

LECTURE PRESENTATION

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Sporadic Parkinsonism

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From de Senectute: Age and Health Forum
Catanzaro, Italy. 5-7 December 2009

Background

Differential diagnosis of parkinsonian syndrome is a major challenge in movement disorders because at the onset there is an overlapping of signs and symptoms. From a neuropathological point of view, parkinsonism may be related to a degeneration of the nigrostriatal pathway or the neurodegenerative process may be more widespread [1,2]. In the early course of the disease presenting with parkinsonian symptoms, differentiation between these disorders may be difficult, [3,4], but the clinical diagnostic criteria become more applicable during later stages. Motor symptoms (bradykinesia, tremor at rest, rigidity) may be associated to cognitive dysfunction. Sporadic parkinsonism may be distinguished in: Multiple system atrophy (MSA), Progressive supranuclear palsy (PSP), Corticobasal degeneration, and Lewy body dementia [3,5,6].

Published: 19 May 2010

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doi:10.1186/1471-2318-10-S1-L40

Cite this article as: Nicoletti: Sporadic Parkinsonism. *BMC Geriatrics* 2010 **10**(Suppl 1):L40.

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