

ASSESSING GERIATRIC DEPRESSION

Morley Shaw, PHD

SENIOR HORIZONS

A Behavioral Health Service for Seniors

**COMMON OBSERVABLE
FEATURES THAT
DISTINGUISH DEPRESSION
FROM DEMENTIA**

COMMON OBSERVABLE FEATURES THAT DISTINGUISH DEPRESSION FROM DEMENTIA

❑ DEPRESSION

- ❑ FAMILY SOMETIMES UNAWARE OF ILLNESS
- ❑ ONSET OF SXs WAS NOTICEABLE

❑ DEMENTIA

- ❑ FAMILY UNAWARE OF ILLNESS
- ❑ SLOW, GRADUAL ONSET OF SXs

COMMON OBSERVABLE FEATURES THAT DISTINGUISH DEPRESSION FROM DEMENTIA

- RAPID PROGRESSION IN SXs

- FAMILY HISTORY OF MOOD DISORDER

- SLOW PROGRESSION IN SXs

- POSSIBLE FAMILY HX OF AD

COMMON OBSERVABLE FEATURES THAT DISTINGUISH DEPRESSION FROM DEMENTIA

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">❑ PATIENT HAS HX OF DEPRESSION❑ COMPLAINS OF COGNITIVE DEFICITS❑ COMPLAINS IN DETAIL | <ul style="list-style-type: none">❑ NO HX OF DEPRESSION❑ NO COMPLAINTS OF COGNITIVE DEFICITS❑ VAGUE COMPLAINTS |
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COMMON OBSERVABLE FEATURES THAT DISTINGUISH DEPRESSION FROM DEMENTIA

- EMPHASIZES COGNITIVE COMPLAINTS

- HIGHLIGHTS PERSONAL FAILURES

- CONCEALS OR "EXPLAINS AWAY" DEFICITS

- DELIGHTS IN PERSONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

COMMON OBSERVABLE FEATURES THAT DISTINGUISH DEPRESSION FROM DEMENTIA

- MAKES LITTLE EFFORT AT TASKS

- DOES NOT TRY TO KEEP UP

- STRUGGLES WITH TASKS

- RELIES ON NOTES, CALENDARS, ETC TO KEEP UP

Contact Info

Morley Shaw, PH.D.

Director, SENIOR HORIZONS

A Behavioral Health Service for Seniors

(480) 443 -5101

(480) 443-5127 Fax

mshaw@abrazohealth.com

COMMON OBSERVABLE FEATURES THAT DISTINGUISH DEPRESSION FROM DEMENTIA

□ IS IN DISTRESS

□ IS

UNCONCERNED