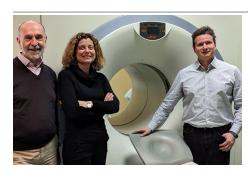


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APPLICATIONS

FROM GRAVITATIONAL WAVES TO CLINICAL ANALYSIS

A new study, which for data analysis exploited the tools usually used by fundamental physics, for example in the search for gravitational waves, has succeeded in confirming PET as an effective diagnostic

tool for dementia with Lewy bodies (DLB). Evidence of the utility of PET in highlighting the brain regions affected by DLB comes from research published in the American journal Annals of Neurology, conducted on the largest case series ever examined: 171 patients who underwent FDG-PET (PET with radioactive glucose). The study, which made use of the European DLB Consortium international research network, was conducted by researchers from the Policlinico San Martino and from the University of Genoa, who curated the collection and clinical interpretation of the data, and by INFN researchers who developed the methodology, using optimised tools borrowed from physics research, and then performed the analysis.