

Neuropsychological differential diagnosis of parkinson's disease and other movement disorders

The aim of the presentation is to show a role of neuropsychological assessment in parkinson's disease and other motor disorders including corticobasal degeneration, multiple system atrophy, progressive supranuclear palsy

Neuropsychological diagnosis, assessment, and treatment are predicated on obtaining accurate information regarding the patient's optimal level of cognitive performance. First, psychological and social factors can reduce motivation, attention, or stamina, thus compromising performance. When this compromise occurs, various additional factors can complicate the differential diagnostic process, as the direct impact of neuropathology can become entangled with the influence of depression, anxiety, or personality changes on test performance. Some neurological or medical conditions can produce psychiatric symptoms as the first indication of the illness.

Finally, understanding the etiology and nature of psychosocial and emotional sequelae of neurological conditions is critical in the long-term management and treatment of neurobehavioral conditions. For example, the psychological and psychosocial aspects of neurological disease are often the most critical in predicting which individuals will cope with everyday life activities on satisfactory level of performance.