Aging and Alzheimer’s Disease in Adults with Down Syndrome

Adults with Down syndrome (DS) are at increased risk for Alzheimer’s disease (AD), with dementia incidence rising dramatically beginning in their late 40s. This population is expanding rapidly due to improvements in clinical practice and positive changes in public policy occurring over recent decades. Early recognition of AD will be ever more important as effective treatments become available. Thus, methods for accurate diagnosis early in the course of disease progression would be of enormous value, but the varying severity of lifelong impairments characteristic of populations with intellectual impairment (ID) complicate diagnosis for adults with DS. This is especially true during those early stages of progressive decline.

This presentation will describe findings from a large, prospective study of aging and dementia in adults with DS. Results will include a focus on methods for classifying dementia status in this high-risk population, including those earlier declines comparable to a diagnosis of “mild cognitive impairment” for adults without ID.

Monday, September 28, 2015
4:10 to 5:10 p.m. • Room 241
VKC/One Magnolia Circle Building

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