

LEWY BODIES in DEMENTIA and PARKINSON'S DISEASE

LEWY BODIES

cause both Parkinson's disease and Lewy body dementia. Lewy bodies are abnormal deposits of proteins called alpha-synucleins that can be found in brain cells (neurons).

LEWY BODY DEMENTIA

Common but seldom recognized type of dementia

PARKINSON'S DISEASE

Second most common movement disorder.

Lewy body

Neuron

Dopamine is a chemical that neurons use to send messages each other.

Neuron

Lewy body

Neurons with Lewy bodies may die.

Neurons with Lewy bodies may work less well. Parkinson's is due to the death or loss of neurons that release dopamine.

PARKINSON'S SYMPTOMS

Parkinson's shows up when Lewy bodies are found in the brainstem and movement control areas.

LEWY BODIES

can affect different areas of the brain, causing different symptoms.

DEMENTIA SYMPTOMS

Symptoms of dementia show up when Lewy bodies are found in the brain cortex and mood and memory centers.

BASAL GANGLIA

MIDBRAIN



BRAINSTEM

- Sleep disturbance
- Changes in alertness

CEREBRAL CORTEX

- Hallucinations are characteristic of Lewy body dementia
- Thinking and logic impairment

AMYGDALA

- Mood changes

HIPPOCAMPUS

- Memory impairment