Tipsheet

2005 Revised McDonald Diagnostic Criteria for MS

What Is An Attack?
- Neurological disturbance of kind seen in MS
- Subjective report or objective observation
- 24 hours duration, minimum
- Excludes pseudoattacks, single paroxysmal episodes

Determining Time Between Attacks
- 30 days between onset of event 1 and onset of event 2

What is a Positive MRI?
3 out of 4 of the following:
- 1 Gd-enhancing brain or cord lesion or 9 T2 hyperintense brain and/or cord lesions if there is no Gd-enhancing lesion
- 1 or more brain infratentorial or cord lesion
- 1 or more juxtacortical lesion
- 3 or more periventricular lesions

Note: Individual cord lesions can contribute along with individual brain lesions to reach required number of T2 lesions

What Provides MRI Evidence of Dissemination in Time?
- A Gd-enhancing lesion detected in a scan done at least 3 months after onset of initial clinical event at a site different from the initial event
  or
- A new T2 lesion detected in a scan done at any time compared to a reference scan done at least 30 days after initial clinical event

What is Positive CSF?
Oligoclonal IgG bands in CSF (and not serum) or elevated IgG index

What is Positive VEP?
Delayed but well-preserved wave form
## The 2005 Revisions to the McDonald Diagnostic Criteria for MS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLINICAL PRESENTATION</th>
<th>ADDITIONAL DATA NEEDED FOR MS DIAGNOSIS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 or more attacks; objective clinical evidence of 2 or more lesions</td>
<td>• None</td>
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| 2 or more attacks; objective clinical evidence of 1 lesion | • Dissemination in space, demonstrated by:  
  ➔ MRI  
  OR  
  ➔ 2 or more MRI detected lesions consistent with MS plus positive CSF  
  OR  
  ➔ Await further clinical attack implicating a different site |
| 1 attack; objective clinical evidence of 2 or more lesions | • Dissemination in time, demonstrated by:  
  ➔ MRI  
  OR  
  ➔ Second clinical attack |
| 1 attack; objective clinical evidence of 1 lesion (monosymptomatic presentation; clinically isolated syndrome) | • Dissemination in space, demonstrated by:  
  ➔ MRI  
  OR  
  ➔ 2 or more MRI-detected lesions consistent with MS plus positive CSF  
  AND  
  • Dissemination in time, demonstrated by:  
  ➔ MRI  
  OR  
  ➔ Second clinical attack |
| Insidious neurological progression suggestive of MS | • One year of disease progression (retrospectively or prospectively determined)  
  AND  
  • Two out of three of the following:  
    a. Positive brain MRI (9 T2 lesions or 4 or more T2 lesions with positive visual evoked potentials;  
    b. Positive spinal cord MRI (two or more focal T2 lesions);  
    c. Positive CSF |

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