Clinical features of dementia with lewy bodies in 35 Chinese patients

Ding Han, Qiong Wang, Zhongbao Gao, Tong Chen and Zhenfu Wang

Abstract

Objective: To investigate the clinical features of dementia with Lewy bodies (DLB) in a Chinese population.

Methods: Computer-based online searches through China Biology Medicine disc and China National Knowledge Infrastructure were performed to collect case reports of DLB published between 1980 and 2012. Clinical characteristics were analyzed.

Results: A total of 18 studies comprising 35 patients (26 males and 9 females) were included. The mean age at onset was 67.2 ± 9.8 years. Onset was characterized by memory impairment and accounted for 58.8% of all cases, followed by parkinsonism (11.8%), visual hallucinations (8.8%), and compulsive personality disorder (2.9%). The other patients (17.6%) presented two of the three core features of DLB at onset. With disease progression, parkinsonism was reported in 100% of cases, followed by visual hallucinations (97.1%), psychiatric symptoms (85.7%), severe neuroleptic sensitivity (81.8%), fluctuating cognition (68.6%), repeated falls (40.0%), sleep disorders (22.9%), and transient loss of consciousness (17.1%). 26 patients who were subjected to Mini-Mental State Examination scored ≤ 24. 10 patients presented relative preservation of hippocampus and medial temporal lobe structures on CT/MRI scan. Occipital hypometabolism occurred in 2 of 3 patients who underwent SPECT/PET perfusion scan. 12 patients showed an increasing of slow frequency activity on EEG, prominently in frontal and temporal lobes.

Conclusions: DLB often strikes elderly individuals. Its clinical core features are dementia, fluctuating cognition, recurrent visual hallucinations and spontaneous features of parkinsonism. Neuropsychological, neuroimaging and EEG examinations may improve the diagnostic accuracy and discriminate DLB from other dementias.

Keywords: Dementia with Lewy bodies, Secondary literature evaluation, Clinical features, Neurodegenerative disease

Introduction

Dementia with lewy bodies (DLB) is the second most prevalent cause of degenerative dementia after Alzheimer disease (AD) in older people, accounting for 10% of all cases [1]. Its clinical features include dementia, fluctuating cognition, visual hallucinations and parkinsonism [2]. The main neuropathological findings are Lewy bodies (LBs), senile plaques (SP) and less or no neurofibrillary tangles (NFT) [3]. To date, DLB is more common than previously thought. However, less systematically studies of DLB are published in China. The present study aimed to review clinical features of DLB through a thorough analysis of Chinese DLB reports published from 1980 to 2012.

Data and methods

Subjects

Data inclusion and exclusion criteria

Pre-indexing did not reveal any systematic evaluations, prospective cohort studies, retrospective cohort studies, bioecological studies, or non-consecutive cohort studies of DLB in China. Case or individual reports published between January 1, 1980 and November 1, 2012 were included, but reviews and experimental studies of DLB were excluded.

© 2014 Han et al; licensee BioMed Central Ltd. This is an open access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0), which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.
Subject inclusion criteria

The current criteria for DLB diagnosis in China have been defined by the DLB Consortium in 2005. Dementia is the essential condition for a diagnosis of possible or probable DLB. The core features of DLB include fluctuating cognition with pronounced variations in attention and alertness, recurrent visual hallucinations that are typically well formed and detailed, and spontaneous features of parkinsonism. Two or more core features is sufficient for a diagnosis of probable DLB, one for possible DLB. The suggestive features of DLB include rapid eye movement sleep behavior disorder (RBD), severe neuroleptic sensitivity, and low dopamine transporter uptake in basal ganglia demonstrated by SPECT or PET imaging. If one or more of suggestive features is present in the presence of one or more core features, a diagnosis of probable DLB can be made. In the absence of any core features, one or more of suggestive features is sufficient for possible DLB. Probable DLB should not be diagnosed on the basis of suggestive features alone [2].

Retrieval methods

“Dementia with Lewy bodies, DLB, Lewy body dementia, diffuse Lewy body disease, DLBD, Lewy body disease” were used as key words to search the China Biology Medicine disc and China National Knowledge Infrastructure for related articles published between 1980 and 2012.

Data extraction

Age at onset, initial symptoms, clinical manifestations, laboratory examinations were extracted and recorded for each patient. The data were analyzed by SPSS version 13.0.

