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FORGET: Pilot of an innovative and simple history based screening tool for dementia community clinics and acute medical hospitals

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FORGET, an innovative way of capturing clinical history whilst screening patients presenting with a symptom of cognitive impairment for a diagnosis of dementia. Thirty consecutive liaison assessments were carried out using history collection based on FORGET and MMSE. Sensitivity, specificity, positive predictive value, negative predictive value and odds ratio were calculated for FORGET (cut-off 3+), in diagnosing dementia. Out of 30 referrals to liaison, 20 were diagnosed with dementia. A score of more than 3 on FORGET had a sensitivity of 95% (95% CI, 75.13%–99.87%), specificity of 90% (95% CI, 55.50%–99.75%), PPV of 95% (95% CI, 75.13%–99.87%) and NPV of 90% (95% CI, 55.50%–99.75%) for diagnosis of dementia. The odds ratios for diagnosis of dementia with FORGET score of 3+ was 171 (95% CI 9.569–3055.681; $p=0.0005$; $z=3.49$) and for MMSE of 27 and lower, were odds ratio 19.133 (95% CI, 0.88–415.90; $p=0.060$; $z=1.879$). Combined cut –off of MMSE of 27 and lower and FORGET of 3+ provided an odd ratio of 273 (95% CI, 10.197–7309.229; $p=0.0008$; $z=3.344$) for a diagnosis of dementia. FORGET as a screening tool at a score of more than 3 has a good sensitivity and specificity and is associated with significant odds ratio for the diagnosis of dementia.

Recent Publications

1. P Prevezanos, V R Badrakalimuthu and T Eddy (2017) When mania is not mania: a case of frontotemporal dementia. *Progress in Neurology & Psychiatry* 21(3):8–9.
2. V R Badrakalimuthu (2017) FORGET: A screening tool for dementia. *Geriatric Medicine Journal* 47(7):20–23.
3. V R Badrakalimuthu and S Barclay (2013) Do people with dementia die at their preferred location of death? A systematic literature review and narrative synthesis. *Journal of Age & Aging* 1–7.
4. V R Badrakalimuthu (2013) Cholinesterase inhibitors for co-morbid Alzheimer's disease dementia and schizophrenia: Systematic review and meta-analysis. *WJNS* 3:57–60.
5. V R Badrakalimuthu and A Tarbuck (2012) Anxiety: the hidden element in dementia. *Advances in Psychiatric Treatment* 18:119–128.

Biography

Vellingiri Raja Badrakalimuthu is a Consultant Old Age Psychiatrist at Parklands Hospital, Basingstoke UK. His liaison team was shortlisted for one among four best OPMH teams in the UK in 2015. He has published 23 articles in reputed journals and books.

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