

Phenomenology of Atypical Anxiety Disorders in Parkinson's Disease

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Clinical Review Article

Phenomenology of Atypical Anxiety Disorders in Parkinson's Disease: A Systematic Review

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ABSTRACT

Objective: Anxiety is a prominent concern in Parkinson's disease (PD) that negatively impacts quality of life, increases functional disability, and complicates clinical management. Atypical presentations of anxiety are under-recognized and inadequately treated in patients with PD, compromising global PD care. **Methods:** This systematic review focuses on the prevalence, symptomology and clinical correlates of atypical presentations of PD-related anxiety following PRISMA guidelines. **Results:** Of the 60 studies meeting inclusion criteria, 14 focused on 'Anxiety Not Otherwise Specified (NOS)' or equivalent, 31 reported on fluctuating anxiety symptoms, and 22 reported on 'Fear of Falling (FOF)'. Anxiety NOS accounted for a weighted mean prevalence of 14.9%, fluctuating anxiety for 34.19%, and FOF for 51.5%. These latter two exceeded the average reported overall prevalence rate of 31% for anxiety disorders in PD. We identified a diverse array of anxiety symptoms related to motor and non-motor symptoms of PD, to complications of PD medication (such as "on" and "off" fluctuations, or both), and, to a lesser extent, to cognitive symptoms. **Conclusion:** Atypical anxiety is common, clinically relevant, and heterogeneous in nature. A better understanding of the phenomenology, clinical course, and pathophysiology of varied forms of atypical anxiety in PD is needed to improve recognition, advance therapeutic development and ultimately optimize quality of life in PD. (Am J Geriatr Psychiatry 2022; 30:1026–1050)

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Highlights

- **What is the primary question addressed by this study?**

A systematic review was conducted to better define and describe the clinical presentation of atypical anxiety in Parkinson's disease in order to help improve recognition, advance therapeutic development and ultimately optimize routine PD care.

- **What is the main finding of this study?**

Across the 60 studies meeting inclusion criteria, estimates of atypical anxiety ranged from 15%–51%. We identified a diverse array of anxiety symptoms related to motor and non-motor symptoms of PD, to complications of PD medications (such as “on” and “off” fluctuations), and, to a lesser extent, to cognitive symptoms.

- **What is the meaning of the finding?**

Atypical anxiety is highly prevalent, clinically relevant, heterogeneous in nature, and a key target for intervention in multidisciplinary PD care.

INTRODUCTION

Anxiety is a prominent non-motor symptom in Parkinson's disease (PD) patients, with a global average prevalence of 31%.¹ The prevalence of anxiety in PD is three times higher than that in healthy adults of the same age and in patients with other neurological diseases.² On average, 13% of PD patients experience clinically significant anxiety that does not meet criteria for anxiety disorder as defined by the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual (DSM) of Mental Disorders and are typically classified as having unspecified anxiety according to the DSM criteria.³ This category was previously known as 'Anxiety disorder not otherwise specified' (NOS) in earlier versions of the DSM.

In order to obtain a more complete view of the spectrum of anxiety in PD, as well as to increase the recognition of significant anxiety in routine clinical practice, there is a need to better define and describe the symptomatology of unspecified anxiety in PD. Indeed, the 'NOS' or 'unspecified' category is not circumscribed. It is a 'waste category' and an artifact of the inappropriateness of the DSM to categorize anxiety in PD. The aim of this systematic review is to examine the prevalence, symptomatology, and clinical correlates of atypical presentations of anxiety in PD patients.

METHODS

This systematic review was conducted according to the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA) guidelines.⁴

The study selection process is summarized in the PRISMA flow diagram (Fig. 1).

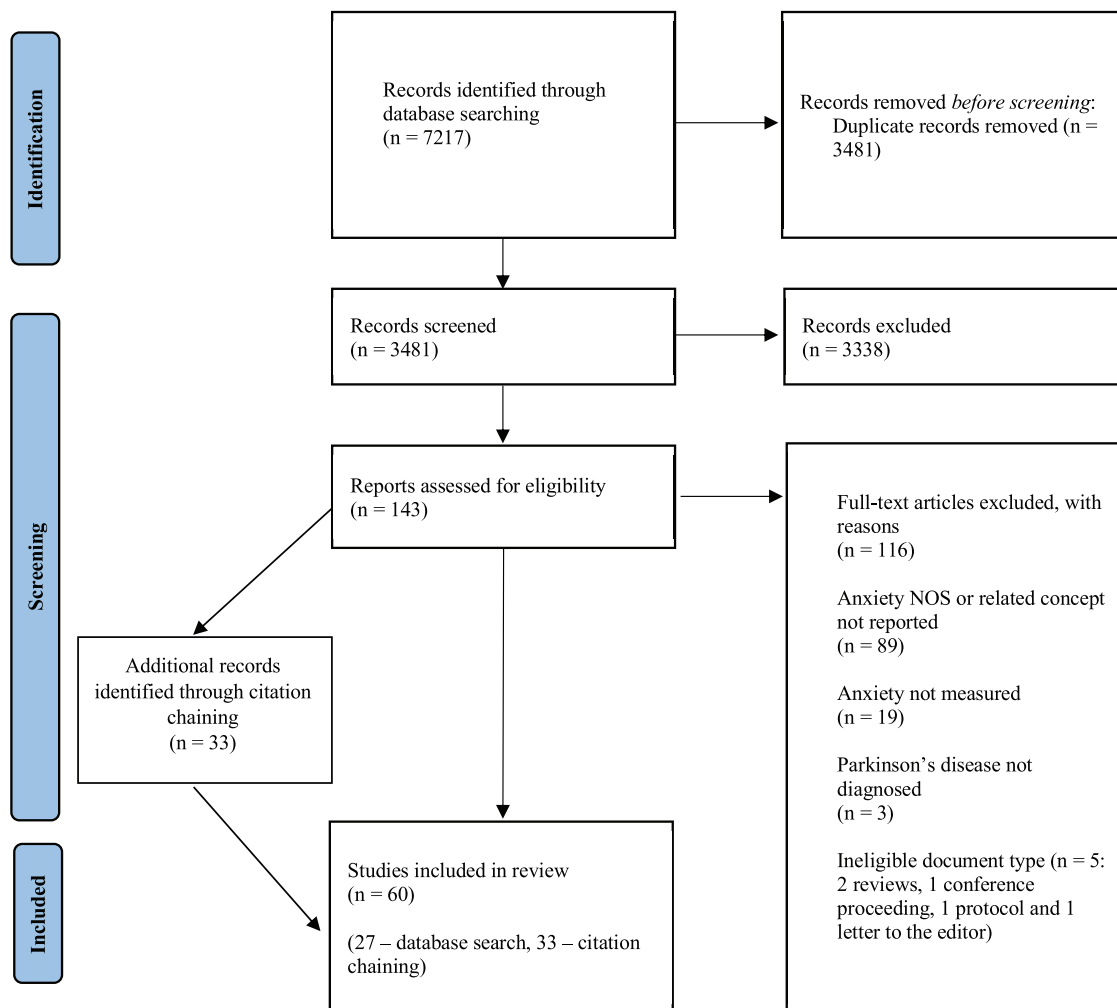
Search Strategy

A systematic review of research-based literature catalogued in PubMed, CINAHL, EMBASE, PsycINFO and Web of Science was performed. The entire available time range of databases was used until May 15, 2021. (Title OR Abstract OR Index Terms: (Parkinson Disease OR Parkinson)) AND ((Title OR Abstract: “Anxiety” OR “Anxiety Disorder” OR “Generalized Anxiety Disorder” OR “Social Anxiety” OR “Social Phobia” OR “Panic Disorder” OR “Panic Attack” OR “Fear” OR “Worry” OR “Avoidance” OR “Embarrassment” OR “atypical anxiety” OR (anxiety AND fluctuation) OR (anxiety AND wearing-off)) (see supplementary material for complete search strategy). Original articles that had an abstract available and were written in English were independently screened by two reviewers (EF and KP). Discrepancies were resolved by a third reviewer (ND). Articles meeting the inclusion criteria and not meeting exclusion criteria were selected for review. After duplicates were removed, the initial search yielded 3,481 papers to be screened. We also conducted the following additional search strategies: 1) references cited of all included studies, and 2) forward citation chaining using Google Scholar for all included studies to find more recent publications which have cited included studies.

Study Selection

Peer-reviewed studies analyzing the prevalence and factors associated with Anxiety NOS in persons

FIGURE 1. PRISMA flowchart of study selection.



with confirmed diagnoses of PD and anxiety were included. Articles were excluded if there was no reference to anxiety NOS or related concepts, as well as reviews, book chapters, abstracts only or conference proceeding and animal models.

Identified records were exported to EndNote for the removal of ineligible record types (e.g., books, conference proceedings) and duplicate records based on the document title, year of publication, and authors. Remaining titles and abstracts were then screened using the inclusion and exclusion criteria (Table 1). Records included during abstract screening progressed to full-text screening and were then also bench-marked against the inclusion and exclusion criteria.

In all, 3,338 articles were excluded due to the non-relevance of their titles and abstracts. Finally, 27 papers were included in this review after the application of inclusion and exclusion criteria to the full-text. An additional 33 articles were identified through a further search of references of the selected articles and forward citation searching as described above. A total of 60 studies comprised the review.

