C.1.3 Memory failure in adults (Memory tests)

Component	Description
Review question	In people under 50 with suspected (or under investigation for) memory failure, what is the negative predictive value of neuropsychological assessments in ruling out organic memory failure?
Objectives	To evaluate the negative predictive value of neuropsychological assessment in ruling out organic memory failure in young patients suspected of early onset dementia
Study design	Cross-sectional studies, cohort studies, case series (including both retrospective and prospective analyses). Case–control studies will only be included if there is no other evidence, as they are biased.
Population	All people having a memory assessment including those with suspected (or under investigation for) memory failure, anxiety and depression, chronic fatigue syndrome, fibromyalgia and pain syndromes
Setting	Primary care
Index tests	• 6CIT test • 7-minute screen • ACE-3 questionnaire • GP-COG • Mini COG • Mini-mental exam
Reference standards	• Clinical examination • Specialist diagnosis of dementia
Statistical measures	Sensitivity and negative predictive value would be the most important outcomes as we are looking for tests that would rule out memory failure. However, the committee would also be interested in any of the following diagnostic accuracy measures: • 2×2 tables • repeatability (intra-tester reliability) • ROC curves and area under the curve • Specificity. If the data is available, the committee will be interested the difference in diagnostic accuracy of shorter tests compared to longer ones.
Other exclusions	None
Review strategy	As it is unlikely that papers will have an exact age cut-off of 50 years, papers with an age cut-off close to 50 may be considered after assessment of the directness of the population. Subgroups where diagnostic tests may be more or less accurate – to investigate heterogeneity: • language (where tests are administered to non-native language speakers) • learning disability Appraisal of methodological quality:

- The risk of bias of each study will be assessed using the QUADAS-2 checklist (per target condition).
- The overall quality of the evidence will be assessed using an adapted version of GRADE.

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Synthesis of data:
- diagnostic meta-analysis will be conducted where appropriate outcome data is available and can be pooled.