COGNITIVE PROFILE IN DIFFERENT CLINICAL SUBTYPES OF PARKINSON’S DISEASE: A 4-YEAR FOLLOW-UP

M. Guidi, L. Paciaroni, S. Paolini, B. Gobbi, O. Scarpino

Neurology, Ospedale Geriatrico INRCA, Ancona, Italy

Introduction: The aim of the present study was to analyze the cognitive profile and its modification in 22 patients affected with idiopathic Parkinson’s disease (PD) without dementia. The subjects were divided into different clinical subtypes: Tremor Dominant Type (TDT), Akinetic Rigid Type (ART) and Mixed Type (MXT).

They underwent a deep neuropsychological investigation at baseline (T0), exploring executive functioning, memory, language, visuo-construcational domain and depression. A follow up (T1) was performed after 4 years.

Results: ANOVA was applied at T0 and T1. We did not find significant differences between the three clinical subtypes on cognitive measures at baseline, whereas a higher level of depression in the TDT group was present.

The 4-year follow-up revealed differences among the three groups for what concerns the attention domain and the semantic verbal fluency, with the ART group performing worse than the others.

Conclusion: Similar cognitive profile was found for the three clinical subtypes at baseline except for TDT that showed an early mood disorder. This aspect may be explained by the social impact of tremor. With the progression of the disease the ART group showed a worse cognitive profile especially on attentive and language domains.