

International Conference on Parkinson's Disease & Movement Disorders

August 11-13, 2015 Frankfurt, Germany

Prevalence of Parkinson's disease in Egypt: A review of community-based survey

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Introduction: There are few community-based studies of Parkinson's disease (PD) from Arabic countries; 4 of them have been performed in Egypt. Such studies are more informative than hospital-based data in countries with a large rural population such as Egypt where people may not be able to come to hospital for treatment.

Material & Methods: A systematic search of Medline and Global Health for original population-based studies on Parkinson's disease was conducted. We found only 4 community-based studies that were done in different Egyptian governorates including, Assiut, Al Kharga, Al Quseir and Qena.

Results: Overall the recorded Crude Prevalence Rate (CPR) of Parkinson's disease in Egypt was varied in different governorates and ranged from 53 to 557/105 inhabitants (all ages) and the CPR of PD ranging from 213.15 to 2748/105 among the population aged >40 or >50 years. The crude incidence rate was ranging from 82-62/105 (all ages) with male to female ratio 4:1. The highest age-specific CPR was recorded among subjects >75 years old. The CPR showed a tendency to be higher in males than females and in industrial than non-industrial areas. There was a significantly higher CPR among illiterate than literate persons. About one quarter of patients had cognitive impairment (14.3-22.3%). All cases had positive symptoms in at least one or more NMS Domains.

Conclusion: The overall prevalence of PD disease is high in Nile Valley governorates of Upper Egypt compared to other Arabic countries.

Biography

Eman M Khedr has done her Post-Doctorate Training course in Neurophysiology in Gentoft Hospital, Copenhagen (Denmark) 1998 supervised by Professor Fredrekson; and a training course for diagnosis and management of Parkinson Disease Patients in Oregon University Hospital (Portland) 2000, supervised by Professor John Nutt. She achieved a Postdoctoral Fellowship to study methods of measuring cortical excitability in different diseases for 3 months in Sobell Department of Motor Neuroscience and Movement Disorders, National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery, Queen Square, London.

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