SLEEP DISTURBANCES IN PARKINSONISM

Thesis

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To ... My Family

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CONTENTS

	Page
Acknowledgments	
List of figures and tables	
Abbreviations	
INTRODUCTION AND AIM OF THE WORK	1
REVIEW OF LITERATURE	
Pathogensis of PD	3
PD and affective disorders	16
Cognitive fucntion in PD	23
Sleep in PD	31
Sleep in affective disorders	40
Sleep in dementia	51
Neuronal systems implicated in sleep generation	55
SUBJECTS AND METHODS	62
RESULTS	84
DISCUSSION	103
SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS	122
RECOMMENDATIONS	125
REFERENCES	127
APPENDIX	
ARABIC SUMMARY	

LIST OF TABLES

Tab. No.	Title	Page				
1	Dopamine, norepinephrine, serotonin, and homovanillic acid in	14				
•	PD brains (percent of normal levels)					
2	Characteristic of degrees in RD	15				
	Characteristic of depression in PD	18				
4	Sleep abnormalities in depression	44				
5	Theoretical models of the relationship between sleep and depression	50				
6	Normal values of sleep stages	73				
7	Number, age and sex distribution of both parkinsonian and control groups					
8	Cognitive dysfunction among parkinsonian patients	87				
9	Differences between parkinsonian patients with and without	90				
	sleep complaint as regard age, sex, duration of the disease and associated depression					
10	Severity of symptoms among parkinsonian patients with and without sleep complaint	91				
11	Differences between parkinsonian patients with and without sleep complaint as regard cognitive functions	93				
12	Differences between parkinsonian patients with and without depression as regard the cognitive functions using WMST	94				
13	Differences between parkinsonian patients with and without sleep complaint as regard treatment	95				
14	PSG features in PD and the control groups (depression and normals).	97				
15	Differences between parkinsonian patients with and without sleep complaints as regard the polysomnographic features	98				
16	Differences between non medicated PD (with and without depression) and non medicated depression as regard the	99				
17	polysomnographic features Differences between parkinsonian patients (with and without depression), depressed patients and normals as regard the	100				
18	polysomnographic features Effect of different treatment on polysomnographic features in cases of PD	102				
19	Polysomnographic features in PD (with and without depression)	109				

LIST OF FIGURES

Fig. No.	Title	Page
l	Basal nuclei and other brain structures involved in the pathology of PD	4
2,3	Neurotransmission within the corpus striatum	5,6
4	Major dopaminergic pathways of the brain	8
5	Factors that maintain the dynamic equilibrium of the upper reticular formation and the consequent level of sleepiness/wake fulness	58
6	Human sleep stages	79
7	Duration of the PD in years from onset to examination	85
8	Severity of the symptoms	86
9	Time relation between the development of sleep disturbance and the first parkinsonian symptom	89
10	Sleep stages in PD and the control groups (depression and normals)	96
I	Interrelations between sleep and extrapyramidal structures	116

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

PD Parkinson's Disease

SNc Pars compacta of the substantia nigra

LC Locus ceruleus

DA Dopamine

EEG Electroencephalography

BEAM Brain electrical activity mapping

Ach Acetyl choline

GABA Gamma-aminobutyric acid

Glu Glutamic acid

C.T. scan Computerized tomography scan
GPe External part of globus pallidus
GPi Internal part of globus pallidus
SNr Substania nigra pars reticulata

SN Substantia nigra

STN Subthalamic nucelus

ChAT Choline acetyl transferase

PET Positron emission tomography
5-HIAA 5-hydroxy indole acetic acid

VTA Ventral tegmental area

MMSE Mini-Mental state examination

SPECT Single phaton emission computerized tomography

SWS Slow wave sleep
REM Rapid eye movement
NREM Non rapid eye movement

HPA Hypothalamic-pituitary adrenal

SCN Suprachiasmatic nucleus

RF Reticular formation

5-HT Serotonin

MSH Melanocyte stimulating hormone

EOG Electrooculogram
EMG Electromyogram
CSF Cerebrospinal fluid
HVA Homovanillic acid

CRF Corticotropin-releasing factor WMST Wechsler memory scale test

PSG Polysomnography

Introduction and Aim of the work

INTRODUCTION

Although the day time phenomena of Parkinson's Disease (PD) have been well recognized for almost 200 years, the frequent nocturnal symptoms, which occur in up to 75 percent of patients, and the associated sleep abnormalities were not systematically studied until the 1960s (Aldrich, 1994).

Sleep related complaints are reported in patients with PD, with various presentations including difficulty in initiating sleep, poor interrupted sleep by night with excessive day somnolence, unrefreshing sleep and early morning awakening (Nausieda, 1987).

The hypotheses of the pathogenesis of sleep disturbance in parkinsonian patients are different, i.e. many factors interplay making a certain single pathogenic mechanism almost impossible. First, bradykinesia and rigidity may reduce the number of normal body shifts during sleep, leading to discomfort and increased frequency of awakenings (Mouret, 1975). Second, increased muscle tone of upper airway muscles can produce disordered breathing (Hardie et al., 1986). Third, periodic leg movements, tremors or medication - induced myoclonic movements can produce arousals (Nausieda, 1987).

Fourth systems responsible for sleep - wake regulation may be affected by the neurochemical changes of PD, resulting in sleep disruption (Aldrich, 1994). Fifth, the association between depression and PD was found to be approximately 25-40% with mild to moderate intensity, while that between dementia and PD was 8-10% (Okasha, 1988). All of these effects on sleep have implications for planning the treatment of PD.

AIM OF THE WORK:

To study the prevalence of different types of sleep disorders and sleep profile in parkinsonian patients.

We will also compare the profile of sleep pattern in PD and that of depression. In addition to evaluation of cognitive functions in PD, we will discuss the possible etiological factors of sleep disturbance in parkinsonian patients.

All the above for suitable strategy of management and better quality of life.

Zeview of Literature

Pathogenesis of PD

PD can be produced by several different pathologic processes involving the basal ganglia (Harding, 1993). In the past 20 years much progress has been made in identifying the anatomical connections and characterizing the regional neurochemistry of the basal ganglia (Fig. 1, 2, and 3).

The pathognomonic pathologic finding is loss of the large, pigmented neurons of the pars compacta of the substantia nigra (SNc). Loss of neurons has also been seen in other pigmented nuclei, including the locus ceruleus (LC) and dorsal vagus nucleus, and in the basal nucleus of Meynert. PD occurs when the number of dopamine (DA) neurons is reduced by more than 75% to 80% (McGeer et al., 1977; McDowell and Cedarbaum, 1992).

Patients with PD may also have diffuse cortical atrophy. Mohamed (1993) found that frontal and temporal cortex are affected as evidenced by neuropsychological tests, electroencephalography (EEG) and Brain Electrical Activity Mapping (BEAM).