

## FOR PROGRESSIVE SUPRANUCLEAR PALSY (PSP)

**PSP is a terminal degenerative neurological condition.**

The difficulty in diagnosing PSP has led to the creation of red flags to act as warning signs that may raise clinical suspicion of PSP.

Think about PSP when seeing patients diagnosed with movement disorders e.g. Parkinson's disease, where there has been a poor response to Levodopa, more rapid progression of symptoms and the development of clinical features not seen in Parkinson's disease.

### **PSP – what to look for in a patient consultation:**

<b>1 Falls</b>	Often backwards and without warning
<b>2 Postural instability</b>	Axial rigidity, easily loses balance
<b>3 Slowness of movement</b>	Bradykinesia
<b>4 Motor recklessness</b>	Impulsive, despite problems moving
<b>5 Eye problems</b>	Restricted eye movement, up/down. May find it difficult to walk downstairs with down gaze. Reduced blink, double vision, 'glare'
<b>6 Speech</b>	Slurring of speech, gravelly or lower voice and progressive word finding difficulties
<b>7 Swallowing difficulties</b>	Liquids/and or solids, excessive saliva
<b>8 Cognitive changes</b>	Change in personality, irritability, apathy
<b>9 Emotional lability</b>	Appears to cry or laugh even if not upset
<b>10 No presenting tremor</b>	

If your patient has one or more of these symptoms, please refer to Neurology and state possible PSP in the referral letter.

PSPA Helpline and Information Service

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