Results

A total of 81 articles related to DLB were collected. 63 articles were excluded for duplication, non-clinical research or lacking of essential clinical materials. A total of 18 studies comprising 35 DLB patients were included (26 males and 9 females), with a mean onset age of 67.2 ± 9.8 years (range 40–81 years). General characteristics of the included articles are listed in Table 1. There were no significant differences between male and female patients in terms of age of onset (male: 67.8 ± 8.0 years, female: 65.5 ± 15.2 years, P > 0.05).

Clinical manifestations

Of the 34 patients who had detailed initial clinical manifestation records (1 patient’s initial clinical manifestation was not mentioned), 20 patients (58.8%) showed cognitive decline, 4 (11.8%) showed parkinsonism, 3 (8.8%) showed visual hallucinations, 3 (8.8%) presented cognitive decline with parkinsonism, 2 (5.9%) presented cognitive decline with visual hallucinations, 1 (2.9%) presented visual hallucinations with parkinsonism.

During the progression of the disease, 24 patients (68.6%) displayed fluctuating cognition that appeared within one day to several weeks. 34 patients (100%) manifested the symptoms of parkinsonism, including rigidity, bradykinesia, postural instability and gait difficulty (8 patients presented rest tremor). 8 patients (22.9%) had sleep disorder, 4 of them exhibited RBD. 8 patients (22.9%) had cognitive decline, 2 of them presented visual hallucinations. 2 patients had exacerbated symptoms after the treatment of anti-parkinsonism drugs. 2 patients were died from multiple organ failure and 1 was from stroke. All the 3 patients

Table 1 General characteristic of included cases

| Article | Case number | Gender (male/female) | Age of onset (male/female) |
|---------|-------------|----------------------|----------------------------|
| Lu H et al. [4] | 1 | 1/0 | 66/ |
| Wang Y et al. [5] | 1 | 0/1 | 77/ |
| Gai QW et al. [6] | 2 | 2/0 | 69,67/ |
| Yang GE et al. [7] | 1 | 1/0 | 50/ |
| Chen L et al. [8] | 8 | 6/2 | 63 ~ 72/ |
| Zhang XQ et al. [9] | 1 | 0/1 | /63 |
| Wu XP [10] | 4 | 2/2 | 68,66/58, unknown |
| Yang WM [11] | 3 | 3/0 | 56,56,75/ |
| Li YM et al. [12] | 1 | 1/0 | 70/ |
| Wang EZ [13] | 1 | 0/1 | /40 |
| Xian HT [14] | 2 | 2/0 | 68,75/ |
| W R et al. [15] | 1 | 0/1 | /74 |
| Li JL et al. [16] | 1 | 1/0 | 72/ |
| Liu XS et al. [17] | 4 | 4/0 | 71,74,76,77/ |
| Wang XH et al. [18] | 1 | 1/0 | 53/ |
| Fu YH et al. [19] | 1 | 0/1 | /81 |
| Yang L et al. [20] | 1 | 1/0 | 70/ |
| Lu WF et al. [21] | 1 | 1/0 | 76/ |

3 patients were confirmed by autopsy. The disease courses of the 3 patients were 2.5 years, 3 years and 11 years respectively. The initial symptoms were parkinsonism with hallucinations, parkinsonism with cognitive decline, and cognitive decline respectively. During the progression of the disease, all the 3 patients shared the same clinical features of parkinsonism and cognitive decline. 2 of them presented visual hallucinations. 2 patients had exacerbated symptoms after the treatment of anti-parkinsonism drugs. 2 patients were died from multiple organ failure and 1 was from stroke. All the 3 patients...
showed the similar pathological results: diffuse brain atrophy dominantly in medial hippocampus, parahippocampal gyrus, entorhinal cortex and amygdala. LBs were widely distributed in the cortical and subcortical regions of the brain, including substantia nigra, locus coeruleus, frontal lobe, parietal lobe, cingulate gyrus, meynert's nucleus, et al. Further pathological features were not mentioned.

**Laboratory examinations**

A total of 26 patients were subjected to Mini-Mental State Examination (MMSE) evaluation and mean score was (12.2 ± 5.6). 34 patients who underwent CT/MRI examinations presented diffuse brain atrophy, 10 of them (29.4%) showed relative preservation of medial temporal lobe and hippocampus, and 1 patient (2.9%) showed prominent temporal lobe atrophy. Of the 3 patients who underwent SPECT/PET examinations, 1 patient showed low dopamine transporter uptake in right striatum, 1 showed low fluorodeoxyglucose uptake in left frontal lobe, bilateral posterior temporal, parietal and occipital lobes, and the last one showed generalized low uptake. Of the 19 patients who underwent electroencephalogram examinations, 12 patients showed an increasing of slow frequency activity in frontal and temporal lobes, 4 showed mild to moderate abnormalities, and 3 showed normal results. 1 patient underwent polysomnography examination and the result was abnormal.

