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The psychological well-being of patients with Parkinson's disease: health-related quality of life, living with the disease and coping

Thursday, 12 September 2024 10:50 (20 minutes)

BACKGROUND: Parkinson's disease (PD), the second most common neurodegenerative disorder can highly impair the health-related quality of life (HRQoL) via its motor and non-motor symptoms (NMS). Overall, mobility-related difficulties and subjective mood problems have the most powerful negative effect on the HRQoL.

OBJECTIVES: We aimed to investigate the HRQoL of patients with PD along new factors, taking a complex approach to the impact of motor and NMS on activities of daily living and on some factors of the psychological well-being.

METHODS: Our study is a cross-sectional survey of patients with PD, using a questionnaire procedure. Using clinical and disease-specific data in addition to our questionnaire battery including the 39-item Parkinson's Disease Questionnaire, the Coping Mode Preference Questionnaire, the Cognitive Emotion Regulation Questionnaire, the General Self-Efficacy Scale, the Health Empowerment Scale, the Brief Illness Perception Questionnaire, the Posttraumatic Growth Inventory, and the Fear of Falling Avoidance Behavior Questionnaire.

RESULTS: Thus far, we analyzed data of 15 patients (9 males, aged 69.5 ± 6.12 years), however, further data collection is ongoing. According to the present results, the longer the disease duration, the stronger the rumination and catastrophizing. Illness comprehensibility and personal control showed positive correlations with refocus on planning and positive reappraisal. Severity of fear of falling correlated negatively to posttraumatic growth and search for support coping mode.

CONCLUSION: This research has started investigating new aspects of PD that can have an important contribution to the psychological well-being of patients. We are performing further analyses along additional factors and patient inclusion is also ongoing.

Are you currently an Early Career Researcher?

Yes, I am still a student or have not yet received my Ph.D.

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