

STATE OF COLORADO

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Dedicated to protecting and improving the health and environment of the people of Colorado

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Colorado Department
of Public Health
and Environment

University of Colorado Health Sciences Center Neurology Clinic Referral Criteria to Screen for Prion Disease

In a cooperative project with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center Neurology Clinic will accept patient referrals for evaluation of potential prion disease in patients with potential exposure to chronic wasting disease that meet the following criteria:

1. Patients with direct physical contact with deer or elk including, but not limited to, a history of hunting, processing game carcasses or regular consumption of deer or elk;
2. Fit one of the known symptom constellations of prion disease:
 - New onset psychiatric symptoms, peripheral neuropathy, progressive dementia
 - Severe insomnia, dysautonomia, myoclonus and later dementia
 - Progressive cerebellar syndrome, cognitive impairment
 - Progressive spastic paraparesis and cognitive impairment
 - Rapidly progressive dementia with myoclonus
3. Have had an initial evaluation by a physician;
4. Have had diagnostic studies including, but not limited to, MRI, standard laboratory studies, EEG, LP with 14-3-3 protein, as appropriate, prior to referral of the patient.

UCHSC neurologists will review records and discuss with the referring physician other patients whose clinical presentations are concerning for prion disease but who do not meet the above referral criteria.

For patient consultation or referral contact:

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