Quality Assessment

The quality of studies was assessed by adjusting a modified version of the Quality Assessment of Diagnostic Accuracy Studies (QUADAS⁵ tool, which was previously used for a review of the prevalence of

TABLE 1. Inclusion and Exclusion Criteria of the Systematic Review

Inclusion Criteria	Exclusion Criteria
<p>Article topic relates to Parkinson's disease and anxiety</p> <p>Measured and reported at least one of: Anxiety NOS, Anxiety Not Otherwise Specified, Atypical Anxiety, Subsyndromal Anxiety, Unspecified Anxiety, persistent anxiety, episodic anxiety, avoidance anxiety, fluctuations, wearing-off or specific anxiety disorders not reaching the required number of symptoms or severity, wearing-off anxiety, fear of falling, social phobia characterized by shame of visible symptoms</p> <p>Peer reviewed articles available in English.</p> <p>Included article types include case studies, caregiver/ family studies and treatment studies.</p>	<p>Article topic does not related to Parkinson's disease and anxiety</p> <p>Article does not make reference to: Anxiety NOS, Anxiety Not Otherwise Specified, Atypical Anxiety, Subsyndromal Anxiety, Unspecified Anxiety, persistent anxiety, episodic anxiety, avoidance anxiety, fluctuations, wearing-off or specific anxiety disorders not reaching the required number of symptoms or severity, wearing-off anxiety, fear of falling, social phobia characterized by shame of visible symptoms</p> <p>Articles is not peer-review, not in English. Record type is a review, book, abstracts only/conference proceedings.</p> <p>Animal studies</p>

anxiety in PD.¹ Our modified QUADAS tool comprised eight criteria assessing the reliability of each study (Table 2). The score range was 0–16 points, with a cut-off value for methodological acceptability set at >12 points (75% of the total possible score). All of the articles were reviewed independently by two researchers (EF and KP), and a discussion and consensus approach was used to resolve discrepancies between the raters. The criteria and a complete list of included studies with item-by item quality scores are provided as supplementary information.

Data Extraction and Analysis

Anxiety NOS, fluctuating anxiety and fear of falling (FOF) were recorded in combination with the study aim, sample size and characteristics, country and setting, study design, identification method of anxiety, anxiety measures, diagnostic criteria, PD severity measures, other measures (e.g., depression, cognitive impairment, quality of life), prevalence, symptomatology, and characteristics (Tables 3-5). Anxiety was evaluated as a primary or secondary outcome measure. Using the prevalence, when reported, prevalence rates were calculated as weighted means across studies, that is, the prevalence rate per study was multiplied by the sample size of that study and then divided by the total sample size of all studies.

RESULTS

Overall, 53 studies were conducted in outpatient settings. One study included both inpatients and outpatients, two studies were conducted in inpatient settings, one was conducted with outpatients via postal

TABLE 2. Modified QUADAS Criteria

Section	Item	Criteria
A	1	At least 1 of the following should apply for the study (2 points): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – An entire target population – Randomly selected sample – Sample stated to represent the target population
	2	At least one of the following (2 points) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Reasons for non-responders described – Non-responders described – Comparison of responders and non-responders – Comparison of sample and target population
	3	Response rate \geq 90% (2 points) Response rate 70% to 90% (1 point) Response rate \leq 70% (0 points)
B	4	The same mode of data collection should be used for all subjects (2 points), if not: 1 point
	5	– The data have been collected directly from the patient by means of a validated questionnaire/interview (3 points) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – No validated questionnaire/interview patients (2 points) – Data have been collected from proxies or retrospectively from medical record (1 point).
C		General description of the method and results should include:
	6	Description of target population and setting where patients were found (2 points)
	7	Description of stage of disease, sex, age (all 2 points, 1 or 2: 1 point)
	8	Final sample size (1 point)

survey and three studies did not explicitly report a setting. Forty-six studies excluded people with dementia, and four studies included participants with dementia, while 10 studies did not report the

TABLE 3. Studies Reporting a Diagnosis of Anxiety NOS (or Equivalent) in Parkinson's Disease According to Diagnostic Criteria

Study	Study Aim	Sample	Study design	Sample size	Quality Score	Cognitive status	Mean MMSE/MoCA score	Anxiety Measures	Diagnostic Criteria	Prevalence	Disease Duration (years)	MDS UPDRS Total Score	Hoehn & Yahr	Characteristics /Markers / Symptomatology
Chen, 2010 ⁹	Assess anxiety disorders and their correlates in Chinese PD patients	Outpatient clinic	Cross-sectional	133	15	MMSE <15 excluded	25.3 (MMSE)	CB-SCID-DSM IV	CB-SCID-DSM IV	5.3%	-	-	-	Younger age of onset of PD, severity of depressive symptoms, and muscle cramps correlated with anxiety. Anxiety more frequent in PD patients with "on-off" motor symptoms, whereby anxiety symptoms worsened during the "off" state
Dissanayaka, 2015 ¹²	Investigate demographic and PD-specific factors associated with DSM-IV anxiety disorders in PD	Outpatient clinic	Cross-sectional	90	12	MMSE <24 excluded	-	MINI-Plus	DSM-IV	26.67%	-	-	-	Compared to no anxiety: greater anxiety and depression severity, greater UPDRS-I and UPDRS-IV scores, younger age of PD onset, poorer quality of life, more likely to have current pharmacological treatment for anxiety or depressive disorder and lower quality of life Compared to DSM anxiety: lower UPDRS Total, UPDRS-I and UPDRS-II scores, lower depression, and anxiety severity. less likely to have a lifetime history of depression, less likely to have been treated for anxiety or depression and greater quality of life
Dissanayaka, 2016 ⁷	Characterize PD-related anxiety symptoms	Outpatient clinic	Cross-sectional	90	12	MMSE <24 excluded	28.4 (MMSE)	MINI-plus PDAMCQ	DSM-IV	26.7%	6 years for total sample - 6.7 years for NOS	UPDRS total score 45.3 (15.4) 54.7 (19.0) 42.2 (9.6) (total, DSM, NOS) III Motor examination 24.1 (9.1) 24.2 (10.2) 22.2 (7.6) (total, DSM, NOS)	Hoehn & Yahr staging 2.3 (0.5) 2.5 (0.7) 2.2 (0.4) (total, DSM, NOS)	Onset after PD diagnosis PD-related anxiety symptoms include: psychological distress resulting from PD diagnosis, stress or worry, insecurity about future, worry related to motor symptoms and wearing-off medication, fear of losing control of motor/bodily functions due to disability, social embarrassment due to motor symptoms or "off" states, social withdrawal due to motor symptoms or "off" states, frustration or anger relating to cognitive problems, agitation, inner unrest, internal tremor or inability to relax
Ehgoetz Martens, 2016 ¹⁰	Evaluate the relationship between movement, dopaminergic treatment, and gait in PD	Outpatient clinic	Cross-sectional	17	11	3MS (3MS; scored 0-100)	PD-GI: 96 (4.5); PD +GI: 95 (7.0)	STAI	-	-	-	UPDRS-III (off): PD without Gait Impaired 27 (9.8), PD with Gait Impaired 48 (18.5); UPDRS-III (on): PD-GI PD without Gait Impaired 20 (10.5), PD with Gait Impaired 34 (18.2)	-	Those with gait impairment reported greater anxiety levels. Higher levels of anxiety reported in the high threat, compared to the low threat condition. Greater levels of anxiety reported in those with gait impairment when walking compared to standing in the low threat environment. Reduced levels of anxiety reported in the on-state.

(continued on next page)

TABLE 3. (continued)

Study	Study Aim	Sample	Study design	Sample size	Quality Score	Cognitive status	Mean MMSE/MoCA score	Anxiety Measures	Diagnostic Criteria	Prevalence	Disease Duration (years)	MDS UPDRS Total Score	Hoehn & Yahr	Characteristics /Markers / Symptomatology
Fleminger, 1991 ⁸⁶	Compare symptoms of PD patients with markedly asymmetric motor symptoms: RHP and LHP PD	Outpatient clinic	Cross-sectional	17	15	-	-	PSE	PSE	33%	7.2	-	-	-
Lauterbach, 2004 ⁸⁷	Identify prevalence of DSM-III psychiatric disorders in PD patients	Outpatient clinic	Cross-sectional	28	15	-	50.67 (mMMSE; scored 0-57)	DIS	DSM-III	21.43%	12.52	26.71	3.25	-
Leentjens, 2011 ⁸⁸	Identify markers of anxiety disorders in PD	Outpatient clinic	Cross-sectional	342	14	MMSE <23 excluded	28.5 (MMSE)	MINI HARS	DSM-IV	11.4%	8.2	8.2 ^a	2	-
Menza, 1993 ⁸⁹	Assess comorbidity of anxiety and depression in PD	Outpatient clinic	Cross-sectional	42	14	MMSE <24 excluded	27.8 (MMSE)	DSM-III-R SAS	DSM-III-R	2%	-	-	2.4	-
Pontone, 2009 ⁸	Determine prevalence and clinical correlates of DSM-IV-TR anxiety in PD patients	Outpatient clinic	Cross-sectional	127	14	MMSE <24 excluded	28.1 (MMSE)	SCID-DSM-IV-TR	DSM-IV-TR	Current prevalence: 25% Lifetime prevalence: 30%	7.9 years (total sample, 7.8 nonanxious and 8.0 anxiety disorder)	UPDRS-III = 18.0 (total sample), 18.5 nonanxious sample, 17.4 (anxiety disorder)	H-Y stages: 1 = 18 1.5 = 2 2 = 64 2.5 = 23 3 = 14 4 = 5 5 = 1	High comorbidity of anxiety NOS with depression and poorer quality of life Among disorder NOS manifested as: excessive and recurrent situational anxiety related to motor deficits, corresponding to "wearing off" of antiparkinsonian medications, panic attack-like episodes, persistent excessive anxiety and worry that did not meet DSM-IV-TR criteria for GAD, and combinations of these presentations of anxiety
Pontone, 2011 ¹⁵	Determine whether anxiety in general or specific anxiety subtypes have independent effect on health status in PD	Outpatient clinic	Cross-sectional	249	16	MMSE <24 excluded	28.3 (MMSE)	SCID-DSM-IV-TR	DSM-IV-TR	22.09%	8.3	-	2.2	Anxiety disorder NOS subtypes compared to no anxiety group: (1) Anticipatory anxiety: higher daily levodopa dose (2) Fluctuation associated anxiety: higher proportion female, younger age of onset, longer PD duration, higher daily levodopa dose, greater complications of therapy (UPDRS-IV) scores, poorer quality of life (higher PDQ-8 scores) (3) Generalized worry: poorer global cognition (higher MMSE scores)

