NEUROPATHOLOGY DATA SET

Coding Guidebook

Detailed, annotated explanations of the NACC Neuropathology Form on an itemlevel basis, with instructions, operational definitions, and references

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National Alzheimer's Coordinating Center 4311 11th Ave NE, Suite 300 Seattle, WA 98105 (206) 543-8637 Fax (206) 616-5927 email naccmail@uw.edu www.alz.washington.edu

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> Neuropathology Core Steering Committee members Eileen Bigio, MD Nigel Cairns, PhD Julia Kofler, MD Thomas Montine, MD, PhD Peter Nelson, PhD Julie Schneider, MD

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Guide to abbreviations

AD	Alzheimer's disease
ADC	Alzheimer's Disease Center, any of 30 Centers across the United States participating in the Alzheimer's Disease Centers Program conducted by NIA
ADNC	Alzheimer's disease neuropathologic change
ALS	Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis
CAA	Cerebral amyloid angiopathy
CBD	Corticobasal degeneration
CERAD	Consortium to Establish a Registry for Alzheimer's Disease
CSF	Cerebrospinal fluid
DN	Dystrophic neurite
FTLD	Frontotemporal lobar degeneration
FUS	Fused in sarcoma
GCI	Glial cytoplasmic inclusion
IHC	Immunohistochemistry
H&E	Hematoxylin and eosin
LB	Lewy body
MDS	Minimum Data Set, the original data set maintained by NACC from data submitted by the ADCs beginning in 1984
MND	Motor neuron disease
MSA	Multiple system atrophy
NACC	National Alzheimer's Coordinating Center, funded by NIA and charged with collecting data from the ADCs
NBIA	Neurodegeneration with brain iron accumulation
NCI	Neuronal cytoplasmic inclusion
NIA	National Institute on Aging, one of the U.S. National Institutes of Health
NII	Neuronal intra nuclear inclusion
NOS	Not otherwise specified
PiD	Pick's disease
PLS	Primary lateral sclerosis
PMI	Postmortem brain interval: time between death and brain removal
PSP	Progressive supra-nuclear palsy
SCA	Spinocerebellar ataxia
TDP-43	Tar-DNA-binding protein 43
UDS	Uniform Data Set, the longitudinal database maintained by NACC; the other components of the NACC database are the Minimum Data Set (MDS) and the Neuropathologic Data Set (NP)
VBI	Vascular brain injury
WM	White matter



The Neuropathology Data Form

1.	MDS/UDS patient ID	
2.	Date form completed (MM/DD/YYYY)	///
3.	Neuropath ID	
4.	Sex (CHECK ONE)	□ 1 Male □ 2 Female
5.	Age at death	years
6.	Date of death (MM/DD/YYYY)	/ /
	Please provide identification and demographic inform	nation in Questions 1–6.
7.	Postmortem interval (PMI): time between death and brain removal	hours (99.9 = unknown)
	Please estimate PMI to the nearest hour if the exact n PMI, please enter 99.9 (unknown).	number of minutes is unknown. If it is not possible to estimate
8.	Fixative	 1 Formalin 2 Paraformaldehyde 7 Other (SPECIFY):
9.	GROSS FINDINGS	
	a. Whole brain weight (if half brain, multiply weight by two)	grams (9999 = unknown)
	 Does the value in Question 9a represent fresh or fixed weight? (CHECK ONE) 	1 Fresh 2 Fixed 8 Not applicable

с.	Severity of gross findings						
	(CHECK ONE BOX PER ROW)	None	Mild	Moderate	Severe	Not assessed	Missing/ unknown
	1. Cerebral cortex atrophy	0	1	2	3	8	9
	2. Lobar atrophy (significant frontal and/or temporal atrophy)	0 O		🗌 1 Yes		8	9
	3. Hippocampus atrophy	0 🗌 🗌 🛛	1	2	Ш з	8	9
	4. Substantia nigra hypopigmentation	0 🗌 0	1	2	🗌 з	8	9
	5. L. ceruleus hypopigmentation	0 🗌 0	1	2	3	8	9
	6. Atherosclerosis (of the circle of Willis)	0	□ 1	2	3	8	9
10. ME	THODS USED FOR SCORING CASE						
a.	Tau antibody (СНЕСК ONE)	 1 Non-phospho specific 2 PHF1 3 CP13 4 AT8 7 Other (SPECIFY):					
b.	Amyloid beta antibody (CHECK ONE)		D5	FY):			
 c. Alpha synuclein antibody (CHECK ONE) i. Non-phospho specific (e.g., LB509) i. 2 Phospho-specific (e.g., pSYN#64) i. 7 Other (SPECIFY): i. 8 Not assessed 				.)			
d.	TDP-43 antibody (CHECK ONE)	8 Not assessed 1 Non-phospho specific 2 Phospho-specific 7 Other (SPECIFY): 8 Not assessed					

e.	Histochemical stains (CHECK ONE BOX PER ROW)								
	1. Modified Bielschowsky	🗌 o No	□ 1 Yes						
	2. Gallyas	🗌 o No	1 Yes						
	3. Other silver stain	🗌 o No	1 Yes						
	4. Thioflavin	🗌 o No	1 Yes						
	5. Other (SPECIFY):	🗌 o No	1 Yes						
Fo	For Question 10e5, if 1=Yes is selected, specify the stain used.								
11. ALZ	HEIMER'S DISEASE. Please score AD neuropathologic changes. ¹								
F	or minimum recommended brain regions to be sampled and evaluated,	see Table 1 in Montine et al.	, 2012 ¹ .						
Eı	or Questions 11a–11e2: ter 8=Not assessed if the pathologic characteristic was not evaluated; ter 9=Missing/unknown if the pathology was examined but the data of	cannot be found.							
 a. Thal phase for amyloid plaques by immunohisto-chemistry (IHC) (A score — CHECK ONE) Use only standard blocks (as described in Montine et al., Acta Neuropathol (2012) 123:1–11) to assign phase (i.e., midfrontal, superior/middle temporal, inferior parietal, hippocampus, entorhinal, basal ganglia, midbrain, cerebellum). a. Thal phase 0 (A0) b. 1 Phase 1 (A1) c. 2 Phase 2 (A1) c. 3 Phase 3 (A2) c. 4 Phase 4 (A3) c. 5 Phase 5 (A3) 8 Not assessed g Missing/unknown 									
Pı	ccerpted from Montine et al. ¹ : eferred method for β-amyloid (Aβ) plaques is immunohistochemistry vin S or sensitive silver histochemical stains.	for Aβ. Other acceptable met	hods are thio-						

¹Montine TJ, Phelps CH, Beach TG, et al. National Institute on Aging-Alzheimer's Association guidelines for the neuropathologic assessment of Alzheimer's disease: a practical approach. *Acta Neuropathol.* Jan 2012;123(1):1-11.

