

Parkinson's Disease: Not just TRAP

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Abstract

James Parkinson described Parkinson's Disease (PD) as a purely motor disorder of progressive stoop, shuffling of gait, tremors and slowness. Over the years some motor and non-motor problems faced by patients PD are being recognized. The main motor features of PD include resting tremor (T), cogwheel rigidity (R), akinesia or bradykinesia (A) and postural instability with gait disturbance (P). The acronym for these motor features can therefore be conveniently called as TRAP. The major problems faced by patients of PD are sleep, problems, neuropsychiatric problems, cognitive impairment, dysautonomia, sensory symptoms, motor fluctuations and dyskinesia and maintenance of balance. A systematic study of some of these problems provides an insight into the morbidity of PD patients which are beyond the symptoms encompassed by TRAP and affect quality of life.

Keywords: Parkinson's disease, resting tremor, cogwheel rigidity, akinesia, postural instability