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TABLE 3. (continued)

Study	Study Aim	Sample	Study design	Sample Quality size	Quality Score	Cognitive status	Mean MMSE/MoCA score	Anxiety Measures	Diagnostic Criteria	Prevalence	Disease Duration (years)	MDS UPDRS Total Score	Hoehn & Yahr	Characteristics /Markers / Symptomatology
Qureshi, 2012 ⁹⁰	Examine co-occurring anxiety and depression in veterans with PD	Male veteran outpatients	Cross-sectional using existing administrative data	273	13	44.69% of sample with dementia diagnosis	-	ICD-9-CM	ICD-9-CM	6.59%	-	-	-	Greater prevalence in those with depression (22.6%) compared to without (1.9%)
Stein, 1990 ⁹¹	Study the prevalence and importance of anxiety disorders in patients with PD	Doesn't specify	Cross-sectional	24	12	MMSE <27 excluded	-	SADS-LA SAS	DSM-III-R	4.17%	Without anxiety disorders: 12.7 years; with anxiety disorders: 7.7 years	-	Without anxiety, H-Y = 2.9; with anxiety disorders, H-Y = 2.7	
Thordardottir, 2014 ⁶	Understand participation for PD patients with varying disease severity	Outpatient clinic	Cross-sectional	29	11	Dementia excluded	-	Focus groups discussions	Stress identified (no specific anxiety measure)	-	11	-	-	Uncertainty of symptoms causes distress for those with moderate to severe PD. Planning helped individuals cope with internal (insecurity, fear of what might happen) and external stress (demanding environments, crowds, or social gatherings).
Tudoricca, 2009 ⁹²	Evaluate anxiety in PD	Admitted patients	Cross-sectional	37	12	MMSE <25 excluded	H&Y stage 1: 28.3 (MMSE) with H&Y stage 2: 27.8 (MMSE)	DSM-IV SAS HARS	DSM-IV	10.81%	-	-	1 and 2	Associated with dysthymia and minor depression

Notes: Dashes indicate no data is available. CB-SCID-DSM IV: Chinese-Bilingual Structured Clinical Interview for Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fourth Edition; STAI: State-Trait Anxiety Inventory; HARS: Hamilton Anxiety Rating Scale; SCID-DSM-IV-TR: Structured Clinical Interview for the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fourth Edition, Text Revision⁹³; DSM-III-R: Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Third Edition, Revised⁹⁴; ICD-9-CM: International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision, Clinical Modification⁹⁵; PSE: Present State Examination⁹⁶; MINI: Mini-International Neuropsychiatric Interview⁹⁷; PDAMCQ: Parkinson's disease Anxiety-Motor Complications Questionnaire¹⁷; SAS: Zung Self-Rating Anxiety Scale⁹⁸; DIS: Diagnostic Interview Schedule⁹⁹; SADS-LA: Schedule for Affective Disorders and Schizophrenia-Lifetime Version Modified for the Study of Anxiety Disorders¹⁰⁰; UPDRS: Movement Disorder Society Unified Parkinson's Disease Rating Scale¹⁰¹; MMSE: Mini-Mental State Examination¹⁰²; mMMSE: Modified Mini-Mental State Examination¹⁰³; PDQ-8: 8-item Parkinson's disease Questionnaire¹⁰⁴; PG-GI: Parkinson's disease without gait impairment; PD+GI: Parkinson's disease with gait impairment; 3MS: Modified Mini Mental State Exam¹⁰⁵; DSM-IV: Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fourth Edition;

^aUPDRS III only reported.

TABLE 4. Studies Reporting Fluctuating Anxiety in Patients with Parkinson's Disease

Study	Study Aim	Sample	Study design	Sample size	Quality Score	Cognitive status	Mean MMSE/MoCA score	Anxiety measures	Anxiety symptom/type	Prevalence	Disease Duration (years)	MDS UPDRS Total Score	Hoehn & Yahr	Characteristics/Markers/Symptomatology
Broen, 2018 ³⁴	Investigate marker profiles for proposed anxiety subtypes in PD	Outpatient clinic	Cross-sectional	311	13	MMSE <23 excluded	28.5 (MMSE)	PAS	Episodic, persistent and avoidance behavior subtypes	-	9.8	UPDRS II = 12.4 UPDRS III = 24.7 UPDRS IV = 3.6	2.3	Persistent anxiety associated with: greater depression scores, history of anxiety, fewer years of education, lower MMSE scores, lower LIADL, female sex and complications of therapy Episodic anxiety associated with: PD-specific disturbances of activities of daily living, complications of therapy, higher depression scores, female sex and a history of anxiety. Avoidance behavior associated with: higher depression scores, a history of anxiety, complications of therapy and longer disease duration were associated with avoidance behavior
Brown, 2011 ³⁵	Identify the main anxiety and depression related subtype(s) in PD and their associated demographic and clinical features	Outpatient clinic	Cross-sectional	513	12	MMSE ≤24 excluded	27.9 (MMSE)	HADS GMS	Anxiety-related subtypes	22% had anxiety symptomatology	6.9	26.4 ³	HY1: 12.6% HY 2 or 3: 80.2% HY4 or 5: 7.2%	Anxiety predicted by: younger age, female gender, younger age of PD onset, higher LEDD and greater disability Combined depression and anxiety predicted by: younger age, PD onset less than 55 years, greater level of disability and higher UPDRS III score
Dissanayaka, 2016 ⁷	Characterize PD-related anxiety symptoms	Outpatient clinic	Cross-sectional	90	12	MMSE <24 excluded	28.4 (MMSE)	MINI-plus PDAMCQ	DSM-IV anxiety-disorder	-	6 years for total sample - 6.7 years for NOS	Total MDS-UPDRS score of 45.3 (15.4) average for total sample III Motor examination 24.1 (9.1) average for total sample	2.3 (0.5) average for total sample	PD-related anxiety symptoms included worry related to motor symptoms and wearing-off medication, social embarrassment due to "off" states, and social withdrawal due to "off" states
Ehgoetz Martens, 2016 ¹⁰	Evaluate the relationship between movement, dopaminergic treatment, and gait in PD	Outpatient clinic	Cross-sectional	17	11	3MS (3MS; scored 0-100)	PD-GI: 96 (4.5); PD +GI: 95 (7.0)	STAI	-	-	-	UPDRS-III (off): PD without GI 27 (9.8), PD with GI 48 (18.5); UPDRS-III (on): PD-GI PD without GI 20 (10.5), PD with GI 34 (18.2)	-	Reduced levels of anxiety reported in the on-state.

