

# PHILADELPHIA COORDINATED HEALTH CARE

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The Southeastern Pennsylvania Health Care Quality Unit

There is no accurate test to rule out dementia for people with intellectual developmental disabilities (I/DD). Tests used for the general population are unable to be used for the majority of people with I/DD. Monitoring baselines are extremely important and determining changes in the baseline of the person assists in raising awareness to staff and physicians.

The following information is developed using multiple resources. **The Physician will determine which test are best** for the person after reviewing the lifetime medical history, family health history, information from support staff/families and completing a physical examination including hearing and vision testing. The dementia screening tool should be shared with the physician in order to bring more needed information to the physician's attention.

Many medical conditions that mimic dementia can be treated and it is important that they be ruled out.

Listed below are a few of the conditions and possible testing that may be ordered by the physician. There may be other tests considered and ordered by the physician not listed below.

- Complete Blood Count
- Comprehensive Metabolic Panel
- Hepatic Testing
- Renal Function Test
- Thyroid Studies
- Vitamin B 12
- Rapid Plasma Reagin test/VDRL/HIV
- Erythrocyte Sedimentation Rate
- Toxicology Screen
- Serum Medication Levels
- Urinalysis

Since some medications and/or combinations may cause mental confusion, it is important for the physician to review all medications the person is prescribed including over the counter medications.

Other tests to be considered:

- Electroencephalogram
- Sleep Studies
- Cervical X-ray (atlanto-axial slippage)
- Electrocardiogram
- Chest X-ray
- Computerized Tomographic Scan
- Magnetic Resonance Imaging

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