free at: http://n.neurology.org/content/81/8/775.full#ref-list-1
Permissions & Licensing	Information about reproducing this article in parts (figures, tables) or in its entirety can be found online at: http://www.neurology.org/about/about_the_journal#permissions
Reprints	Information about ordering reprints can be found online: http://n.neurology.org/subscribers/advertise

Neurology® is the official journal of the American Academy of Neurology. Published continuously since 1951, it is now a weekly with 48 issues per year. Copyright © 2013 American Academy of Neurology. All rights reserved. Print ISSN: 0028-3878. Online ISSN: 1526-632X.

