Factors associated with perceived walking difficulties in people with Parkinson’s disease

Kader, Manzur; Ullén, Susann; Iwarsson, Susanne; Odin, Per; Nilsson, Maria

Published in:
Movement Disorders

2017

Document Version:
Publisher’s PDF, also known as Version of record

Link to publication

Citation for published version (APA):

Creative Commons License:
Unspecified

General rights
Copyright and moral rights for the publications made accessible in the public portal are retained by the authors and/or other copyright owners and it is a condition of accessing publications that users recognise and abide by the legal requirements associated with these rights.

• Users may download and print one copy of any publication from the public portal for the purpose of private study or research.
• You may not further distribute the material or use it for any profit-making activity or commercial gain
• You may freely distribute the URL identifying the publication in the public portal

Take down policy
If you believe that this document breaches copyright please contact us providing details, and we will remove access to the work immediately and investigate your claim.
Factors associated with perceived walking difficulties in people with Parkinson’s disease

M. Kader, S. Ullén, S. Iwarsson, P. Odin, M. Nilsson (Lund, Sweden)

Meeting: 21st International Congress
Abstract Number: 1374
Keywords: Gait disorders: Clinical features, Motor control, Parkinsonism

Objective: To investigate factors that independently contribute to perceived walking difficulties in people with Parkinson’s disease (PD).

Background: Despite that walking difficulties are common in people with PD, there is limited knowledge regarding factors that independently contribute to their perceived walking difficulties in daily life.

Methods: The study included 243 persons (62% men) with PD; mean (min-max) age and PD duration were 70 (45-93) and 8 (1-43) years, respectively. A postal survey with self-administered questionnaires preceded a home visit which included observations, clinical tests and interviews. The dependent variable was perceived walking difficulties assessed with the self-administered generic Walk-12 (Walk-12G, scored 0-42; higher=worse). The independent variables included personal (e.g., age, general self-efficacy) and socio-environmental factors (e.g., social support, living situation) as well as disease-related factors including motor (e.g., freezing of gait (FOG), lower extremity functions) and non-motor symptoms (e.g., orthostatic hypotension, cognitive function). Each independent variable was examined with simple linear regression analyses, and variables with p-values <0.3 were then entered into a multivariable linear regression analysis model.

Results: The multivariable model identified eight (out of 15) significant independent variables, explaining 56.3% of the variance in perceived walking difficulties. The strongest contributing factor was FOG (25% of the variance), followed by general self-efficacy, fatigue, PD duration, lower extremity function, orthostatic hypotension, bradykinesia and postural instability.

Conclusions: Personal factors (i.e., general self-efficacy) as well as motor and non-motor symptoms (e.g. FOG, PD duration and fatigue) seem to be of importance when addressing perceived walking difficulties in people with PD. With such knowledge at hand, interventions addressing modifiable factors could be developed, ultimately enhancing walking ability in people with PD.

To cite this abstract in AMA style:
http://www.mdsabstracts.org/abstract/factors-associated-with-perceived-walking-difficulties-in-