Thal stages refer to the anatomical location of $A\beta$ -immunopositivity, which are then converted to A Scores. 6-point Thal staging scheme is as described^{1,2}, then converted to a 4-point scale³. Figures below show how a given distribution of A β plaques corresponds to Thal phase and A Score.

Block	Region	Phase of A	Aβ aggregati	on		
		1	2	3	4	5
Frontal cortex	Grey/white matter	One or	One or	+	+	+
Temporal cortex	Grey/white matter	more regions	more	+	+	+
Parietal cortex	Grey/white matter	with A _β	regions with Aβ	+	+	+
Occipital cortex	Grey/white matter			+	+	+
Hippocampus	Adjacent temporal cx grey/white matter			+	+	+
	Molecular layer of the dentate gyrus	-	One or more	+/-	+	+
	CA4	-	regions with Aβ	+/-	+/-	+
	CA1	-		+	+	+
	Remnants of entorhinal area	-		+	+	+
Gyrus cinguli	Grey/white matter	-		+	+	+
Basal forebrain	Hypothalamus	_	_	One or	+	+
	Amygdaloid nuclei	-	-	more regions	+	+
	Nucleus basalis of Meynert	-	-	with A _β	+	+
Striatum	Putamen	-	-		+	+
	Caudate nucleus	-	-		+	+
	Insular cortex grey/ white matter	-	+/-	+	+	+
Midbrain	Central grey	-	-	-	One or	One or
	Substantia nigra	-	-	-	more regions with Aβ	more regions with Aβ
Cerebellum						One or
						more regions with Aβ



"ABC" Score for Alzheimer's disease neuropathologic change. Immunohistochemical detection of AB plaques in (a) neocortex with as an example of "A1", (b) neostriatum as an example of "A2", and (c) molecular layer of cerebellum as an example of "A3". Scale bars are 500 microns. Anti-A β was antibody 6F/3D (Novocastra, Newcastle, UK)

A=2: Thal phase 3. phase 5, A=3. A=3: Thal Phases 4 or 5.

¹Thal DR, Rüb U, Orantes M, Braak H. Phases of A beta-deposition in the human brain and its relevance for the development of AD. *Neurology*. Jun 2002;58(12):1791-1800.

²From Springer, Acta Neuropathol. Mar 2009;117(3):309-320, Assessment of beta-amyloid deposits in human brain: a study of the BrainNet Europe Consortium. Alafuzoff I, Thal DR, Arzberger T, et al., Copyright © 2009, reprinted with kind permission of Springer Science Business Media and author.

³From Springer, Acta Neuropathol. Jan 2012;123(1):1-11, National Institute on Aging-Alzheimer's Association guidelines for the neuropathologic assessment of Alzheimer's disease: a practical approach, Montine TJ, Phelps CH, Beach TG, et al. Copyright © 2012, reprinted with kind permission of Springer Science Business Media and author.



Indicate the stage according to the scheme proposed by Braak and Braak. While the original methods employed Gallyas stains, other stains for neurofibrillary pathology (e.g., tau immunostains, other silver stains or thioflavin-S) may be used. The focus is on the distribution of neurofibrillary tangles (NFTs). Especially if visualized with phospho-tau antibodies, the designation of Braak VI should be reserved for those cases with very dense and widely distributed NFTs in many neocortical regions (see figure at right).

If there is a tauopathy (other than aging/AD), Braak staging may not be appropriate. However, if there are distinguishable or concomitant aging or AD changes, the Braak score should still be indicated.



Please note that the order of the codes for Braak stage has changed since Version 9 of this form.

¹From Springer, *Acta Neuropathol.* Oct 2006;112(4):389-404 Staging of Alzheimer disease-associated neurofibrillary pathology using paraffin sections and immunocytochemistry, Braak H, Alafuzoff I, Arzberger T, et al., Copyright © 2006, reprinted with kind permission of Springer Science Business Media and author.

c. CERAD score for density of neocortical neuritic plaque (plaques with argyrophilic dystrophic neurites, with or without dense amyloid cores). Score without respect to age or diagnosis.

(C score — CHECK ONE)

Use only standard blocks (as described in Montine et al., Acta Neuropathol (2012) 123:1–11) to assign phase (i.e., midfrontal, superior/middle temporal, inferior parietal). o No neuritic plaques (CO)
 1 Sparse neuritic plaques (C1)
 2 Moderate neuritic plaques (C2)
 3 Frequent neuritic plaques (C3)
 8 Not assessed
 9 Missing/unknown

CERAD scores are derived from Mirra et al. (1993)¹. However, starting in 2012, the score criteria have changed slightly (Montine et al., 2012)².

Neuritic plaques are considered to be plaques with argyrophilic, thioflavin-S-positive or tau-positive dystrophic neurites with or without dense amyloid cores. Answer **8=Not assessed** if neuritic plaques have not been specifically analyzed. **Score without respect to age or clinical diagnosis. (C score.)**





Montine et al., 2012²



"ABC" score for Alzheimer's disease neuropathologic change. Bielschowsky stain of neocortex shows (**a**.) diffuse plaques but not neuritic plaques as an example of "C0," and increasing density of neuritic plaques as examples of (**b**.) "C1" (1–5 neuritic plaques per 1 mm²), (**c**.) "C2" (≥ 6 but < 20 neuritic plaques per 1 mm²), and (**d**.) "C3" (≥ 20 neuritic plaques per 1 mm²). *Scale bars* equal 100 µm.

Please note that the order of the codes for CERAD score for neuritic plaque density has changed since Version 9 of this form.

