

Disease: **Alzheimer's Disease**

Pertinent Common Signs and Symptoms

- Inability to recall important dates, etc.
- Loss of awareness
- Losing or misplacing objects
- Short-term memory loss
- Difficulty remembering usual

Pertinent Physical Exam Findings/Risk Factors

- Findings:**
- Forgetfulness
 - Appearing withdrawn
- Risk Factors:**
- Age
 - Genetic imbalances

Student Name: **Shayla Mitchell**

Pertinent Nursing Interventions

- Assess cognitive status
- Initiate bowel & bladder program
- Encourage AD support groups
- Provide frequent walks

Disease and Brief pathophysiology

Alzheimer's Disease (AD) is a nonreversible type of dementia that progressively develops over many years.

Labs

- No specific labs can definitively diagnose AD
- Genetic test to check predisposition

Diagnostic Procedures

- No definitive diagnostic procedure, except brain tissue examination upon death

Pertinent Medications

- Donepezil
- Cholinesterase

Client Education/Health Promotion

- Social Services for long-term home
- Implement home safety measures
- Exercise program to maintain mobility

Potential Problems

- Death

Disease: Parkinson's Disease

Pertinent Common Signs and Symptoms

Tremors
muscle rigidity
Bradykinesia
Postural instability

Pertinent Physical Exam Findings/Risk Factors

Exam Findings:
Shuffling gait
Pill-rolling tremor
RISK FACTORS:
Age 40-70
male gender
genetic predisposition

Student Name: Shayla Mitchell

Pertinent Nursing Interventions

- Administer medications at prescribed time
- Monitor swallowing & maintain adequate nutrition
- maintain mobility as long as possible

Disease and Brief pathophysiology

Parkinson's Disease is a progressively debilitating disease that grossly affects motor function.

Client Education/Health Promotion

- Educate client that because Parkinson's disease is a degenerative neurological disorder long-term treatment & care must be accommodated

No definitive labs

Labs

Diagnostic Procedures

No definitive diagnostic procedure
Diagnosis is made based on manifestation, & their progression, & by ruling out other diseases

Pertinent Medications

Levodopa
Carbidopa

Potential Problems

- Aspiration pneumonia