8-9-2015

**“Frequent misdiagnoses of**

**adult polyglucosan body disease”**

Hellman MA, et al. J Neurol. 2015 Jul 21.

Summary of findings:

 **Common Initial Symptoms - 30 patients studied**

**Bladder dysfunction ● Gait problems**

**Common Initial Misdiagnoses - 30 patients studied**

MS ● ALS ● Cerebral small vessel disease

● Peripheral neuropathies

**Signs at time of Correct Diagnosis**

**(on the average, 6.8 years after presentation)**

Decreased or absent ankle reflexes

Bilateral extensor plantar response

Spasticity in the legs

Distal sensory deficit

**Radiologic Findings at time of Correct Diagnosis**

Cervical spinal cord atrophy

Leukoencephalopathy

**APBD is diagnosed world-wide, but more frequently**

 **among patients of Ashkenazi Jewish background.**

**Read more at:**

<http://apbdrf.org/misdiagnoses>

*DNA testing at Columbia University*

 *underwritten by the APBD Research Foundation.*

*Go to APBDRF.org for more information.*