

THE EXCESSIVE DAYTIME SLEEPINESS AND “SLEEP ATTACKS” IN PARKINSON’S DISEASE

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Sleep disturbances represent a complex chapter of Parkinson’s disease (PD). Excessive daytime sleepiness represent a recent described aspect, controversial, in aetiologies of which are incriminated several factors. Sleepy patients could present “sleep attacks” with important clinical and therapeutically consequences.

The aim of this study was to determine the prevalence and characteristics of excessive daytime sleepiness and “sleep attacks” in a group of PD patients. We evaluated 47 consecutive PD patients. We utilized a sleep questionnaire, Epworth Sleepiness Scale, Unified Parkinson’s Disease Rating Scale.

Conclusions: excessive daytime sleepiness is encountered in high percentage of patients with Parkinson’s disease. “Sleep attacks” could appear on this background or independently. It is necessary each case to be evaluated separately.