¹Mirra SS, Hart MN, Terry RD. Making the diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease. A primer for practicing pathologists. *Arch Pathol Lab Med*. Feb 1993;117(2):132-144. Reproduced by permission of the author.

²From Springer, *Acta Neuropathol.* Jan 2012;123(1):1-11, National Institute on Aging-Alzheimer's Association guidelines for the neuropathologic assessment of Alzheimer's disease: a practical approach, Montine TJ, Phelps CH, Beach TG, et al. Copyright © 2012, reprinted with kind permission of Springer Science Business Media and author.

d.	NIA-AA Alzheimer's disease neuropathologic change	🗆 o Not AD
	(ADNC)	1 Low ADNC
	(CHECK ONE)	2 Intermediate ADNC
		☐ 3 High ADNC
		8 Not assessed
		🗌 9 Missing/unknown

AD neuropathologic change is evaluated with an "ABC" score (see table below)¹: $A\beta$ /amyloid plaques (A), NFT stage (B), and neuritic plaque score (C). The combination of A, B, and C scores is designated as "Not," "Low," "Intermediate," or "High" AD neuropathologic change. Intermediate or High AD neuropathologic change is considered sufficient explanation for dementia. The table below is directly derived from Montine et al. (2012)¹.

If the C score is 1, 2, or 3, then the A score must be A1, A2, or A3 (marked as at least "low" AD NP change).

Montine et al. (2012) ¹								
AD Neuropath	ologic Change	B (Braak	Neurofibrillary Sco	ore; See 11b)				
A (Amyloid; see 11a) C (CERAD; see 11c)		0 or 1	2	3				
0	0	Not	Not	Not				
1	0 or 1	Low	Low	Low				
L	2 or 3	Low	Intermediate	Intermediate				
2	Any C	Low	Intermediate	Intermediate				
-	0 or 1	Low	Intermediate	Intermediate				
3	2 or 3	Low	Intermediate	High				

For Question 11d:

Enter **8=Not assessed** if there is missing data from A, B, or C. ADNC cannot be determined without all three scores (A, B, and C).

Enter **9=Missing/unknown** if the pathology was evaluated but the data cannot be found.

¹From Springer, *Acta Neuropathol.* Jan 2012;123(1):1-11, National Institute on Aging-Alzheimer's Association guidelines for the neuropathologic assessment of Alzheimer's disease: a practical approach, Montine TJ, Phelps CH, Beach TG, et al. Copyright © 2012, reprinted with kind permission of Springer Science Business Media and author.

e. Other pathologic changes associated with AD	
 CERAD semi-quantitative score for diffuse plaques (plaques with non-compact amyloid and no apparent dystrophic neurites). Score from the neocortical field with the highest plaque density and without respect to age or diagnosis. (CHECK ONE) 	 0 No diffuse plaques 1 Sparse diffuse plaques 2 Moderate diffuse plaques 3 Frequent diffuse plaques 8 Not assessed 9 Missing/unknown
Diffuse plaques are considered to be plaques with non-compact amyloid an Enter 8=Not assessed if diffuse plaques have not been specifically analyzed Enter 9=Missing/unknown if diffuse plaques were evaluated but the data c Please note that the order of the codes for CERAD semi-quantitative score version 9 of this form.	d. cannot be found.
2. Cerebral amyloid angiopathy (CHECK ONE)	 o None 1 Mild 2 Moderate 3 Severe 8 Not assessed 9 Missing/unknown

¹Vonsattel JP, Myers RH, Hedley-Whyte ET, Ropper AH, Bird ED, Richardson EP. Cerebral amyloid angiopathy without and with cerebral hemorrhages: a comparative histological study. *Ann Neurol.* Nov 1991;30(5):637-649.

²Olichney JM, Hansen LA, Hofstetter CR, Lee JH, Katzman R, Thal LJ. Association between severe cerebral amyloid angiopathy and cerebrovascular lesions in Alzheimer disease is not a spurious one attributable to apolipoprotein E4. *Arch Neurol.* Jun 2000;57(6):869-874.

Provide semi-quantitative assessmen	nt of overall no	eocortical amyle	oid angiopathy.
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Guidelines are adapted from prior studies^{1,2} with the added aspect of referring to the global CAA according to the following scale that refers to the global CAA burden:

- 0 None: Absent
- 1 Mild: Scattered positivity in parenchymal and/or leptomeningeal vessels, possibly in only one brain area
- 2 Moderate: Intense positivity in many parenchymal and/or leptomeningeal vessels
- 3 Severe: Widespread (more than one brain area) intensive positivity in parenchymal and leptomeningeal vessels

Enter **8=Not assessed** if cerebral amyloid angiopathy was not evaluated.

Enter **9=Missing/unknown** if the pathology was examined but the data cannot be found.

12.	CEREBROVASCULAR DISEASE (CVD).	Report all	CVD,	macroscopic	vascular	brain	injury	(VBI),	and
	microinfarcts or microhemorrhages. ¹								

For minimum recommended brain regions to be sampled and evaluated, see Table 1 in Montine et al., 2012¹.

a.	Old infarcts observed grossly, including lacunes?
	(CHECK ONE)

- □ 1 Yes (COMPLETE QUESTIONS 12a1-12a4)
- 8 Not assessed (SKIP TO QUESTION 12b)

□ 0 No (SKIP TO QUESTION 12b)

9 Missing/unknown (SKIP TO QUESTION 12b)

¹Montine TJ, Phelps CH, Beach TG, et al. National Institute on Aging-Alzheimer's Association guidelines for the neuropathologic assessment of Alzheimer's disease: a practical approach. *Acta Neuropathol.* Jan 2012;123(1):1-11.