(continued on next page)

TABLE 4. (Continued)

Study	Study Aim	Sample	Study design	Sample size	Quality Score	Cognitive status	Mean MMSE/MoCA score	Anxiety measures	Anxiety symptom/type	Prevalence	Disease Duration (years)	MDS UPDRS Total Score	Hoehn & Yahr	Characteristics/Markers/Symptomatology
Fanciulli, 2015 ⁸²	Report two cases of anxiety during wearing-off of rotigotine in PDD patients	Outpatient clinic	Case studies	2	12	PD dementia	19 (MMSE)	HARS	Wearing-off	100%	Case 1: 7 years; Case 2: 8 years	Case 1: 43 ^a Case 2: 45 ^a	Case 1: 3 Case 2: 4	Case 1: therapy with levodopa/carbidopa 100/25 mg, 5 daily doses, female, motor and non-motor symptoms of wearing-off, MMSE score of 18, with severe executive and visual-spatial deficits Case 2: visual hallucinations, depressed mood and anxiety, MMSE score of 20, neuropsychological examination in the on-state showed severe executive, visual-spatial and moderate verbal memory impairment Time of day, cognitive processes and negative meta-cognitions predicted episodic distress independent of motor state
Femie, 2019 ³⁵	Identify individual psychological factors contributing to the relationship between episodic distress and motor fluctuations	Outpatient clinic	Cross-sectional	20	11	-	-	PAS	Episodic distress	-	7.6	-	-	-
Ghielen, 2017 ⁸³	Investigate the feasibility and efficacy of a group intervention	Outpatient clinic	Randomized controlled trial	40	15	MMSE <24 excluded	28.1 (MMSE)	BAI	Wearing-off related anxiety	100% had wearing-off symptoms	TAU = 12.3 Inter-vention (BEWARE)= 10.5	-	2 or 3	-
Henderson, 1992 ²⁸	Determine the prevalence of anxiety and depression in PD	Outpatient clinic	Cross-sectional	164	12	Not reported	-	SAS STAI	Motor fluctuations and anxiety/panic	41% with panic/anxiety during "off" state 31% with panic/anxiety during both "on" and "off" states	8.6	-	-	Patients with motor fluctuations were more likely to report depression and/or panic/anxiety
Kulisevsky, 2007 ³⁰	Explore whether wearing-off have more mood fluctuations than stable patients and whether a slower rise in plasma LD concentrations is associated with less marked mood swings	Outpatient clinic	Intrasubject randomized double-blind crossover design	14	16	MMSE ≤24 excluded	27.6 (MMSE)	STAI VAS	Levodopa effect on mood	-	7.15	24.8 ^a	-	Anxiety was associated with motor status
Leenijens, 2012 ¹⁷	Describe the relationship between anxiety and motor fluctuations in PD	Outpatient clinic	Cross-sectional	250	12	MMSE <26 excluded	Non-fluctuators: 28 Fluctuators: 29.1	HARS HAAS	Fluctuation presence and anxiety severity	-	No fluctuations: 6.4 (4.9) years, fluctuations: 10.1 (5.6) years	No fluctuations - 2 UPDRS-I: 2.1 (1.8), UPDRS-II: 12.8 (6.1), UPDRS-II: 24.0	-	Fluctuators reported higher HARS scores compared to non-fluctuators. Six anxiety symptoms were more likely during the

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TABLE 4. (continued)

Study	Study Aim	Sample	Study design	Sample size	Quality Score	Cognitive status	Mean MMSE/MoCA score	Anxiety measures	Anxiety symptom/type	Prevalence	Disease Duration (years)	MDS UPDRS Total Score	Hoehn & Yahr	Characteristics/Markers/Symptomatology
Maricle, 1995a ³¹	Describe the timing and nature of emotional fluctuations in relation to levodopa administration	Outpatient clinic	Cross-sectional	15	13	-	-	VAS	Mood and anxiety fluctuations associated with levodopa	-	10	(12.2), UPDRS-IV: 1.2 (1.5); Fluctuations – UPDRS-I: 2.7 (2.2), UPDRS-II: 10.4 (7.2), UPDRS-III: 27.1 (11.0), UPDRS-IV: 5.4 (3.0)	3.6	"off" state: feeling anxious, feeling sad, avoiding situations, palpitations, dizziness, and chills or hot flushes.
Maricle, 1995b ³⁸	Examine the effect of levodopa on mood in PD patients with motor fluctuations	Outpatient clinic	Cross-sectional	8	14	Not measured	-	VAS	Fluctuations associated with levodopa	-	10.5	3.6	Anxiety decreased shortly after onset of the high-dose infusion but was delayed at least 1 hour with the low-dose infusion. The length of the anti-anxiety effect was also longer for the high dose infusion.	
Mehdizadeh, 2016 ¹⁴	Study the relationship between FOF and quality of life	Outpatient clinic	Cross-sectional	139	12	MMSE > 23	-	FES-I	FOF	-	-	UPDRS-ADL (off phase): 21.09; UPDRS-ADL (on phase): 12.80	stage 1 – 67.14%, stage 2-3: 2.85%	In the drug "off" state, the strongest relation was observed between FOF and mobility as well as activities of daily living dimensions.
Mehdizadeh, 2019 ¹⁵	Study the association between functional balance, FOF, and independence in activities of daily living based on medication state	Outpatient clinic	Cross-sectional	140	12	MMSE > 21	-	FES-I	FOF	-	-	UPDRS-ADL (off phase): 21.09; UPDRS-ADL (on phase): 12.80	stage 1 – 67.14%, stage 2-3: 2.85%	FOF moderately correlated with functional balance in both "on" and "off" states.
Melo, 2010 ¹⁰⁶	Verify if the presence of wearing-off phenomenon in patients with PD could be better identified by the administration of QC	Outpatient clinic	Cross-sectional	79	16	-	-	QC	Wearing-off experience	3.79%	12.4	stage 1: 5; 4, stage 2: 27, stage 2.5: 23, stage 3: 22, stage 4: 2	-	-
Menza, 1990 ²⁹	Examine changes in mood and anxiety states during "on" and "off" phases to determine how central nervous system dopaminergic activity may relate to mood and anxiety	Outpatients	Cross-sectional	10	16	Dementia excluded	-	VAS	Anxiety associated with "off" and "on with dyskinesia" states	-	-	2.4	2.4	Poorer mood and greater anxiety found during the "off" state compared to "on" state or "on with dyskinesia" state. No effect of number of years ill, age, and dose of levodopa

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TABLE 4. (continued)

Study	Study Aim	Sample	Study design	Sample size	Quality Score	Cognitive status	Mean MMSE/MoCA score	Anxiety measures	Anxiety symptom/type	Prevalence	Disease Duration (years)	MDS UPDRS Total Score	Hoehn & Yahr	Characteristics/Markers/Symptomatology
Nisson, 2012 ¹⁶	Evaluate the effect of motor, nonmotor, demographic factors and medications on FOF in PD	Postal Survey	Cross-sectional	131	14	Dementia or severe cognitive impairment (clinician-rated) excluded	-	FES	FOF	-	6	-	-	Fluctuations predicted FOF
Nissenbaum, 1987-23	Assess the nature of, and relationship between, mood and motor fluctuations in nine Parkinsonian patients with "on-off" motor swings	Study 1: inpatients Study 2: outpatients	Cross-sectional	Study 1: 9 Study 2: 136	12	-	-	Study 1: CAS Study 2: anxiety self-ratings	Mood swings associated with "on-off" fluctuations	Study 1: 44.4% with mood and anxiety changes in "off" state. Study 2: 21% anxiety fluctuated with "on-off" motor fluctuations.	10.1	On median = 2, off median = 3	-	Anxiety associated with "off" state More severe anxiety associated with more severe depression and worse motor state Anxiety was more prevalent in the elderly Depressive and anxiety swings were strongly related: more severe intensity of depressive changes associated with more severe the anxiety changes
Ossig, 2016 ²⁶	To evaluate circadian patterns and temporal connections of NMS and motor fluctuations in PD	Outpatient clinic	Cross-sectional	15 control 17 non-fluctuating 15 fluctuating	16	MoCA \leq 26 excluded	Non-fluctuators: 27.1 (MoCA) Fluctuators: 27.5 (MoCA)	A novel non-motor symptom diary (rating of nine NMS)	Nonmotor fluctuations	-	Non-fluctuators: 4.3 years. Fluctuators: 10.5 years	UPDRS total (non fluctuators, fluctuators): 37.3, 6.8 2.5: 8, 4 3: 3, 2	1-1.5: 0, 1 2: 6.8 2.5: 8, 4 3: 3, 2	Anxiety associated with motor "off" state
Pontone, 2009 ⁸	Determine prevalence and clinical correlates of DSM-IV-TR anxiety in PD patients	Outpatient clinic	Cross-sectional	127	14	MMSE $<$ 24 excluded	28.1 (MMSE)	SCID-DSM-IV-TR	DSM-IV-TR anxiety	-	7.9 years (total sample, 7.8 nonanxious and 8.0 anxiety disorder)	UPDRS-III = 18.0 (total sample), 18.5 nonanxious sample, 17.4 (anxiety disorder)	HY stages: 1 = 18 1.5 = 2 2 = 64 2.5 = 23 3 = 1 4 4 = 5 5 = 1	Anxiety NOS manifested as: excessive and recurrent situational anxiety related to motor deficits, corresponding to "wearing off" of antiparkinsonian medications
Pontone, 2011 ¹¹	Determine whether anxiety in general or specific anxiety subtypes have independent effect on health status in PD	Outpatient clinic	Cross-sectional	249	16	MMSE $<$ 24 excluded	28.3 (MMSE)	SCID-DSM-IV-TR	DSM-IV-TR	8.43% of PD participants had fluctuation-associated anxiety	8.3 years	-	2.2	Fluctuation associated anxiety subgroup: higher proportion female, younger age of onset, longer PD duration, higher daily levodopa dose, greater complications of therapy (UPDRS-IV) scores, poorer quality of life (higher PDQ-8 scores)
Racette, 2002 ²⁸	Investigate levodopa-related mood fluctuations	Outpatient clinic	Case-control study	70	12	-	-	DSM-IV	Mood fluctuations	81% had "off" state anxiety	In mood fluctuators group: 12.2 years In sequentially ascertained PD controls group:	-	-	Mood fluctuations (including anxiety) associated with dementia, nonfluctuating clinical depression.

