COMMUNICATION AND MEMORY DISORDERS, IN GREEK PD AND PDD PATIENTS. A COMPARATIVE STUDY AND CORRELATION BETWEEN DIFFERENT ASSESSMENTS

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Introduction and aim: Communication and/or memory deficits are common in Parkinson (PD) or Parkinson’s Dementia (PDD) patients. Purpose of the current study is to copy those deficits in Greek PD and PDD patients, and to correlate those finding among the different assessments that were used.

Methods: All the 74 participants (control: 30, PD patients: 17 and PDD patients: 27) were administrated 7 scales: 1. Mini Mental State Examination (MMSE) 2. Abbreviated Mental Test Score (AMTS), 3. Clock Test, 4. Instrumental Activities of Daily Living (IADL), 5. Arizona Battery for Communication Disorders of Dementia (ABCD), 6. Neuropsychiatry Inventory (NPI) and 7. Geriatric Depression Scale (GDS).

Results: Statistical analyses of data of the Greek sample are consistent with results reported in the US population. Also statistically significant differences were found between controls and PD patients (t=2.497, df= 45, p=.05), controls and PDD patients (t=15.083, df=45, p=.000), and controls with pathological groups' (t= 6.760, df= 72, p= .000) in their overall performance. The correlation between the scales and the ABCD battery test was statistical significant.

Conclusions: In all subcategories assessed

1. Mental status,
2. Episodic Memory,
3. Linguistic Expression,
4. Linguistic comprehension and
5. Visuospatial Construction controls succeed clearly best performance in comparison for both PD and PDD patient's.

PD patients succeed better performance in comparison with PDD patients with biggest difference in linguistic expression and linguistic comprehension.