

IT IS POSSIBLE TO IDENTIFY PATIENTS AT RISK OF PARKINSON'S DISEASE

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Parkinson's disease is currently diagnosed, when the bradykinesia appears alongside at least, rest tremor, rigidity or postural instability. The clinical picture identified relatively late in the pathological process is caused by degeneration of dopaminergic neurons in the substantia nigra pars compacta and consequent denervation of the dorsal striatum. Identifying individuals at the earliest stages of disease would pave the way to prevent/delay progression to clinically manifest PD. The sequence and distribution of pathological changes in Parkinson's disease involve dopaminergic and non-dopaminergic cell dysfunction. The participation of non-dopaminergic cells, it is thought that they could play an important role in the development of the complex of non-motor symptoms, which commonly emerge many years before motor parkinsonism. In recent years, some soft motor signs have been identified non-systematically. So far, there is no test capable to identifying subjects, who could develop Parkinson's disease. We present some results of our cohort series, which includes non-motor and motor symptoms, in patients at risk of developing Parkinson's disease. A high percentage of patients included in the initial registry developed Parkinson's disease. Our results show that non-motor symptoms and early motor manifestations occur several years before the patient completes the criteria for the diagnosis of Parkinson's disease. The interest of this study is to demonstrate individuals with high prediagnostic risk and eventually testify with drug therapies, at the time when potentially more neuronal tissue would be better preserved.

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