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TABLE 4. (Continued)

Study	Study Aim	Sample	Study design	Sample size	Quality Score	Cognitive status	Mean MMSE/MoCA score	Anxiety measures	Anxiety symptom/type	Prevalence	Disease Duration (years)	MDS UPDRS Total Score	Hoehn & Yahr	Characteristics/Markers/Symptomatology
Raudino, 2001 ¹⁰⁷	Examine the frequency and characteristics of nonmotor PD symptoms, looking also for possible distinctive features of patients with this type of fluctuations	Outpatient clinic	Cross-sectional	47	12	-	-	Semi-structured interview assessing "off" symptoms	Fluctuates with 8.51% with anxiety symptoms related to "off" state	6.3 years in motor fluctuator PD controls group; 9.9, years	6.9	3	-	psychosis younger age at onset and longer disease duration
Richard, 2001 ²²	To better understand mood fluctuations, including their relationship to motor function and level of anxiety	Outpatient clinic	Pilot study	16	13	13 patients without dementia. Mental status not reported in remaining three.	SAS	Mood and anxiety fluctuations	43.75% with daily anxiety fluctuations	-	-	-	-	Association between increased anxiety, decreased mood and reduced motor function
Richard, 2004 ²³	To better understand the phenomenology of mood, anxiety, and motor fluctuations in PD	Outpatient clinic	Cross-sectional	87	13	-	SAS	Anxiety fluctuations	30.2% demonstrated evidence of anxiety fluctuations	-	-	-	-	Not all patients exhibited a temporal relationship between emotional and motor fluctuations. Anxiety fluctuations were associated with higher scores on psychiatric rating scales, history of depression or anxiety, use of psychotropic medications mood fluctuations and motor fluctuations
Rzos, 2014 ¹⁹	Describe the range and patterns of non-motor symptoms that occur during early morning off states across all disease stages of PD	Outpatient clinic	Cross-sectional	320	16	Not measured	NMSQuest	Early morning "off" states diagnosed by clinical interview.	49.7% prevalence during morning "off" state	7	-	2.7	-	Early morning "off" associated with urgency of urination, anxiety, dribbling of saliva, pain, low mood, limb paresthesia and dizziness.
Siemers, 1993 ²⁰	Further investigate the relationship between anxiety and response fluctuations in PD	Outpatient clinic	Cross-sectional	19	12	No dementia, all had MMSE scores of 23 or greater	STAI	Anxiety correlated with motor fluctuations	75.68%	8.74	60.5	3	-	Trait anxiety was associated with depression Higher trait anxiety associated with higher UPDRS scores
Starkstein, 2014 ³²	Examine the syndromal pattern of the anxiety spectrum in a large series of patients with PD	Outpatient clinic	Cross-sectional	342	14	MMSE <23 Excluded	MINI (DSM-IV) Persistent anxiety with depression group: 28.2 (MMSE) Episodic anxiety, no depression	Episodic anxiety	40% episodic anxiety, no depression 36% persistent and episodic anxiety with	9.8	26.5 ^a	2	-	Anxiety groups were associated with female sex, use of psychotropic medication, personal history of anxiety and depression, and higher UPDRS-I and UPDRS-IV

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TABLE 4. (continued)

Study	Study Aim	Sample	Study design	Sample size	Quality Score	Cognitive status	Mean MMSE/MoCA score	Anxiety measures	Anxiety symptom/type	Disease Duration (years)	MDS UPDRS Total Score	Hoehn & Yahr	Characteristics/Markers/Symptomatology	
							depression group: 28.3			depression			scores.	
							Persistent and episodic anxiety with depression group: 28.2			47% persistent anxiety with depression			Persistent anxiety and depression symptoms were associated.	
Storch, 2013 ²⁵	Evaluate frequency, severity, and correlation of non-motor symptoms with motor complications in fluctuating PD	Outpatient clinic	Cross-sectional	100	16	MMSE \leq 23 excluded	-	VAS	Nonmotor fluctuations	11.3	UPDRS I = 2.9, UPDRS II = 14.5, UPDRS III = 19.1, UPDRS IV = 7.2, H-Y = 2.7	-	Anxiety fluctuations were associated with motor fluctuations, whereby more frequent and severe symptoms were reported in the "off" state. Anxiety had a negative impact on HRQoL.	
Vazquez, 1993 ¹⁸	Detect the presence and frequency of "panic-disorder like states" in patients with complicated PD, and their relation to other clinical, epidemiological, and pharmacological parameters, and most particularly to levodopa use	Outpatient and admitted	Cross-sectional	31	10	-	-	HDS HAS	"Panic attacks" complication of levodopa	90.3% had "panic attacks" associated with "off" state	30.6 ^a	3	PA related to standing/gait troubles, depression, dyskinesias, younger age of PD onset, starting levodopa therapy sooner than those without PA, higher levodopa doses than those without PA and the motor "off" state	
Witjas, 2002 ²⁷	Assess the frequency and disability caused by nonmotor fluctuations in PD	-	Cross-sectional	50	10	MMSE \leq 24 excluded	27.1 (MMSE)	Structured non-motor fluctuations interview with neurologist	Non-motor fluctuations	66% had fluctuating anxiety	12.7	UPDRS II on = 11.3 UPDRS II off = 25.4 UPDRS III on = 18.5 UPDRS III off = 44.4	H-Y on = 2.3 H-Y off = 3.8	Anxiety correlated with greater level of disability. Fluctuating anxiety associated with the "off" state

Notes: Dashes indicate no data is available. MMSE: Mini-Mental State Examination; UPDRS: Unified Parkinson's Disease Rating Scale; LEDD: Levodopa equivalent daily dose; PDAMCQ: Parkinson's disease Anxiety-Motor Complications Questionnaire; UPDRS-ADL: Unified Parkinson's Disease Rating Scale Activities of Daily Living; GI: Gait Impairment; PDD: Parkinson's disease dementia; QC: Wearing-off Questionnaire Card¹⁰⁶; GMS: Geriatric Mental State¹⁰⁸; HDS: Hamilton Depression Scale¹⁰⁹; MoCA: Montreal Cognitive Assessment; H-Y: Hoehn and Yahr Scale; HARS: Hamilton Anxiety Scale¹¹⁰; FOF: Fear of Falling; VAS: Visual Analogue Scale¹¹¹; BAI: Beck Anxiety Inventory¹¹⁰; HADS: Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scale¹¹²; MINI: Mini-International Neuropsychiatric Interview¹⁰²; PAS: Parkinson Anxiety Scale⁸⁰; SAS: Zung Self-Rating Anxiety Scale⁹⁸; STAI: State-Trait Anxiety Inventory¹¹³; CAS: Clinical Anxiety Scale¹¹⁴; NMSQuest: Non-motor symptom questionnaire¹¹⁵; HRQoL: Health-Related Quality of Life; PA: Panic Attacks;

^aUPDRS III only reported.

TABLE 5. Studies Reporting Fear of Falling in Patients with Parkinson's Disease

Study	Study Aim	Sample	Study Design	Sample size	Quality Score	Cognitive status	Mean MMSE/MoCA score	Anxiety measures	Prevalence	Disease Duration (years)	MDS UPDRS Total Score	Hoehn & Yahr	Characteristics/Markers/Symptomatology
Adkin, 2003 ³⁹	Evaluate the relationship between FOF and postural control in PD	Outpatient Clinic	Cross-sectional	58	10	MMSE <27 excluded	-	ABC	-	6.5	-	-	Individuals with greater degree of posture impairment reported greater FOF.
Bryant, 2014 ³⁸	Investigate the relationship between FOF, gait characteristics, and balance in PD	Outpatient clinic	Cross-sectional	79	11	Severe cognitive deficits (on the NCSE) excluded	-	ABC	44% of participants had a high FOF.	8.7	UPDRS III: high FOF 21.77 (8.25), low FOF 14.98 (6.78)	2.44	Participants with high FOF had lower speed and stride length for forward walking and backward walking compared to those with a low level of FOF. Participants with high FOF also had longer time to take five steps, time to turn, time to walk sideways, and time to complete the up and go test than those with a low level of FOF. Lastly, participants with high FOF had a greater number of steps to complete the turn and steps to walk sideways than those with a low level FOF.
Bryant, 2015 ⁴⁷	Study the associations between falls, FOF, and activity limitations in PD	Outpatient clinic	Cross-sectional	83	12	Severe cognitive deficits (on the NCSE) excluded	-	ABC	-	Nonfallers: 7.84 +/-5.07, rare fallers: 8.60 +/-5.38, frequent fallers: 7.15 +/-6.13	frequent fallers: 2.74 (0.47), UPDRS III: nonfallers: 16.0 (7.76), rare fallers: 19.43 (10.19), frequent fallers: 22.47 (6.92)	nonfallers: 2.26 (0.48), rare fallers: 2.60 (0.50),	Participants who were frequent fallers or rare fallers had a greater fear of falling than non-fallers.
Franzen, 2016 ³⁷	Investigate modifiable factors associated with concerns about falling in elderly with mild-to-moderate PD	Outpatients	Retrospective cross-sectional	89	12	MMSE <24 excluded	28.0 (MMSE)	FES-I	Low concerns about falling: 12% Moderate concerns: 39% High concerns: 48%	5.8	37 ^a	-	Depressive symptoms contributed most to FOF, followed by balance performance and use of mobility devices
Friedman, 2002 ³⁶	Determine the temporal relationship between falls and FOF	Outpatient clinic	Longitudinal	22	14	MMSE >17	28 (MMSE)	Two clinical questions	-	-	-	-	Falls at baseline were an independent predictor of developing FOF 20 months later and FOF at baseline was a predictor of falling at 20 months. Having PD predicted falls, but not FOF.
Griffin, 2011 ⁴¹	Identify the characteristics of FoF in PD and assess its impact on QoL.	Outpatient clinic	Repeated measures design with 2 within subject factors	130	13	Dementia excluded	29.2 (MMSE)	FES	-	-	UPDRS III off medication 25.6 (7.9) and on medication = 11.2 (9.34);	H&Y stage off medication 2.34 (0.37); 47.4% at stage 2, 36.8% at stage 2.5, and 15.8% at stage 3; on medication = 1.76 (0.63); 31.6% at stage 1, 57.9% at stage 2, and 10.5% at stage 3	Greater FOF was associated with the presence of obstacles compared to open ground
Grimbergen, 2013 ⁴⁰	Evaluate the effect of fall frequency, FOF, balance confidence, and balance impairment on HRQoL in PD	Outpatient clinic	Cross-sectional	74	12	MMSE >23	-	TM and ABC	14% indicated they were very fearful of falling; 45% indicated they were somewhat fearful of falling	11.49	40.9	2.59	FOF had the strongest association with reduced HRQoL, compared to balance confidence, and fall frequency.
Hadoush, 2018 ⁴⁴	Investigate the therapeutic effects of bilateral anodal tDCS stimulation on balance and fear of falling (FOF) outcomes in patient with PD	-	Cross-sectional	18	10	-	-	FES-I	-	male: 7.4 female: 7.0	-	H-Y male: 2.5 H-Y female: 2.8	-

