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Utility of the Spanish version of the FTLD-modified CDR in the diagnosis and staging in frontotemporal lobar degeneration

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Introduction: The Clinical Dementia Rating Scale (CDR) is a tool designed to quantify the severity of dementia symptoms and is also useful to assess disease progression, in Alzheimer's disease (AD). A new version of the scale was developed by adding two extra domains that focussed on the core aspects of frontotemporal dementia symptomatology, Language and Behavior/Comportment/Personality.

Objectives: In this study, we adapted and validated the modified CDR scale in our setting and language (Rioplatense-Spanish).

Materials and Methods: 46 patients with probable AD, 27 behavioral variant of Frontotemporal dementia (bvFTD), 18 Primary Progressive Aphasia (PPA) and 40 healthy participants were included. The adapted version of the scale was administered by a blind rater who interviewed patients together with patient's caregiver.

Results: Using ROC curves, the domain language and behavior were superior to the memory domain in accuracy for detecting PPA and bvFTD, respectively, but both of them had equivalent diagnosticaccuraciesforprobable AD. Logistic regressionanalyses showed that either the LANG or BEHAV domains significantly improved the discrimination between probable AD, bvFTD and PPA.

Conclusions: The Spanish version of the modified CDR adds value for thecharacterization of the non-amnestic symptoms in patients with neurodegenerative dementias.

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