**Therapy**

Of the 24 patients who were treated with L-dopar, 12 patients had a mild to moderate improvement in extrapyramidal symptoms, 11 patients had no significant improvement, 1 patient was subject to exacerbation. 2 patients who were treated with selegeline had a mild improvement. Of the 5 patients who had used artane, 2 patients had no significant improvement, and 3 patients suffered from aggravating hallucinations and psychiatric symptoms. 2 patients who were treated with amantadine had no significant improvement. 1 patient who was treated with haloperidol had a mild improvement. Of the 12 patients who had used the neuroleptic agents, 11 patients showed severe neuroleptic sensitivity (6 patients used perphenazine, 2 patients used risperidone, 1 patient used clozapine, 1 patient used olanzapine, 1 patient used haloperidol), 1 patient had a mild improvement after using a small dose of quetiapine. 8 patients who were treated with donepezil (5-10 mg/d) had a mild to moderate improvement in dementia and neuropsychiatric symptoms.

**Discussion**

DLB is a neurodegenerative disease. It is reported a prevalence range from 0 to 5% with regard to the general population, and the incidence of DLB is 0.1% a year for the general population [22]. An accumulation of proteins including α-synuclein aggregates in cortical and subcortical regions of the brain is the main neuropathological findings [23]. Its core clinical features include fluctuating cognition with pronounced variations in attention and alertness, recurrent visual hallucinations that are typically well formed and detailed, and spontaneous features of parkinsonism [2]. Despite its high prevalence, few cases have been reported in China, and no related epidemiological data has been reported too. We aim to systematically investigate the clinical features of DLB in a Chinese population as well as to raise the clinicians’ consciousness of the disease through this article.

In the present study, the mean age of onset was (67.2 ± 9.8) years (range from 40 ~ 81 years), which was consistent with previous reports [24]. There were no significant differences between males and females in age of onset (P > 0.05). The present study confirmed that cognitive decline was the most commonly reported symptoms at disease onset, whereas visual hallucinations and parkinsonism were less likely to happen. Previous studies found deficits on tests of attention, executive function, and visuospatial ability may be especially prominent in the early stage and memory impairment may not necessarily occur [2], which was not consistent with the present result of memory loss being much more common at disease onset. Most patients in the present study showed bilateral symmetric parkinsonism with prominent axial rigidity and less rest tremor. Half of 8 cases who had sleep disorders presented RBD, the incidence rate of which was lower than it was previously reported [25]. Ferman et al. [26] have found that inclusion of RBD as a core clinical feature improves the diagnostic accuracy of autopsy-confirmed DLB. When RBD was added and clinically probable DLB reflected 2 or more of 4 features, sensitivity improved to 88%. When dementia and RBD were also designated as probable DLB, sensitivity increased to 90% while specificity remained at 73%. A high proportion of patients with neuropsychiatric symptoms were found in this study. Neuropsychiatric symptoms may complicate the clinical diagnosis of DLB [27], patients who presented neuropsychiatric symptoms at onset were often misdiagnosed for psychosis. In the present study, 30 patients showed dementia occurred before parkinsoniam, and 1 case showed dementia occurred after parkinsoniam within half a year. The other 4 patients presented dementia occurred 2~3 years later in the context of confirmed parkinsonism. These 4 patients fulfilled the clinical criterion of probable DLB. The existing 1-year rule suggests Parkinson disease dementia (PDD) should be used to describe dementia that occurs at least 1 year later than parkinsonism. However, Tsuboi et al. [28] found that PDD and DLB shared few differences at autopsy, so 1 year rule may be not compatible
The UPDRS scores of these patients are not reported. Of the responders, only 22% of the cohort achieved improvement in motor symptoms in 6 of 19 DLB patients. Molloy et al. [42] found that L-dopa is generally well tolerated in DLB but produced a significant motor response in only about one third of patients. Bonelli et al. [43] found a greater than 20% improvement in UPDRS scores in 50% of DLB patients compared to 65% of AD patients who were confirmed by autopsy presented diffused LBs in cortical and subcortical regions of the brain, which was consistent with the result of Feng's [30] and is helpful for differentiating DLB from other types of dementia. Another patient exhibited low dopamine transporter uptake in right striatum, which had an important significance for differentiation between DLB and AD. However, the utilization of SPECT/PET has its own limitation on differentiating from PD [31-33]. 3 patients who were confirmed by autopsy presented diffused LBs in cortical and subcortical regions of the brain, which was consistent with McKeith's study [34].