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TABLE 5. (continued)

Study	Study Aim	Sample	Study Design	Sample size	Quality Score	Cognitive status	Mean MMSE/MoCA score	Anxiety measures	Prevalence	Disease Duration (years)	MDS UPDRS Total Score	Hoehn & Yahr	Characteristics/Markers/Symptomatology
Jonasson, 2015 ¹¹⁶	Identify explanatory factors of concerns about falling in people with PD by focusing on personal and environmental factors as well as PD-related disabilities	Outpatient clinic	Cross-sectional	241	15	-	26 (Median, MoCA)	FES-I	46% reported FOF	8	30 ^a	3	Walking difficulties, orthostatism, motor symptoms, age, and fatigue were explanatory factors of concerns about falling
Jonasson, 2018 ¹¹⁷	Describe experiences of FOF in PD	Outpatient Clinic	Cross-sectional	12	14	Exclusion criteria: pronounced cognitive difficulties that made patient unable to give informed consent or take part in the majority of the data collection	23.5 (MoCA)	Questions about intensity of FOF	33% were very much afraid of falling, 25% were somewhat afraid of falling, 42% were a little afraid of falling	9	-	-	There were three themes that arose from the qualitative interviews: fear of falling as a disturbance in everyday life, fear of falling as a varying experience, and handling fear of falling by adopting different strategies.
Kader, 2016 ⁸⁸	Investigate how fall-related activity avoidance relates to FOF in PD	Outpatient clinic	Cross-sectional	251	14	Severe cognitive difficulties (clinician rated) excluded	-	mSAFE	48% of participants endorsed a FOF.	8	30 ^a	3	70% of those with FOF reported avoiding fall-related activities.
Kwon, 2019 ⁴⁰	Evaluate the relationship between gait and motor symptoms of PD or the risk of falling in PD	Outpatient clinic	Cross-sectional	24	14	MoCA	25 (MoCA)	FFM	-	1.13	UPDRS-III: 17.13 (6-40); UPDRS-II: 5.46 (4-11)	HY: 1.88 (0.40)	FFM negatively correlated with backward gait speed but not with forward gait or dual-task gait speed.
Lindholm, 2014 ⁴³	Investigate potential contributing factors to fear of falling (FOF) among people with idiopathic PD	Outpatient clinic	Retrospective cross-sectional	104	15	-	28.0 (MMSE)	FES(S)	37% of participant reported having FOF	5	13 ^a	-	Strongest contributing factor to FOF was walking difficulties. Needing help from others in daily activities, fatigue and functional balance performance were associated with FOF.
Mak, 2009 ⁴⁵	Whether FOF could independently predict recurrent falls in people with PD	Outpatients	Cross-sectional	70	12	MMSE <24 excluded	-	ABC	-	7.2, 9.4	-	2.8-3.0	Lower ABC (balance confidence) scores associated with recurrent falls. ABC score cutoff of 69 (out of 100) identified.
Mak, 2012 ¹¹⁸	Evaluate the relationship between gait impairment, postural stability and muscle weakness and the level of fear of falling in people with PD	Outpatient clinic	Cross-sectional	57	12	MMSE ≥24	-	ABC	-	7.6	22.6 ^a	2.5	Greater FOF was associated with increased knee muscle weakness, gait instability, and postural difficulty. The UPDRS-FO had the strongest association with ABC score.
Mehrizadeh, 2016 ¹¹⁴	Study the relationship between FOF and quality of life	Outpatient clinic	Cross-sectional	139	12	MMSE >23	-	FES-I	-	-	UPDRS-ADL (off phase): 21.09; UPDRS-ADL (on phase): 12.80	stage 1: 67.14%, stage 2: 32.85%	All dimensions of quality of life were significantly affected by a high FOF. In the drug on-state, the strongest association was found between FOF and the mobility dimension of quality of life. In the drug-off state, the strongest relation was observed between FOF and mobility as well as activities of daily living dimensions.
Mehrizadeh, 2019 ⁴⁵	Study the association between functional balance, FOF, and independence in activities of daily living based on medication state	Outpatient clinic	Cross-sectional	140	12	MMSE >21	-	FES-I	-	-	UPDRS-III: Before surgery: 36 (without PD medication); 20 (with PD medication)	-	FOF moderately correlated with functional balance in both 'on' and 'off' states.
Nilson, 2011 ⁹⁵	Prospectively explore whether FOF and fall rate were affected after STN stimulation in people with PD	Postoperative (DBS)	Prepost intervention	20	15	No clinical signs of dementia	-	FES(S) -SAFE	-	12.7	UPDRS-III: Before surgery: 36 (without PD medication); 20 (with PD medication)	stage 1: 67.14%, stage 2: 32.85%	FOF moderately correlated with functional balance in both 'on' and 'off' states.

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TABLE 5. (continued)

Study	Study Aim	Sample	Study Design	Sample size	Quality Score	Cognitive status	Mean MMSE/MoCA score	Anxiety measures	Prevalence	Disease Duration (years)	MDS UPDRS Total Score	Hoehn & Yahr	Characteristics/Markers/Symptomatology
Nilsson, 2012 ¹⁶	Evaluate the effect of motor, nonmotor, demographic factors and medications on FOF in PD	Postal Survey	Cross-sectional	131	14	Dementia or severe cognitive impairment (clinician-rated) excluded	-	FES	45% indicated they had a fear of falling	6	-	-	Independent predictors of FOF included: walking difficulties, fatigue, turning hesitations, need help from others in daily activities, and fluctuations.
O'Connell, 2016 ⁴²	Evaluate the relationship between FOF and dual-task performance in PD	Outpatient clinic	Cross-sectional	31	13	MMSE >20	28	ABC	45% of participants had a high fear of falling (ABC<69).	4	-	stage 1-8 (25.8), stage 2-4 (12.9), stage 3-13 (41.9), stage 4-5 (19.4)	FOF increased with age, disease severity, and disease duration. Participants with a high FOF took longer to complete the dual task.
Rahman, 2011 ⁴⁶	Identify characteristics of FOF in PD and evaluate the impact of FOF on QoL	Outpatient clinic	Cross-sectional	130	12	-	-	FES CoF SAFFE	-	Non-fallers: 8.56 (4.47), fallers: 13.7 (8.47)	-	HY: non-fallers: 2.30 (1.04), fallers: 2.77 (1.16)	Fallers had greater FOF than non-fallers across all measures. For CoF, SE disability rating and BDI were significant predictors of perceived consequences of falling. For FES, only SE disability rating was a significant predictor of perceived self-efficacy. For SAFFE, SE disability rating and BAI were significant predictors of activity avoidance, as was BDI at trend level.
Thomas, 2010 ³⁶	Investigate the relationship between FOF and fall frequency among patients with idiopathic PD	Outpatient clinic	Cross-sectional	102	14	-	27.3 (MMSE)	FES	-	-	-	2.5	More frequent freezing, using an assistive walking device, more severe parkinsonism (H-Y stage) and greater cognitive impairment (lower MMSE score) exhibited greater FOF as measured by FES score

Notes: Dashes indicate no data is available. MMSE: Mini-Mental State Examination; UPDRS: Unified Parkinson's Disease Rating Scale; FOF: Fear of Falling; FES: Falls Efficacy Scale¹¹⁹; FES-I: Falls Efficacy Scale-International⁵⁷; FES(S): Swedish version of the Falls Efficacy Scale¹¹⁹; ABC: Activities-specific Balance Confidence¹²⁰; QoL: Quality of Life; tDCS: Transcranial direct current stimulation; HRQoL: Health-Related Quality of Life; H-Y: Hoehn and Yahr Scale; SAFFE: Survey of Activities and Fear of Falling in the Elderly¹²¹; mSAFFE: Modified Survey of Activities and Fear of Falling in the Elderly¹²¹; TM: Tinetti's Mobility Index¹²²; MoCA: Montreal Cognitive Assessment; MoCA-K: Korean version of the Montreal Cognitive Assessment; FFM: Fear of Falling Measure¹²³; CoF: Consequences of Falling¹²¹; SE: Schwab & England¹²⁴; NCSE: Neurobehavioral Cognitive Status Examination¹²⁵; BAI: Beck Anxiety Inventory; BDI: Beck Depression Inventory; UPDRS-ADL: Unified Parkinson's Disease Rating Scale Activities of Daily Living; UPDRS-PG: Unified Parkinson's Disease Rating Scale – Posture and Gait¹⁰¹;

^aUPDRS III only reported.

cognitive status of their participants. Fifty-two studies (87%) met the cut-off score of 12 points on the modified QUADAS tool. Scores on the QUADAS tool ranged from 10–16 points, with a mean of 13 points.