NOTE: Number column cannot be left blank if Question 12a=Yes. Size of infarct columns should be left blank if not applicable. **Not assessed = 88 Missing = 99**

Location of old infarcts	Number	Size of largest (greatest dimension in cm)	Size of next (greatest dimension in cm)	Size of next (greatest dimension in cm)					
1. Cerebral cortex			· ·	·					
Number:	Indicate the total number of old gross infarcts seen within any region of cerebral cortex (including neocortical or limbic).								
Size of largest:	Indicate the greatest dimension of the largest of the cortical infarcts in centimeters.								
Size of next largest:	e	Indicate the greatest dimension of the next largest cortical infarct in centimeters.							
Size of next largest:	Indicate the g	reatest dimension of t	he next largest cortic	al infarct.					
2. Subcortical cerebral white matter and peri- ventricular white matter		· ·							
Number:	Indicate the total number of old gross infarcts seen within hemispheric white matter.								
Size of largest:	Indicate the g centimeters.	Indicate the greatest dimension of the largest of the white matter infarcts in centimeters.							
Size of next largest:	Indicate the greatest dimension of the next largest white matter infarct in centimeters.								
Size of next largest:	Indicate the g	reatest dimension of t	he next largest white	matter infarct.					
3. Deep cerebral gray matter or internal capsule		··		· ·					
Number:		otal number of old gro r internal capsule.	oss infarcts seen with	in deep cerebral					
Size of largest:	U	reatest dimension of t rnal capsule infarcts i	U 1	cerebral gray					
Size of next largest:	•	reatest dimension of t psule infarct in centim		cerebral gray matter					
Size of next largest:	Indicate the g or internal cap	reatest dimension of t psule infarct.	he next largest deep o	cerebral gray matter					
4. Brainstem or cerebellum									
Number:	Indicate the to cerebellum.	otal number of old gro	oss infarcts seen with	in brainstem or					
Size of largest:	Indicate the g infarcts in cer	reatest dimension of t ntimeters.	he largest of the brain	nstem or cerebellum					
Size of next largest:	Indicate the g infarct in cent	reatest dimension of t timeters.	he next largest brains	stem or cerebellum					
Size of next largest:	Indicate the g infarct.	reatest dimension of t	he next largest brains	stem or cerebellum					
NOTE: For large cortical infarcts t infarcts that include both white m									

For Questions 12a1–12a4:

Enter **88** under the **Number** column if infarcts were not assessed for the region in question. Enter **99** if infarcts were assessed but the information cannot be found.

If the infarct number is zero for a particular region (e.g., cerebral cortex), no further information needs to be entered in that particular row. If the infarct number is ≥ 1 , the **Size of largest** column must be completed. If the infarct number is ≥ 2 , the first **Size of next** column must also be completed. If infarct number is ≥ 3 , all columns in that row must be filled out.

If old infarcts were counted but the size was not assessed, enter **88.8** in the appropriate column. If an infarct was counted and size was assessed, but the information on infarct size cannot be found, enter **99.9** in the appropriate column(s).

b.	Were single or multiple old hemorrhages	□ o No (SKIP TO QUESTION 12c)
	observed grossly?	I Yes (COMPLETE QUESTIONS 12b1–12b3)
		8 Not assessed (SKIP TO QUESTION 12c)
		9 Missing/unknown (SKIP TO QUESTION 12c)

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- Include only old gross nonpetechial hemorrhages. (Acute/subacute gross hemorrhages are assessed in Question 12g5.)
- Do not include microbleeds that are petechial or microscopic hemorrhages often seen on imaging (microbleeds are assessed in Question 12d).

For Question 12b:

- Enter **1=Yes** if at least one old hemorrhage was observed grossly regardless of region and complete Questions 12b1–12b3.
- Enter 0=No if old hemorrhages were not observed grossly in the regions examined and skip to Question 12c.
- Enter 8=Not assessed if old gross hemorrhages were not assessed and skip to Question 12c.
- Enter **9=Missing/unknown** if old gross hemorrhages were assessed but the data cannot be found and skip to Question 12c.

(CHEC	K ONE BOX PER ROW)	No	Yes	Not assessed	Missing/ unknown
1.	Subdural or epidural hemorrhage	0 o	1	8	9
2.	Primary parenchymal hemorrhage Include those >5mm. If \leq 5mm, include as microbleed; see Question 12d.	0 o	1	8	9
3.	Secondary parenchymal hemorrhage (e.g., tumor, vascular malformation)	0 o	1	8	9

For Questions 12b1–12b3:

Enter 8=Not assessed if old hemorrhages were not observed grossly for the region in question.

Enter **9=Missing/unknown** if old hemorrhages were assessed grossly for the region in question but the data cannot be found.

c.	Old microinfarcts (not observed grossly)?	□ o No (SKIP TO QUESTION 12d)
	(CHECK ONE)	1 Yes (COMPLETE QUESTIONS 12c1-12c4)
		8 Not assessed (SKIP TO QUESTION 12d)
		9 Missing/unknown (SKIP TO QUESTION 12d)

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- Include only old microinfarcts, which include old infarcts that are not seen grossly but are seen by microscopy.
- Do not include acute/subacute microinfarcts. (Acute/subacute microinfarcts are assessed in Question 12g4.)
- Indicate for each region if one old microinfarct, two old microinfarcts, or three or more old microinfarcts were observed.

For Question 12c:

Enter **1=Yes** if at least one microinfarct was observed regardless of region and complete Questions 12c1–12c4. Enter **0=No** if old microinfarcts were not observed in the regions examined, and skip to Question 12d. Enter **8=Not assessed** if old microinfarcts were not assessed, and skip to Question 12d.

Enter 9=Missing/unknown if old microinfarcts were assessed but the data cannot be found, and skip to Question 12d.

(OLD MICROINFARCTS — CHECK ONE BOX PER ROW)	0	1	2	3 or more	Not assessed	Missing/ unknown
1. Number in screening sections of cerebral cortex (gray matter of cerebral cortex)	0		2	3	8	9
2. Number in screening sections of subcortical white matter and periventricular white matter	0		2	3	8	9
3. Number in screening sections of subcortical gray matter	0 o		2	3	8	9
4. Number in brainstem and cerebellum	0		2	3	8	9

For Questions 12c1–12c4:

Enter 8=Not assessed if the number of microinfarcts were not assessed for the region in question.