To date, the evidence base for making recommendations about the management of DLB is limited and what follows is based upon consensus opinion of clinicians experienced in treating DLB. Supportive and symptomatic therapies are still the main approaches. The observation of less neuronal loss in DLB than in AD suggests that cortical neurons in DLB are more viable than those in AD and could be more responsive to cholinergic stimulation [35,36]. Cholinesterase inhibitors (ChEIs) may be of benefit for the fluctuating cognitive impairments with impact on global function and activities of daily living [37]. It is reported that ChEIs, including rivastigmine, galantamine and donepezil, may improve patients in measures of attention as well as reduce in psychotic symptoms [38-41]. In the present study, a total of 8 patients who have been treated with donepezil have varying degrees of improvement in dementia and neuropsychiatric symptoms, which is consistent with previous studies. However, we have no data about rivastigmine and galantamine in DLB therapy among our collected patients.

Molloy et al. [42] found that L-dopa is generally well tolerated in DLB but produced a significant motor response in only about one third of patients. Bonelli et al. [43] found a greater than 20% improvement in UPDRS scores in 50% of DLB patients compared to 65% of Parkinson's disease with dementia patients and 90% of Parkinson's disease patients. Goldman et al. [44] reported improvement in motor symptoms in 6 of 19 DLB patients. Of the responders, only 22% of the cohort is able to achieve improvement in motor symptoms without exacerbation of psychosis. In our study, 12 patients (50%) who have taken L-dopa have a mild to moderate improvement in extrapyramidal symptoms, and 1 patient (4%) has a psychosis exacerbation. The UPDRS scores of these patients are not reported.

The effectiveness of motor benefit is consistent with previous reports. However, the risk of psychosis exacerbation is lower. Although the effectiveness of L-dopa for DLB is lower than PD, it may be beneficial to the motor symptoms in the long run [42,45]. 2 patients who are treated with selegiline have been reported an improvement in extrapyramidal symptoms, which suggest that monoamine oxidase B (MAOB) may have applied value in DLB therapy.

30 patients have suffered from a variety of neuropsychiatric symptoms. 11 patients who have taken neuroleptic agents have presented severe neuroleptic sensitivity. It is suggested that typical antipsychotics (including perphenazine, haloperidol, et al.) should be avoided [46]. Of the 5 patients who have taken atypical antipsychotics, only 1 patient has a mild improvement after taking quetiapine. Thus ChEIs may be the first option [38,40]. However, if ChEIs are ineffective or if more acute symptom control of behavior is required, it may be difficult to avoid a cautious trial of an atypical antipsychotic [2].

In conclusion, Chinese DLB patients usually begin with the symptoms of cognitive impairment which is characterized by memory loss. With disease progression, most patients present at least 2 or 3 core clinical features of DLB including the symptoms of parkinsonism, visual hallucinations and fluctuating cognition. The occurrence of RBD may improve the diagnostic accuracy of DLB. Patients often suffer from psychotic symptoms which may be exacerbated by using neuroleptic agents and some anti-parkinsonism drugs. ChEIs may be the first option to improve the cognition and psychotic symptoms. L-dopar may have a limited improvement in parkinsonism symptoms. MAOB may be effective. Occipital low uptake on FDG-PET may have significance in differentiating DLB from other dementia. Other laboratory examinations may improve the diagnostic accuracy. However, there are some problems as followed. First, few pathological findings of Chinese DLB have been reported during the past 30 years, which may influence our further understanding of the disease. Second, DLB have overlapped symptoms with AD, PD, PDD, psychosis and other diseases, which may confuse clinicians to make misdiagnosis. Third, not all the patients in our study have detailed clinical manifestations or medications, our analyses and discussions are limited. Therefore, detailed physical and laboratory examinations, reasonable therapies, and long time follow-up are very important. Early and correct diagnosis and medical treatment provide better control for clinical symptoms in DLB, as well as improve quality of life. The present study reviewed literature from China for the past 30 years and analyzed clinical data from 35 cases. Results provided a primary reference for better understanding.
Chinese DLB features and could help to improve the early diagnostic rates, however, more researches are needed for the limitation of few cases.