Of the 60 studies identified, 14 focused on Anxiety NOS (or equivalent, i.e., anxiety symptoms, atypical anxiety, stress) in PD (Table 3), 31 reported on fluctuating anxiety (Table 4) and 22 reported Fear of Falling (FOF) (Table 5). All studies used a cross-sectional design. A wide range of assessment instruments is used for each of these presentations of anxiety (listed in Tables 3-5).

Anxiety NOS

Of the 14 studies reporting *Anxiety NOS* (or equivalent), anxiety was a primary outcome measure in 12 studies and a secondary outcome measure in two studies. While the majority of studies (N = 10) diagnosed Anxiety NOS (or equivalent) according to the DSM criteria (3 using DSM-III; 7 using DSM-IV), one study used the International Classification of Diseases (ICD-9) criteria, and another used the Present State Examination (PSE) criteria.

Prevalence

A weighted mean of 14.9% (range: 2%–33 %) of the total of 1,452 patients experienced Anxiety NOS (or equivalent).

Symptomatology

Anxiety was assessed in only the “on” motor state in four studies and both “on” and “off” states in one study. Nine studies did not report whether anxiety was assessed in the “on” or “off” state. The symptomatology of Anxiety NOS included psychological distress attributed to the diagnosis of PD,^{6,7} stress or worry, insecurity about the future, worry related to motor symptoms and wearing-off medication, fear of losing control of motor and/or bodily functions due to disability,⁶ social embarrassment due to motor “off” states, social withdrawal due to motor symptoms or “off” states, frustration or anger relating to cognitive problems, agitation, inner unrest, internal tremor or inability to relax,⁷ excessive and recurrent situational anxiety related to motor deficits, panic attack-like episodes, persistent excessive worry not meeting criteria for generalized anxiety disorder.⁸

Clinical correlates

Anxiety NOS was associated with minor depression⁸ and depressive symptoms,⁹ on-off motor symptoms,^{7, 8, 10} muscle cramps,⁹ poorer quality of life,^{7,8} younger age of PD onset,^{9,11, 12} pharmacological treatment for anxiety or depression,¹² uncertainty of symptoms,⁶ and gait impairment.¹⁰ Pontone et al.¹¹ identified characteristics associated with anxiety NOS subtypes defined as anticipatory anxiety, fluctuation associated anxiety and generalized worry. In this study, anticipatory anxiety was associated with a higher levodopa daily dose. Fluctuation associated anxiety was associated with female sex, younger age of PD onset, longer PD duration, higher daily dose of levodopa, more severe motor complications of therapy, and poorer quality of life. Lastly, generalized worry was associated with poorer global cognition.

Fluctuating Anxiety

Of the 31 studies reporting fluctuating anxiety, anxiety was a primary outcome in 19 studies and a secondary outcome in 12 studies. Seven of these studies were also identified as focusing on Anxiety NOS^{7, 8, 10, 13} and FOF.¹⁴⁻¹⁶

Prevalence

A weighted mean of 34.2% (range: 3.8–100) of the total of 2,174 patients experienced fluctuating anxiety.

Symptomatology

Anxiety was assessed in only the “on” motor state in nine studies and both “on” and “off” states in 16 studies. Fluctuating anxiety was identified as anxiety related to the wearing-off phenomenon (nine studies), anxiety associated with motor fluctuations (15 studies), anxiety as a side effect of levodopa (four studies) and episodic anxiety (five studies), of which one also reported avoidance behavior anxiety subtypes.¹⁷ Characterized the most common anxiety symptoms reported during the “off” state: feeling anxious, feeling sad, avoiding situations, palpitations, dizziness, and chills or hot flushes. Vazquez et al.¹⁸ reported that panic attacks were associated with the motor “off” state. Rizos et al.¹⁹ identified that wearing-off

anxiety was associated with urgency of urination, drooling, pain, low mood, limb paresthesia and dizziness.

Clinical correlates

Of the 15 studies reporting on fluctuation-related anxiety, six identified an association between depression symptoms and fluctuation-related anxiety.^{18, 20-24} Four studies reported that anxiety was more severe in the off-medication state^{23, 25-27} and as such was reduced in the on-medication state.¹⁰ Similarly, worry, social withdrawal and social embarrassment due to motor “off” states were symptoms associated with PD-anxiety.⁷ Moreover, three studies reported FOF was associated with fluctuations,¹⁶ such that FOF fluctuated between “on” and “off” states,¹⁵ and FOF increased in the “off” state.¹⁴ Three studies found that poorer motor function was associated with fluctuation-related anxiety.^{20,22,23} In the subgroup of PD patients with fluctuation associated anxiety identified by Pontone et al.,¹¹ patients were more frequently female, with a younger age of onset, longer PD duration, higher daily levodopa dose, greater complications of therapy (MDS-UPDRS-IV) scores and a poorer quality of life. Richard et al.²¹ also found that anxiety fluctuations were associated with higher scores on depression and anxiety rating scales, a history of depression or anxiety, and use of psychotropic medications. Racette et al.²⁸ found that anxiety fluctuations were associated with dementia, psychosis, younger age of PD onset, and longer disease duration. Storch et al.²⁵ found that anxiety was associated with worse health related quality of life.

The four studies that evaluated medication related anxiety revealed mixed findings. Two studies found that anxiety increased in the medication off state.^{29, 30} Maricle et al.³¹ found that anxiety fluctuations were related to levodopa dosing. Vazquez et al.¹⁸ found that panic attacks were associated with starting levodopa therapy sooner, and higher levodopa doses than those without panic attacks.

Of the five studies focusing on episodic anxiety, three identified an association between depression symptoms and episodic anxiety,³²⁻³⁴ and two found that time of day was associated with episodic anxiety.^{31,35} Fernie et al.³⁵ revealed that cognitive processes and negative metacognitions predicted episodic distress, independent of motor state. Starkstein

et al.³² found that episodic anxiety without depression and persistent anxiety with depression were associated with female sex, use of psychotropic medication, personal history of anxiety and depression, and higher UPDRS-I and UPDRS-IV scores compared to patients without anxiety. Broen et al.³⁴ found that episodic anxiety was associated with PD-specific disturbances of activities of daily living, complications of therapy, higher depression scores, female sex and a history of anxiety. Brown et al.³³ found that episodic anxiety was predicted by younger age, female gender, younger age of PD onset, higher LEDD and greater disability.

Fear of Falling

FOF was reported in 22 studies. Anxiety was a primary outcome in 17 studies and a secondary outcome in five studies. Anxiety was assessed in only the “on” motor state in 10 studies, the “off” state only in one, and both “on” and “off” states in four studies. Six studies did not report whether anxiety was assessed in the “on” or “off” state, one of which assessed anxiety via a postal survey. One study assessed anxiety in only drug-naïve patients.

Prevalence

A weighted mean of 51.5% (range 14%–100%) of the sample of 1,012 patients experienced FOF.

Symptomatology

An association between FOF and walking and gait difficulties was reported. Specifically, the following walking characteristics were associated with FOF: using an assistive walking device,^{36,37} more frequent freezing,³⁶ turning hesitations,¹⁶ a lower speed and stride length for forward and backward walking, a greater time to take five steps, turn, complete the up and go test, a greater time and number of steps to walk sideways and a greater number of steps to complete a turn.³⁸ Moreover, the following gait and posture characteristics were associated with FOF: a greater degree of posture impairment,³⁹ greater UPDRS-derived Postural Instability and Gait Difficulty (UPDRS-PG) scores¹⁵ and lower backward gait speed.⁴⁰ Increased FOF was observed in the presence of obstacles, compared to open ground Griffin et al.,⁴¹

and during motor dual-tasks (i.e., carrying a glass of water).⁴²

Five studies demonstrated that balance impairments were associated with FOF^{15, 37, 41, 43, 44}; lower balance confidence,⁴⁵ functional balance^{15, 37, 43} and orthostasis.⁴⁴

Clinical correlates

Characteristics associated with FOF included increased age,^{42,44} needing help from others in daily activities,^{16,43} a history of falls,^{46,47} avoiding fall-related activities⁴⁸ and a reduced quality of life.^{14,49} In particular, in the “on” drug state, the mobility dimension of quality of life demonstrated the strongest association with FOF; whilst mobility and activities of daily living dimensions of quality of life showed the greatest association with FOF in the “off” state.¹⁴

Three studies reported an association between FOF and a greater severity of PD symptoms.^{36,42,46} Six studies cited cognitive and psychiatric symptoms associated with FOF, including greater global cognitive impairment,³⁶ fatigue^{16,43,44} and depressive symptoms.^{37,46}

DISCUSSION

The present systematic review is the first to comprehensively examine atypical anxiety disorders in PD. The 60 included studies were published between 1987 and 2021, with the majority³⁸ of papers being published over the past 10 years, likely reflecting an increased awareness of and interest in anxiety in PD. Overall, our review suggested that atypical anxiety in PD is a protean syndrome associated with a poor quality of life, and greater functional disability, thus requiring greater attention towards better ways to identify and manage atypical anxiety presentations in routine clinical practice.

