

The symptoms observed in the first phase of senile dementia are often mistakenly associated with aging (see above all in disturbing events) and anxiety - depressive states.

The elderly person can manifest character changes: he neglects hobbies or work that has always followed interest or tends to be repetitive.

Sometimes the patient affected by senile dementia is suspicious of family and strangers by blaming their faults ("you stole my wallet!", "You took my glasses!", Etc.). In others, senile dementia may arise after a trauma or while the elderly is hospitalized. We therefore tend to blame a particular event but it is not correct. The event causes stress and stress only makes the disease that is already present in the brain only evident.

One or two years after the first symptoms indicated above, the memory becomes more labile and the help of a doctor is used. In this way, senile dementia begins to manifest itself in a more marked way. Symptoms that occur in the first phase of senile dementia are often mistakenly associated with aging.

The next steps are the changes in personality and deficiency of other cognitive functions: the reasonings are immiserate compared to previous periods and the faculty of judgment is less in this way to worry both relatives and work colleagues.

As for the change in personality, the elderly can become apathetic, suspicious, aggressive, impulsive and violent. All routine movements and everyday occupations become difficult to put into practice: the person affected by senile dementia can not drive more easily and makes it difficult to do what he previously did easily.

One of the main symptoms associated with the problem of memory is depression.

The latter derives its origin from the awareness of the reduced capacity of the diseases or from biological causes still not well identified.

To these symptoms of senile dementia, there are others that cause inconvenience to family members of the elderly, such as episodes of verbal explosion, unmotivated crying, violence and various sleep disorders.

In the next phase, the patient can no longer acquire new information and those in his possession become more and more labile. At this stage the patient is not able to orientate himself even in familiar places such as his home and begin to present the first difficulties in washing, dressing and eating. In the advanced stage of senile dementia, memory is totally compromised, walking is reduced, the patient becomes incontinent and dumb. Also with regard to nutrition it may be necessary to resort to the artificial one and there is a high possibility of complications (pneumonia, phlebitis, infectious diseases). Senile dementia has a variable duration but the national statistics identifies an average time range between 5 and 7 years. Here is a test on the symptoms of senile dementia that, if detected, require an assessment by your doctor.

The difficulty in being able to complete or perform only one of these tasks can be the sign of senile dementia. Learn and remember new information. The person is more repetitive, it is difficult to memorize the content of recent news, facts, meetings? Do you often lose objects, such as wallets and glasses?

Do you buy the same things repetitively by storing them in the refrigerator? Perform complex tasks.

Does the person have problems performing complex activities such as preparing a meal, operating the washing machine or driving the car?

Spatial and temporal orientation.

Does the person have problems remembering the way to get to their home? Is it lost in unfamiliar places and / or is unable to know the date and time?

Language. Does the person fail to communicate?

Can not give the right name to the things of common use? Behavior. Does the person appear more passive, apathetic, less involved in family affairs? She's more nervous than usual and has become suspicious? Do you think there are thieves at home?