Enter **9=Missing/unknown** if the number of microinfarcts were assessed for the region but the data cannot be found.

d. Old cerebral microbleeds?	□ o No (SKIP TO QUESTION 12e)
	□ 1 Yes (COMPLETE QUESTIONS 12d1-12d4)
Include old hemorrhages that are \leq 5mm.	8 Not assessed (SKIP TO QUESTION 12e)
	9 Missing/unknown (SKIP TO QUESTION 12e)

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- Include only old microbleeds old petechial or microscopic hemorrhages seen by microscopy and that may not be seen grossly.
- Do not include acute or subacute microbleeds. (Acute/subacute microhemmorhages are assessed in Question 12g6.)
- Indicate for each region if one old microbleed, two old microbleeds, or three or more microbleeds were observed.

For Question 12d:

Enter **1=Yes** if at least one old microbleed was observed regardless of region and complete Questions 12d1-12d4. Enter **0=No** if microbleeds were not observed, and skip to Question 12e.

Enter 8=Not assessed if old microbleeds were not assessed, and skip to Question 12e.

Enter 9=Missing/unknown if old microbleeds were assessed but the data cannot be found, and skip to Question 12e.

(OLD MICROBLEEDS — CHECK ONE BOX PER ROW)	0	1	2	3 or more	Not assessed	Missing/ unknown
1. Number in screening sections of cerebral cortex	Пo	1	2	3	8	9
2. Number in screening sections of subcortical white matter and periventricular white matter	0 o	1	2	3	8	9
3. Number in screening sections of subcortical gray matter	0	1	2	3	8	9
4. Number in brainstem and cerebellum	0 o		2	3	8	9

For Questions 12d1–12d4:

Enter 8=Not assessed if microbleeds were not assessed for the region in question.

Enter **9=Missing/unknown** if microbleeds were assessed for the region but the data cannot be found.

(CHECK ONE BOX PER ROW)	None	Mild	Moderate	Severe	Not assessed	Missing/ unknown
e. Arteriolosclerosis? (CHECK ONE) (Assessed in subcortical white or gray matter)	0	1	2	3	8	9

Judge arteriolosclerosis on a global scale of none, mild, moderate or severe. Arteriolosclerosis is concentric hyaline thickening of the media of arterioles. Intimal fibrosis may also accompany this change. The term "lipo-hyalinosis" is sometimes used to refer to the same pathologic change. It is seen in aging and associated with vascular risk factors such as hypertension and diabetes. Do not include arterioles thickened secondary to CAA.

For Question 12e:

Enter **8=Not assessed** if the pathology was not assessed.

Enter 9=Missing/unknown if the pathology in question was assessed but the data cannot be found.

f.	White matter rarefaction? (CHECK ONE) (H&E or myelin stain may be used)	0 o	□ 1	2	3	8	9
	Judge white matter pallor in the centrum semiovale moderate, or severe. This category refers to both mu For Question 12f: Enter 8=Not assessed if the pathology was not asse Enter 9=Missing/unknown if the pathology in ques	ıltifocal a ssed.	nd diffuse	white matte	er pathology		
g.	Other pathologic changes related to ischemic or vascular disease not previously specified?		1 Yes	(COMPLE assessed	QUESTION TE QUEST (SKIP TO (own (SKIP	IONS 12g1 QUESTION	13)
E E	For Question 12g: Enter 0=No if no other ischemic/vascular disease was the Enter 1=Yes if other ischemic or vascular disease was of Enter 8=Not assessed for Question 12g if other ischem Enter 9=Missing/unknown if other ischemic and vasc	bserved a nic and va	scular dise	ease was not	t assessed.		-

(CHE(CK ONE BOX PER ROW)	No	Yes	Not assessed	Missin unknov
1.	Laminar necrosis	0		8	
	Laminar necrosis is the linear severe degeneration of the cort to ischemia (especially layers 3 and 5). The degeneration is ty appears to have a line of necrosis.			•	
2.	Acute neuronal necrosis	0	1	8	
	Red neurons in one or more selectively vulnerable regions (su purkinje cell layer or cortical mantle, suggesting global hypox		r of the hip	pocampus,	
3.	Acute/subacute gross infarcts	ο	1	8	g
4.	Acute/subacute microinfarcts	0	1	8	g
5.	Acute/subacute gross hemorrhage	0		8	g
6.	Acute/subacute microhemorrhage	0	\Box_1	8	g
7.	Vascular malformation of any type	0	\Box_1	8	g
8.	Aneurysm of any type	0	\Box_1	8	g
9.	Vasculitis of any type	0		8	g
10.	CADASIL	0	\Box_1	8	g
11.	Mineralization of blood vessels	O	\Box_1	8	
	Brain mineralization of blood vessels includes Fahr's disease, I ganglia calcification.	Fahr's syndrome	, and idiopa	athic basal	
12.	Other (SPECIFY):	Пo			
	 For Question 12g12: Enter 0=No if no other ischemic/vascular disease was observ Questions 12g1-12g11. Enter 1=Yes if another ischemic/vascular disease was observe 12g1-12g11; if Yes is selected, a value must be written 	ed beyond those	assessed ir		
	estions 12g1–12g11: =Not assessed if the pathology was not assessed.				

13.	LEWY BODY PATHOLOGY (as d clinical presentation.	etermined by alpha-synuclein IHC). This score is independent of the					
	For minimum recommended brain regions to be sampled and evaluated, see Table 1 in Montine et al., 2012 ¹ .						
	Is there evidence of Lewy body pathology?						
	(CHECK ONE)	 I Brainstem predominant 2 Limbic (transitional) 3 Neocortical (diffuse) 4 Amygdala predominant 5 Olfactory bulb 8 Not assessed 9 Missing/unknown 					
	 eosin (H&E) in brainstem and w chemistry for LBs in brainstem, Immunohistochemistry for alph and midbrain with H&E-stained Abnormal neuropil and neurona not be apparent by H&E, and in CLASSIFICATION 	ontine et al. (2012) ¹ : r tiered evaluation: screen for LBs with immunohistochemistry or hematoxylin and with immunohistochemistry in amygdala. If positive, then expand immunohisto- limbic, and neocortical regions. ha-synuclein is strongly preferred. LBs may be detected in neurons of medulla, pons, d sections; however, greater sensitivity can be achieved with immunohistochemistry. al cytoplasmic α-synuclein immunoreactivity are usually present with LBs but will some instances, these changes occur in the absence of LBs. s modified from McKeith et al. (2005) ² :					
	0 = No LB pathology:	No LBs or related changes in α -synuclein immunohistochemistry					
	1 = Brainstem predominant:	LBs in medulla, pons, or midbrain					
	2 = Limbic (transitional):	LBs in cingulate or entorhinal cortices, usually with brainstem involvement					
	3 = Neocortical (diffuse):	LBs in frontal, temporal, or parietal cortices, usually with involvement of brainstem and limbic sites, which may include amygdala					
	4 = Amygdala predominant:	LBs in amygdala with paucity of LBs in the above regions					

For Question 13:

Enter **8=Not assessed** if Lewy body pathology was not assessed.

