

# Amyloid Brain Imaging

When should amyloid PET imaging be used to help diagnose Alzheimer's?



Evaluation by dementia expert to assess need for diagnostic testing

✓  
Cognitive complaint with objectively confirmed impairment?

Uncertain diagnosis?

✓  
Increased certainty in the diagnosis and altered treatment plan likely?

## APPROPRIATE

- Persistent or progressive unexplained memory problems and impairments demonstrated by standard medical exams
- Unusual clinical presentation
- Atypically early age of onset

## INAPPROPRIATE

- 65 or older and meet standard definitions and tests for Alzheimer's
- No clinical confirmation of impairment
- To determine dementia severity
- Requested solely based on a family history of dementia
- As a substitute for genotyping
- For non-medical reasons

## Impact on Patient Care



Change in medication management



Change in ordering other tests



Value of knowing

## Keep in Mind



Amyloid PET imaging is only part of the diagnosis



Not currently covered by insurance; a PET scan of the brain can cost several thousand dollars.

Learn more: [www.snmimi.org/amyloidauc](http://www.snmimi.org/amyloidauc)

### Sources

1. Appropriate use criteria for amyloid PET: A report of the Amyloid Imaging Task Force, the Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging, and the Alzheimer's Association *J Nucl Med* 2013 *jnumed.113.120618* published ahead of print January 28, 2013 (10.2967/jnumed.113.120618).