**Competing interests**

The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

**Authors' contributions**

DH and QW designed the study and wrote the manuscript. ZW was responsible for manuscript revision. ZG and TC were responsible for data integration, analysis and statistical analyses. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

**Received:** 4 August 2013 **Accepted:** 4 January 2014

**Published:** 8 January 2014

**References**

1. McKeith IG, Mintzer J, Aarsland D, et al. Dementia with Lewy bodies [J]. Lancet Neurol 2004, 3(1):19–28.
2. McKeith IG, Dickson DW, Lowe J. Diagnosis and management of dementia with Lewy bodies: third report of the DLB Consortium [J]. Neurology 2005, 65:1863–1872.
3. Perry RH, Irving D, Blessed G, Fairbairn A, Perry EK. Senile dementia of Lewy body type: A clinically and neuropathologically distinct form of Lewy body dementia in the elderly. J Neurol 1990, 249(2):119–139.
4. Lu H, Wang QF. Dementia with Lewy body: 1 case report [J]. J Guanqin Medical University 2000, 17(6):981.
5. Wang Y, Yu ZH, Lu CZ. Clinicalopathological study on Lewy body disease [J]. Chin J Neurol 2001, 34(4):214–217.
6. Gai QW, Liu L, Tian Y. Dementia with Lewy body in two brothers [J]. Shenyang Baidai Huayu 2004, 17(3):346.
7. Yang GE, Hong MF, Yang RM. 1 case report on DLB [J]. J Brain Nerv Dis 2005, 13(2):145–146.
8. Chen L, Zhang BS. Clinical analysis of 8 dementia with Lewy bodies [J]. Chin J Neurol 2005, 38(2):70–73.
9. Zhang XQ, Wei GZ. Parkinson Plus: a report of 2 cases and literature review [J]. Chin J Clin Rehabil 2005, 9(13):7–9.
10. Wu XF. 4 case reports and review of the clinical features and diagnosis of dementia with Lewy body [J]. Appl J Gen Pract 2005, 30(5):474.
11. Yang WM. 3 case reports of DLB [J]. J Zhengzhou University (Medical Sciences) 2005, 40(5):898–900.
12. Li YM, Wang LN. Misdiagnosis of dementia with Lewy bodies: report of one case [J]. J First Mil Med Univ 2005, 25(11):1364.
13. Wang EZ. Dementia misdiagnosed as schizophrenia:1 case report [J]. Chin J Ment Dis 2006, 6(2):395–396.
14. Xian HT. Features of dementia with Lewy body in China (2 case reports) [J]. J Apoplexy Nerv Dis 2006, 23(6):746–747.
15. Wang R, Wang Y, Shi TH. Nursing care of one case of dementia with Lewy body [J]. J Nurs Sci 2008, 23(7):77–78.
16. Li JL, Liu KC. Dementia with Lewy body: 1 case report [J]. J Clin Psychol Med 2001, 11(3):186.
17. Liu YS, Jia JJ, Wang LN, et al. The diagnosis of dementia with Lewy body [J]. J Apoplexy Nerv Dis 2003, 20(3):213–215.
18. Wang XL, Yang LJ, Xie HG, et al. Neuroelectrophysiological findings and clinical features in dementia with Lewy bodies [J]. Chin J Clin Rehabil 2002, 6(15):2206–2207.
19. Fu HY, Lin MQ, Shang XL. One case report of DLB [J]. Med Innovation China 2010, 7(26):189–190.
20. Yang L, Guo L, Luan JJ, et al. 1 case report of DLB accompanied by depression and RBD [J]. Chin J Neurol 2011, 44(3):222–223.
21. Lu WF, Wang LN, Xu D, et al. Diagnosis of dementia with Lewy body (report of 3Patients) [J]. J Med J Chin PLA 2001, 26(10):759–761.
22. Zaccari I, McCracken C, Brayne C. A systematic review of prevalence and incidence studies of dementia with Lewy bodies. Age Ageing 2005, 34(6):561–566.
23. Pacheco C, Aguayo LG, Opazo C. An extracellular mechanism that can explain the neurotoxic effects of α-synuclein aggregates in the brain. Front Physiol 2012, 3:297.
24. Jellinger KA, Wenning GK, Seppi K. Predictors of survival in dementia with Lewy bodies and Parkinson dementia [J]. Neurodegener Dis 2007, 4(6):428–430.