Enter **9=Missing/unknown** if Lewy body pathology was assessed but the data cannot be found.

¹Montine TJ, Phelps CH, Beach TG, et al. National Institute on Aging-Alzheimer's Association guidelines for the neuropathologic assessment of Alzheimer's disease: a practical approach. *Acta Neuropathol.* Jan 2012;123(1):1-11.

²McKeith IG, Dickson DW, Lowe J, et al. Diagnosis and management of dementia with Lewy bodies: third report of the DLB Consortium. *Neurology.* Dec 2005;65(12):1863-1872.

14.	NEURON LOSS IN THE SUBSTANTIA NIGRA (CHECK ONE)
	🗆 1 Mild
	2 Moderate
	□ 3 Severe
	8 Not assessed
	9 Missing/unknown
15.	HIPPOCAMPAL SCLEROSIS (CA1 and/or subiculum) (CHECK ONE)
	For minimum recommended brain regions to be sampled and evaluated, see Table 1 in Montine et al., 2012 ¹ .
	1 Unilateral
	2 Bilateral
	□ 3 Present but laterality not assessed
	8 Not assessed
	🗌 9 Missing/unknown
	Include cases with severe neuronal loss and gliosis in CA1 and/or subiculum.
	For Questions 14 and 15:
	Enter 8=Not assessed if the pathology in question was not assessed.
	Enter 9=Missing/unknown if the pathology was assessed but the data cannot be found.

¹Montine TJ, Phelps CH, Beach TG, et al. National Institute on Aging-Alzheimer's Association guidelines for the neuropathologic assessment of Alzheimer's disease: a practical approach. *Acta Neuropathol.* Jan 2012;123(1):1-11.

16. DISTRIBUTION OF TDP-43 IMMUNOREACTIVE INCLUSIONS

Include any TDP-43-immunoreactive inclusion: neuronal cytoplasmic inclusion (NCI), neuronal intra nuclear inclusion (NII), dystrophic neurite (DN), and glial cytoplasmic inclusion (GCI). The GCI of FTLD-TDP are distinct from the GCI of MSA, which are alpha-synuclein positive but TDP-43 negative. Neuronal cytoplasmic inclusions may take variable forms: globose and skein-like; the latter is most frequently found in FTLD-MND and ALS/MND. Different patterns of TDP-43-immunoreactive inclusions may be associated with different genotypes (*GRN, VCP, TARDBP, C9orf72*) and sporadic cases with variable clinical phenotypes, but subtyping is not recommended for routine neuropathologic assessment.

Cairns et al. (2007)¹



The figure at left shows the spectrum of TDP-43 pathology in FTLD-TDP. Adjacent sections of superficial frontal neocortex showing NCIs, DNs, and isolated NIIs, stained for both ubiquitin (A) and TDP-43 (B). NCIs in the dentate granule cells stained for ubiquitin (C) and TDP-43 (D). Neuronal and glial inclusions include NCIs (E), round and lentiform NIIs (F and G); skein-like (H) and compact round (I) NCIs in lower motor neurons; and a glial cytoplasmic inclusion (J). Low-power micrograph showing numerous DNs in the hip-pocampus CA1 subfield (K). High-power micrograph showing a tortuous DN in a case of FTLD-U, subtype 1 (L). NCIs in the dentate fascia of a case of hippocampal sclerosis (M). A and C: Ubiquitin immunohistochemistry. B, D, E–M: TDP-43 immunohistochemistry. Bars: 10µm (A–D and K–M); 5µm (E–J).¹

NOTE: FTLD-TDP is addressed in Question 17c. ALS is addressed in Question 17d.

Region (CHECK ONE BOX PER ROW)		No	Yes	Not assessed	Missing/unknown
a.	Spinal cord	0	\Box_1	8	9
b.	Amygdala	Οo	1	8	9
c.	Hippocampus	0		8	9
d.	Entorhinal/inferior temporal cortex	0		8	9
e.	Neocortex	0	1	8	9

For Questions 16a–16e:

Enter **8=Not assessed** if TDP-43 immunoractive inclusions were not assessed for the region in question. Enter **9=Missing/unknown** if TDP-43 inclusions were assessed for that region but the data cannot be found.

¹From *Am J Pathol*. Jul 2007:171(1), Cairns NJ, Neumann M, Bigio EH, et al. TDP-43 in familial and sporadic frontotemporal lobar degeneration with ubiquitin inclusions, pages 227-240, Copyright © 2007, reprinted with permission of Elsevier and author.

