Non-motor symptoms in Parkinson's Disease. Results from the COPPADIS Study Cohort

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Non-motor symptoms (NMS) are part of the wide clinical spectrum of Parkinson's disease (PD). In recent decades, several studies have shown that NMS are common, frequently under-reported and untreated and have a negative impact on the quality of life of patients with PD. It has also been reported that NMS could be influenced by gender. The aim of this study is to describe the prevalence of NMS in a group of PD patients without dementia compared to a control group. We used data from the baseline visit of the COPPADIS-2015 Study, an observational, descriptive, 5year follow-up, national, multicenter, evaluation study. The prevalence and burden of NMS were evaluated using the Non-Motor Symptoms Scale (NMSS), a scale that assess the frequency and intensity of 30 non-motor items grouped in 9 domains. 679 patients (mean age 62.6 ± 8.95, males 60.4%) and 206 controls (mean age 60.98 ± 8.4, males 49.8%) were included in the analysis. NMS were more prevalent in PD patients than controls (total prevalence: 99.3% vs 85%, p<0.0001) with higher mean number of affected domains (5.75 \pm 2.10 vs 3.18 \pm 2.19 (p<0.0001)) and NMS (11.28 ± 6.59 vs 4.93 ± 4.27 (p<0.0001)). PD patients had higher prevalence of NMS in all domains and also in all items except difficulty falling asleep and altered interest in sex. Fatigue (62.4%), nocturia (60.8%) and urinary urgency (60.5%) were the most common NMS in the PD group while nocturia (42.7%), difficulty falling asleep (33%) and altered interest in sex (32%) were the most frequent in the control group. Regarding the influence of gender in NMS, we did not find significant differences in the mean number of domains, NMS and total NMSS scores between males and females of the PD group. However, there were significant differences in the prevalence of some NMS. In the PD group, males had higher frequency of daytime sleepiness, drooling, nocturia and problems having sex and females had higher prevalence of fatigue, difficulty falling asleep, restless legs, anxiety, sadness, flat mood, altered interest in sex and excessive sweating.