

Fast Facts

Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease

- Part of a group of human and animal diseases called transmissible spongiform encephalopathies (TSEs). They're known as this because of the spongy holes (visible under a microscope) that occur in the affected brain tissue
 - Holes are caused by irregular versions of a specific protein (prion)
- These proteins are in our body naturally and are usually harmless. The problem is when they become deformed
 - Degenerative brain disorder that results in dementia and then death
 - Progresses rapidly, with most people succumbing within a year
- Three ways in which you can contract (sporadic, familial, or contamination)

<i>Symptoms</i>	<i>Treatment</i>	<i>Prevention</i>
<p><i>Early:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Personality changes -Memory loss -Impaired thinking -Blurred vision/blindness -Insomnia -Incoordination -Difficulty speaking/swallowing -Sudden, jerky movements <p><i>Late:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Unable to recognize family and friends -Unable to care for self -Coma -Death 	<p>-Not an effective one</p> <p><i>Goal:</i> Relieve pain/other symptoms and make the person as comfortable as possible</p>	<p><i>Sporadic:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -None <p><i>Familial:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Genetic counseling <p><i>Contamination:</i></p> <p><i>Iatrogenic:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Hospitals and medical facilities following safety practices <p><i>Variant:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Agriculture industry following food safety regulations

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