Evaluatio	TEMPORAL LOBAR DEGENERATION AND C on should follow published guidelines. For de subtypes, see the Coding Guidebook for the	etails of s	specific d	iagnoses and a classif	ication diagram	
For minimu	im recommended brain regions to be sampled ar	nd evaluated, see Table 1 in Montine et al., 2012 ⁸ .				
a. FTLD with tau pathology (FTLD-tau) or other tauopathy (CHECK ONE)			 O NO (SKIP TO QUESTION 17c) 1 Yes (COMPLETE QUESTIONS 17b1 – 17b10) 8 Not assessed (SKIP TO QUESTION 17c) 9 Missing/unknown (SKIP TO QUESTION 17c) 			
Question 17c Enter 8=Not	a 17a, enter 0=No if no FTLD tau pathology/other; enter 1=Yes if any FTLD tau pathology/other t assessed if FTLD tau pathology/other tauopathy FTLD tau pathology/other tauopathy was assessed	auopathy v was not	was ident evaluated	ified, and complete Que , and skip to Question 1	estions 17b1–17b10. 7c; enter 9=Missing /	
b. FTL	.D-tau subtype ¹⁻⁷					
(CHE	ECK ONE BOX PER ROW)	No	Yes	Not assessed	Missing/unknown	
1	. FTLD-tau (PiD)	0	\Box_1	8	9	
2	2. Other 3R tauopathy (Includes <i>MAPT</i> mutation tauopathy)	Do		8	9	
3	3. FTLD-tau (CBD)			8	9	
4	I. FTLD-tau (PSP)			8	9	
5	5. Argyrophilic grains	Πo		8	9	
6	5. Other 4R tauopathy (Includes sporadic multiple systems tauopathy, globular glial tauopathy, <i>MAPT</i> mutation tauopathy)	ο	1	8	9	
7	7. Chronic traumatic encephalopathy		\Box_1	8	9	
8	 Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS)/ Parkinsonism-dementia complex of Guam 	0		8	9	
9	9. Tangle dominant disease	0		8	9	
10	 Other 3R + 4R tauopathy (Includes unclassifiable, focal, glial only, MAPT mutation tauopathy, NOS) 	Do	1	8	9	

For Questions 17b1–17b10, enter **8=Not assessed** if the particular FTLD-tau subtype was not assessed; enter **9=Missing**/ **unknown** if the particular FTLD-tau subtype was assessed but the data cannot be found.

¹Cairns NJ, Neumann M, Bigio EH, et al. TDP-43 in familial and sporadic frontotemporal lobar degeneration with ubiquitin inclusions. *Am J Pathol.* Jul 2007;171(1):227-240.

²Dickson DW. Pick's disease: a modern approach. *Brain Pathol.* Apr 1998;8(2):339-354.

³Dickson DW, Bergeron C, Chin SS, et al. Office of Rare Diseases neuropathologic criteria for corticobasal degeneration. *J Neuropathol Exp Neurol.* Nov 2002;61(11):935-946.

⁴Dickson DW. Neuropathologic differentiation of progressive supranuclear palsy and corticobasal degeneration. *J Neurol.* Sep 1999;246 Suppl 2:II6-15.

⁵Bigio EH, Lipton AM, Yen SH, et al. Frontal lobe dementia with novel tauopathy: sporadic multiple system tauopathy with dementia. *J Neuropathol Exp Neurol*. Apr 2001;60(4):328-341.

⁶Kovacs GG, Majtenyi K, Spina S, et al. White matter tauopathy with globular glial inclusions: a distinct sporadic frontotemporal lobar degeneration. *J Neuropathol Exp Neurol*. Oct 2008;67(10):963-975.

⁷McKee AC, Stein TD, Nowinski CJ, et al. The spectrum of disease in chronic traumatic encephalopathy. *Brain.* Jan 2013;136(Pt 1):43-64. ⁸Montine TJ, Phelps CH, Beach TG, et al. National Institute on Aging-Alzheimer's Association guidelines for the neuropathologic assessment of Alzheimer's disease: a practical approach. *Acta Neuropathol.* Jan 2012;123(1):1-11.

c. FTLD with TDP-43 pathology (FTLD-TDP) ¹ ? (CHECK ONE)	 O No 1 Yes 8 Not assessed 9 Missing/unknown
For Question 17c: Enter 8=Not assessed if FTLD-TDP was not assessed. Enter 9=Missing/unknown if FTLD-TDP was assessed	d but the data cannot be found.
d. ALS/motor neuron disease (MND) present? (CHECK ONE)	 0 No 1 Yes, with TDP-43 inclusions in motor neurons 2 Yes, with FUS inclusions in motor neurons 3 Yes, with SOD1 inclusions in motor neurons 4 Yes, with other inclusions 5 Yes, with no specific inclusions 8 Not assessed 9 Missing/unknown
For Question 17d: Enter 8=Not assessed if ALS/MND was not assessed. Enter 9=Missing/unknown if ALS/MND was assessed	but the data cannot be found.
e. Other FTLD? (CHECK ONE)	 O No (SKIP TO QUESTION 18a) 1 Yes (COMPLETE QUESTIONS 17f1 – 17f5) 8 Not assessed (SKIP TO QUESTION 18a) 9 Missing/unknown (SKIP TO QUESTION 18a)
For Question 17e: Enter 0=No if no FTLD subtypes in addition to those a Question 18a. Enter 1=Yes if any other FTLD subtype was identified, Enter 8=Not assessed if FTLD subtypes in addition to to Question 18a. Enter 9=Missing/unknown if other FTLD subtypes we Question 18a.	and complete Questions 17f1 – 17f5. those already specified in 17b–d were not evaluated, and skip

¹Cairns NJ, Neumann M, Bigio EH, et al. TDP-43 in familial and sporadic frontotemporal lobar degeneration with ubiquitin inclusions. *Am J Pathol.* Jul 2007;171(1):227-240.

f.	Other FTLD subtype			Net	Missiant
	(CHECK ONE BOX PER ROW)	No	Yes	Not assessed	Missing/ unknown
	FTLD-FUS ^{1, 2}				
	1. Atypical FTLD-U (aFTLD-U)	0		8	9
	2. NIFID (neuronal intermediate filament inclusions disease)	0	1	8	9
	3. BIBD (basophilic inclusion body disease)	0		8	9
	FTLD other				
	 FTLD-UPS (ubiquitin-proteasome system [ubiquitin or p62 positive, tau/TDP-43/FUS negative inclusions]) 	0		8	9
	 FTLD-NOS (includes dementia lacking distinctive histology (DLDH) and FTLD with no inclusions (FTLD-NI) detected by tau, TDP-43, or ubiquitin/p62 IHC) 	0	1	8	9
	typical FTLD-U, NIFID, and BIBD contain inclusion bodies that are imm		-	protein and co	ollec-
ti	vely are called FTLD-FUS. Additional proteins may also be present in the	inclusion t	oodies.		
	or Questions 17f1–17f5:				
	nter 8=Not assessed if the particular FTLD subtype was not assessed. nter 9=Missing/unknown i f the particular FTLD subtype was assessed bu		(1)	1	

¹Mackenzie IR, Munoz DG, Kusaka H, et al. Distinct pathological subtypes of FTLD-FUS. Acta Neuropathol. Feb 2011;121(2):207-218.

