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Royal United Hospital Bath NHS
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Parkinson's Disease

Current Awareness Bulletin

February 2012

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Jason Ovens
Library & Knowledge Service Manager

Healthcare you can Trust

Recent References from Amed (a database for AHPs)

Title: How might physical activity benefit patients with Parkinson disease?

Citation: Nature Reviews Neuroscience, September 2011, vol./is. 7/9(528-34), 1759-4758;1759-4766 (2011 Sep)
Author(s): Speelman AD, van de Warrenburg BP, van Nimwegen M, Petzinger GM, Munneke M, Bloem BR

Abstract: Parkinson disease (PD) is a neurodegenerative disorder characterized by progressive motor and nonmotor impairments. These impairments incline many patients towards a sedentary lifestyle, which has many deleterious consequences. Accumulating evidence suggests that patients with PD might benefit from physical activity and exercise in a number of ways, from general improvements in health to disease-specific effects and, potentially, disease-modifying effects (suggested by animal data). Many issues remain to be addressed, including the need to perform clinical trials to demonstrate these presumed benefits of physical activity and exercise in patients with PD. These trials must also address safety issues, such as an increased risk of falls and cardiovascular complications in more-active patients. Identifying ways to induce a sustained behavioral change, using specifically tailored programs that address potential barriers such as depression, apathy and postural instability, may lead to an improved quality of life in individuals with PD.

Recent References from Cinahl (a worldwide database for nurses & AHPs)

Title: Perceptions of persons with Parkinson's disease, family and professionals on quality of life: an international focus group study.

Citation: Disability & Rehabilitation, 01 December 2011, vol./is. 33/25/26(2490-2508), 09638288
Author(s): Den Oudsten, Brenda L., Lucas-Carrasco, Ramona, Green, Ann M., Whoqol-Dis Group, The

Abstract: Purpose. Parkinson's disease (PD) is a progressive neurodegenerative disorder. Motor and non-motor symptoms have an impact on persons' lives. To what extent this is effecting persons' quality of life (QOL) is not clear. Therefore, the aim of this qualitative study was to identify factors that persons perceive as eminently important for QOL. Method. Focus groups were employed with persons with PD, caregivers and health professionals. Results. The results, obtained through thematic and conceptual qualitative analysis, largely support the framework of domains and facets of the World Health Organization Quality of Life (WHOQOL) assessment instrument. Three new themes were identified, reflecting (i) practical adaptations to PD, (ii) personal adaptations to PD and (iii) the ability to communicate and the availability of communication supports. Conclusion.

This study demonstrated that focus groups are a valid and reliable way of eliciting views on QOL from persons with PD, caregivers and professionals. The focus group method confirmed the original WHOQOL parameters and also provided some new QOL themes. In addition, the results of this study pointed out that the impact of PD on QOL goes beyond the physical, social and emotional domains of health-related QOL (HRQOL).

Title: Parkinson's disease (PD) in the elderly: An example of geriatric syndrome (GS)?

Citation: Archives of Gerontology & Geriatrics, 01 January 2012, vol./is. 54/1(242-246), 01674943

Author(s): Lauretani, Fulvio, Maggio, Marcello, Silvestrini, Claudio, Nardelli, Anna, Saccavini, Marsilio, Ceda, Gian Paolo

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Title: Feasibility of group voice therapy for individuals with Parkinson's disease.

Citation: Journal of Communication Disorders, 01 November 2011, vol./is. 44/6(719-732), 00219924
Author(s): Searl, Jeff, Wilson, Kristel, Haring, Karen, Dietsch, Angela, Lyons, Kelly, Pahwa, Rajesh

Recent References from Medline

Title: Deep brain stimulation for Parkinson's disease, essential tremor, and dystonia.
Citation: Disease-A-Month, October 2011, vol./is. 57/10(638-46), 0011-5029;1557-8194 (2011 Oct)

Author(s): Eller T

Title: Parkinson's disease and cancer: two wars, one front.

Citation: Nature Reviews. Cancer, November 2011, vol./is. 11/11(812-23), 1474-175X;1474-1768 (2011 Nov)
Author(s): Devine MJ, Plun-Favreau H, Wood NW

Abstract: Parkinson's disease is caused by the premature death of neurons in the midbrain. By contrast, cancer spawns from cells that refuse to die. We would therefore expect their pathogenic mechanisms to be very different. However, recent genetic studies and emerging functional work show that strikingly similar and overlapping pathways are involved in both diseases. We consider these areas of convergence and discuss how insights from one disease can inform us about, and possibly help us to treat, the other.

Title: Prevalence of malnutrition in Parkinson's disease: a systematic review.

Citation: Nutrition Reviews, September 2011, vol./is. 69/9(520-32), 0029-6643;1753-4887 (2011 Sep)
Author(s): Sheard JM, Ash S, Silburn PA, Kerr GK

Abstract: Parkinson's disease (PD) patients may be at higher risk of malnutrition because of the symptoms associated with the disease and the side effects of the medication used to manage it. A decline in nutritional status is associated with many adverse outcomes related to health and quality of life. It is not clear, however, to what extent this population is currently affected by malnutrition. The objective of this review was to systematically assess the methodology and outcomes of studies reporting the prevalence of malnutrition in PD patients. Studies that attempted to classify participants with PD into nutritional risk and/or malnutrition categories using body mass index, weight change, anthropometric measures, and nutritional screening and assessment scores were included. The prevalence of malnutrition ranged from 0% to 24% in PD patients, while 3-60% of PD patients were reported to be at risk of malnutrition. There was a large degree of variation among studies in the methods chosen, the definition of malnutrition using those methods, and the detail in which the methodological protocols were reported. The true extent of malnutrition in the PD population has yet to be accurately quantified. It is important, however, to screen for malnutrition at the time of PD diagnosis. Copyright 2011 International Life Sciences Institute.

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Sources Used
The following databases are searched on a regular basis in the development of this bulletin:

Amed
British Nursing Index
Cinahl
Medline