25. Bonanni L, Thomas A, Tiraboschi P, et al. EEG comparisons in early Alzheimer’s disease, dementia with Lewy bodies and Parkinson’s disease with dementia patients with a 2-year follow-up [J]. Brain 2008, 131(3):690–705.
26. Ferran TJ, Boeve BF, Smith GE, et al. Inclusion of RBD improves the diagnostic classification of dementia with Lewy bodies. Neurology 2011, 77:885–882.
27. Miyashita M, Sasayama D, Sugiyama N, et al. Psychotic symptoms complicate the clinical differentiation of Parkinson’s disease with major depressive disorder from dementia with Lewy bodies [J]. Psychiagrycience 2010, 10(2):107–111.
28. Trabold U, Uchikado H, Dickson DW. Significance of brain lesions in Parkinson’s disease dementia and Lewy body dementia [J]. Parkinsonism Relat Disord 2007, 13(3):221–224.
29. Whitwell JL, Weigand SD, Shiung WM, et al. Focal atrophy in dementia with Lewy bodies on MRI: a distinct pattern from Alzheimer’s disease [J]. Brain 2007, 130(3):708–719.
30. Feng T, Lu LL, Zhang X, et al. Comparison of cerebral glucose metabolism between dementia with Lewy bodies and Parkinson’s disease dementia [J]. Chin J Rehabil Theor Pract 2009, 15(8):758–760.
31. Walker Z, Jaros E, Walker RV, et al. Dementia with Lewy bodies: a comparison of clinical diagnosis, FP-CIT single photon emission computed tomography imaging and autopsy [J]. J Neurol Neurosurg Psychiatry 2007, 78(11):1178–1181.
32. Tanaka M, Kobayashi S, Saito T. Imaging improves diagnosis of dementia with Lewy bodies [J]. Psychiatry Investig 2009, 6(4):233–240.
33. Cummings JL, Henschcliffe C, Schaefer S, et al. The role of dopaminergic imaging in patients with symptoms of dopaminergic system neurodegeneration [J]. Brain 2011, 134(1):3146–3166.
34. McKeith IG, Perry RH, Fairbairn AF, et al. Operational criteria for senile dementia of Lewy body type (SDLT). Psychol Med 1992, 22(4):911–922.
35. Watson R, Blamire AM, O’Brien JT. Magnetic resonance imaging in Lewy body dementias. Dement Geriatr Cogn Disord 2009, 28(6):493–506.
36. Perry RK, Haroutunian V, Davis KL, et al. Neocortical cholinergic activities differentiate Lewy body dementia from classical Alzheimer’s disease. Neuroreport 1994, 5(7):747–749.
37. Aarsland D, Mosimann UP, McKeith IG. Role of cholinesterase inhibitors in Parkinson’s disease and dementia with Lewy bodies. J Geriatr Psychiatry Neurol 2004, 17:164–171.
38. McKeith IG, Del Ser T, Spano P, et al. Efficacy of rivastigmine in dementia with Lewy bodies: a randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled international study. Lancet 2000, 356(9247):2031–2036.
39. Grace J, Daniel S, Stevens T, et al. Long-term use of rivastigmine in patients with dementia with Lewy bodies: an open-label trial. Int Psychogeriatr 2003, 15(2):199–205.
40. Edwards K, Royall M, Brien JT: The role of levodopa in the management of dementia with Lewy bodies. J Neurol Neurosurg Psychiatry 2007, 76(9):1200–1203.
41. Bonelli SB, Ransmayr G, Steffelbauer M, et al. P-dopa responsiveness in dementia with Lewy bodies, Parkinson disease with and without dementia. Neurology 2004, 63(23):376–378.
42. Goldman JG, Goetz CG, Brandabur M, et al. Effects of dopaminergic medications on psychosis and motor function in dementia with Lewy bodies. Mov Disord 2008, 23(1):2248–2250.
43. Lucetti C, Lugi C, Del Dotto P, et al. Levodopa response in dementia with Lewy bodies: A 1-year follow-up study [J]. Parkinsonism Relat Disord 2010, 16(8):522–526.
44. McKeith I, Fairbairn A, Perry R, et al. Neuropsychic sensitivity in patients with senile dementia of Lewy body type. BMJ 1992, 305(6735):673–678.

doi:10.1186/2047-9158-3-1

Cite this article as: Han et al. Clinical features of dementia with Lewy bodies in 35 Chinese patients. Translational Neurodegeneration 2014 3:1.