

DIAGNOSTIC UTILITY OF VEP CHANGES IN ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

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Previous studies by this and other laboratories consistently have found a selective delay of the P2 flash VEP component among groups of Alzheimer dementia (AD) patients compared to control groups. Several authors have termed the selective P2 delay a "marker" for AD and have called for its use in clinical diagnosis. This study examined the diagnostic utility of the selective P2 delay in a retrospective sample of 45 AD patients and 60 age equivalent healthy controls. Although significant between group differences were found, classification accuracies for individual patients and controls were too low to contribute meaningfully to clinical diagnosis.

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