PERFORMANCE OF THE Q10 QUESTIONNAIRE FOR DIAGNOSIS OF WEARING-OFF PHENOMENA IN PARKINSON’S DISEASE

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Introduction: The wearing-off phenomenon (WO) is easily recognizable when manifested as motor fluctuations but more difficult to identify when expressed through non-motor symptoms. Some questionnaires (Patient Questionnaire-32; Patient Card-19, WOK-9; QUICK Questionnaire-19) have been designed for WO detection (Stacy et al., 2005, 2007, 2008; Martinez-Martin et al., 2007, 2008).

Aims: To test the characteristics of a QUICK Questionnaire-Short version (Q10) as diagnostic instrument for WO.

Methods: Subjects: PD patients with ≤5 years from diagnosis, with WO (mild and moderate/severe) and patients without WO. PD historical data, Hoehn and Yahr staging (HY), clinical diagnosis (gold standard) and severity of WO, and Q10 were recorded.

Results: 162 patients, 67.4±9.74 years old, 51.85% males, disease duration 4.30±1.88 y. and 3.10±1.41 y. from diagnosis were included. Most of them (85%) were in HY stage 2 or 3. WO was present in 64.81% (33.33% mild; 31.48% moderate/severe). Q10 was completed in 6.60±4.90 minutes, with 1.23% missing data. With two positive responses the Q10 showed good sensitivity (90%) and moderate specificity (70%) and with 3 positive responses both values reached or surpassed an arbitrarily hypothesized 75% threshold (sensitivity: 81%; specificity: 75%).

Conclusions: The Q10 diagnostic performance was mildly lower than with the QUICK. Compared to the WOQ-9 (Stacy et al., 2008), the Q10 showed lower sensitivity (WOQ-9: 96.2%) but better specificity (WOQ-9: 41%). The Q10 may be considered a useful instrument for screening and diagnosis of WO.