²Mackenzie IR, Neumann M, Bigio EH, et al. Nomenclature and nosology for neuropathologic subtypes of frontotemporal lobar degeneration: an update. *Acta Neuropathol.* Jan 2010;119(1):1-4.



This figure describes a classification of frontotemporal lobar degeneration (FTLD) entities and other tauopathies. Three distinct neuropathologic categories may be identified based on the molecular pathology of the misfolded protein within the inclusion: FTLD-Tau, FTLD-TDP, and FTLD-FUS. The molecular pathology of a rare fourth category, FTLD with epitopes of the ubiquitin-proteasome system (FTLD-UPS), remains indeterminate. A now rare fifth category, FTLD-NOS, contains dementia lacking distinctive histology (DLDH) and FTLD with no inclusions (FTLD-NI) detected by tau, TDP-43, FUS, or ubiquitin/p62 IHC. FTLD-Tau may be categorized by IHC morphologically and/or according to the predominant tau isoform within the inclusion (3 or 4 microtubule-binding domains/repeats - 3R, 4R, or 3R/4R tau). FTLD-Tau (3R) includes Pick's disease (PICK) and FTLD with microtubule-associated protein tau (MAPT) mutation with inclusions of 3R tau protein. FTLD-Tau (4R) encompasses: corticobasal degeneration (CBD), progressive supranuclear palsy (PSP), globular glial tauopathy (GGT), argyrophilic grain disease (AGD), and FTLD with MAPT mutation with inclusions of 4R tau protein. FTLD-Tau (3R/4R) and other tauopathies include: tangle dominant disease, chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE), amyotrophic lateral sclerosis/ parkinsonism-dementia complex (ALS/PDC) of Guam, and FTLD with MAPT mutation with inclusions of both 3R and 4R tau protein. FTLD-TDP is neuropathologically and genetically heterogeneous; it encompasses sporadic FTLD-TDP with and without motor neuron disease (MND), FTLD with progranulin (GRN) mutation; FTLD with TAR DNA-binding protein 43 (TARDBP) mutation; FTLD with valosin-containing protein (VCP) mutation, and FTLD with C9orf72 intronic hexanucleotide repeat expansion. FTLD with fused in sarcoma (FUS) inclusions include: neuronal intermediate filament inclusion disease (NIFID), atypical FTLD with ubiquitin inclusions (aFTLD-U), basophilic inclusion body disease (BIBD), and rare cases of FTLD with FUS mutation. FTLD with inclusions containing epitopes of the proteasome-ubiquitin system include FTLD with charged multivesicular body protein 2B (CHMP2B) mutation. Within each molecular pathology there may be unclassified entities.

NOTES

* MND may be present in cases with TARDBP, VCP, and C9orf72 mutations.
FTLD and MND may be present with SOD1 mutation.
TDP-43 may be a comorbidity in CTE and other molecular pathologies.
FTLD-TDP may be subdivided into subtypes based on the morphology and distribution of inclusions but this is only recommended in a research setting.
Gene status, if known, may be entered in Question 18q.

18. OTHER PATHOLOGIC DIAGNOSES

(CH	CK ONE BOX PER ROW)	No	Yes	Not assessed	Missing/ unknown
a.	Pigment-spheroid degeneration/NBIA	0	\Box_1	8	9
b.	Multiple system atrophy	0	\Box_1	8	9
с.	Prion disease	O	\Box_1	8	9
d.	Trinucleotide disease (Huntington disease, SCA, other)	O	\Box_1	8	9
e.	Malformation of cortical development	0	\Box_1	8	9
f.	Metabolic/storage disorder of any type	0 o		8	9
g.	WM disease, leukodystrophy	0 o		8	9
h.	WM disease, multiple sclerosis or other demyelinating disease	0 o	\Box_1	8	9
i.	Contusion/traumatic brain injury of any type, acute	0 o	\Box_1	8	9
j.	Contusion/traumatic brain injury of any type, chronic	0 o		8	9
k.	Neoplasm, primary	0 o	\Box_1	8	9
١.	Neoplasm, metastatic	О	\Box_1	8	9
m.	Infectious process of any type (encephalitis, abscess, etc.)	0 o	\Box_1	8	9
n.	Herniation, any site	0 o	\Box_1	8	9
0.	Trisomy 21/Down syndrome	0 o	\Box_1	8	9
p.	AD-related genes (dominantly inherited); do not include APOE or other polymorphisms or genetic risk factors.	0	□ 1	8	9
q.	FTLD-related genes (dominantly inherited); do not include polymorphisms or genetic risk factors.	0	1	8	9
r.	Other (SPECIFY):	0			
s.	Other (SPECIFY):	0	\Box_1		
t.	Other (SPECIFY):	0 o	1		

For Questions 18a-18q:

Enter 8=Not assessed if the particular pathologic diagnosis or mutation was not assessed.

Enter **9=Missing/unknown** if the particular pathologic diagnosis or mutation was assessed but the data cannot be found.

Enter any other pathologic diagnoses not collected elsewhere on the NP form by selecting 1=Yes for Question 18r (and Questions 18s and 18t, if applicable). If 1=Yes is selected, specify the diagnosis. If no other pathologic diagnoses were noted, select 0=No for Questions 18r–18t.

19. **BANKED BIOSPECIMENS.** Use this section to record information related to the storage and accessibility of brain, blood, plasma, serum, DNA, and CSF.

Indicate which of the following specimens are available in the Neuropathology Core at your Center, understanding that some of these biospecimens also may be banked in other Cores.

	No	Yes	Missing/ unknown
a. Banked frozen brain or half brain	0	1	9
b. Banked frozen wedge of cerebellum or other sample for future DNA prep	0	1	9
c. Formalin- or paraformaldehyde-fixed brain	0		9
d. Paraffin-embedded blocks of brain regions	0	1	9
e. Banked postmortem CSF	0	1	9
f. Banked postmortem blood or serum	0		9
g. Banked DNA	0	1	9
	_	_	_
 h. Full autopsy performed? If unsure whether a full autopsy was performed, select 9=Missing/unknown. 	Do	1	9