Prevalence

Anxiety NOS accounted for a weighted mean prevalence of 14.9% (range 2%–33%) in a total of 1,452 patients that experienced anxiety across 14 studies and was comparable to previously reported average of 13%.¹ On the other hand, the prevalence of both fluctuating anxiety and FOF exceeded the average

overall prevalence rates for anxiety reported in literature (31%). Our review suggested the requirement for greater attention towards finding well defined guidelines to describe atypical presentations of anxiety in PD.

Symptomatology

Our review defined a variety of anxiety symptoms associated with motor and non-motor symptoms of PD, complications of PD medications such as specific anxiety symptomatology associated with “on” and “off” fluctuations (or both), and to a lesser extent anxiety associated with cognitive symptoms.⁶⁻⁸ While the validated Parkinson's Anxiety Scale (PAS) identifies anxiety encompassing three subscales of persistent anxiety, episodic anxiety and avoidance behaviors, there still remains the need to better identify PD-specific atypical anxiety presentations described in our review. Addressing this unmet need, the PD specific Anxiety Inventory (PDSAI) was recently developed to capture symptomatology of atypical anxiety.⁷ The PD-SAI content includes disease, motor and non-motor, complications of therapy, fluctuations, cognition and social domains. The validation of the PDSAI is currently underway.

The further characterization of atypical anxiety, via the PDSAI as well as other methods can improve recognition and treatment of this non-motor complication in routine clinical practice in several important ways. First, improved understanding of atypical anxiety will facilitate the effective screening for prominent anxiety symptoms during psychiatry and neurology appointments as it will increase the precision and specificity of the interview probes utilized during routine clinical encounters. Second, it will facilitate the development of personalized treatment plans and more precise clinical outcome assessment once PD patients engage in treatment. Third, an expanded conceptualization of anxiety in PD patients will help to improve communication about anxiety presentation across various sectors of PD community and improve anxiety treatment in non-specialty centers, where there is limited knowledge about PD.⁵⁰ Lastly, the expanded definition of PD anxiety may improve clinical trial design and outcome assessment and facilitate the development of a conceptual model of PD anxiety to inform future treatment development and biomarker initiatives.

Classification

Almost 15% of PD patients experience anxiety that cannot be classified into one of the specified DSM categories, and hence is often classified as 'Anxiety NOS' or equivalent terminology. This category does not constitute a specific clinical phenotype of anxiety, but rather a rest category for both atypical presentations of anxiety, as well as PD-specific anxiety presentations, such as 'wearing-off' (or 'off')-related anxiety and FOF. Although the diagnostic inadequacy of the DSM as applied to PD anxiety has been frequently described, few efforts have been undertaken to overcome this problem. In a hypothesis-free approach, Starkstein et al. conducted a principal component analysis that supported three different phenotypes of anxiety: 'episodic anxiety without depression,' 'persistent anxiety with depression,' and 'both persistent and episodic anxiety with depression,' where 'episodic' refers to both panic attacks as well as situational anxiety, and 'persistent' refers to generalized and social anxiety.³² Such hypothesis-free approaches can lead to new classifications that better represent the clinical phenotypes in PD and may be more useful in clinical practice than strictly adhering to existing DSM classifications. A problem with characterizing, and thus with classifying, fluctuating anxiety symptoms of PD, for example, in the context of motor fluctuations, is the lack of a clear definition of such mood and anxiety fluctuations, as well as of a standardized way to assess such these.⁵¹ Experience sampling techniques (also known as ecological momentary assessment techniques) may provide new insights in the phenomenology of anxiety and help develop a more appropriate classification system.⁵² For another PD specific anxiety, 'fear of falling,' several validated assessment instruments are available.^{53,54}

Clinical and Neurobiological Correlates

Overall, atypical anxiety was associated with current depression, a history of depression and anxiety, younger onset age, female gender, motor fluctuations and longer duration of the disease. Patients with FOF had a more advanced disease and FOF was associated with specific motor complications of PD, comprehensively outlined in our review. The development of atypical anxiety in PD over time is complex^{21, 45, 55-57} such that anxiety in PD can arise at any point in the course of PD. Moreover, the causal and maintaining

factors of anxiety in PD are heterogeneous and individualized assessment is needed to guide effective treatment. In some cases, characteristics of atypical anxiety may be representative of underlying mechanism, although the relationship is likely complex. For example, episodes of anxiety that occur with motor fluctuations appear to be associated with alterations in plasma dopamine levels in later-stage disease yet increasing levodopa dosage does not reliably improve anxiety.^{30,58-60} Alternatively, given the high comorbidity of anxiety and depression in PD, one might assume shared disruption of limbic circuitry as a cause for atypical anxiety. However, secondary outcome data from antidepressant trials in PD do not reliably show improvement in anxiety as depression remits, and the presence of high anxiety predicted diminished responsiveness for depressive symptoms.^{61,62} These trials were not designed to detect changes in anxiety so they should be interpreted with caution but highlight the need for additional study. The relationship of a history of anxiety or depression to atypical anxiety is interesting as both are associated with an almost two-fold increase in risk for later PD, suggesting that some anxiety and depressive disorders may be prodromal or pre-motor symptoms of PD.^{63,64} Further, the association between PD and anxiety and depressive disorders is bidirectional, as first-degree relatives of people with PD have an increased risk of anxiety and depressive disorders compared to control probands.⁶⁵ A shared neuropathological substrate could explain the increased risk of anxiety with later PD and might also be the reason for the atypical features and association with younger age of PD onset.¹³ A recent systematic review of the literature on fMRI and anxiety in PD implicated the amygdala, caudate, and putamen.⁶⁶ This review revealed that anxiety, particularly dopamine-related anxiety, was associated with left amygdala volume and alterations in network connectivity.⁶⁷⁻⁶⁹ In addition, alterations in the caudate and putamen were observed across neuroimaging (functional, resting state, and structural) studies examining anxiety in PD.⁷⁰⁻⁷⁵ A better understanding of the pathophysiology of atypical anxiety is needed to clarify its association with PD and ultimately to inform controlled trials.

Cognitive impairment

Although there were small studies describing cognitive characteristics of atypical anxiety, there was no

study specifically investigating atypical anxiety in patients with significant cognitive impairment or dementia. Several studies have shown links between anxiety and cognition. A recent meta-analysis showed that people with prior history of anxiety have a higher risk of all-cause dementia than persons without this history.⁷⁶ In newly diagnosed PD, anxiety increases the risk of cognitive impairment, namely in the memory domain.⁷⁷ Anxiety is also linked to verbal memory impairment in PD.⁷⁸ In a study exploring anxiety-related brain modifications in a large sample of PD patients without dementia, those with clinically significant anxiety had deficits in attention and working memory compared with those without anxiety.⁷⁹ With the Parkinson Anxiety Scale⁸⁰ whose subscales capture some manifestations of atypical anxiety, persistent anxiety tended to increase as cognitive impairment was more severe and avoidance behavior were more frequent in PD patients with cognitive impairment than in PD patients with normal cognition.⁸¹ However, the specific influence of atypical anxiety on cognition is not known and further studies are needed to determine both the links between atypical anxiety and cognition and how atypical anxiety contributes to cognitive progression of PD.

LIMITATIONS

Due to the nature of atypical anxiety, although we kept our search strategy broad, not all presentations of atypical anxiety may have been captured. Another limitation is that assessment across studies vary greatly, with some using diagnostic criteria, such as those of the DSM or ICD, whereas others use cut-off scores on a variety of rating scales. Moreover, the assessment instruments used in the studies may be specifically sensitive to capture one presentation of atypical anxiety, while not being sensitive enough to capture other presentations. In addition, only four studies included patients with dementia in which presentations of atypical anxiety may differ from that in non-demented patients. All these factors make a comparison between studies difficult.

While we comprehensively examined the prevalence and phenomenology of atypical anxiety in PD, the present review did not address treatment. The evidence-base for treatment trials for atypical presentations of anxiety is sparse. To our knowledge there are

no treatment trials focused on Anxiety NOS. In preliminary studies, treatment of fluctuating anxiety has been examined with a pharmacological (rotigotine)^{82, 83} and a non-pharmacological (acceptance and commitment therapy; BEWARE training) intervention,⁸³ while approaches like Deep Brain Stimulation⁵⁵ and transcranial direct current stimulation (tDCS)⁴⁴ have been explored for FOF. Further clinical trials are needed to establish efficacious treatments.

Until such evidence exists, we recommend the following treatment guidelines for atypical anxiety recommended in an earlier edition of the American Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry by Pontone GM et al.⁸⁴ Given the heterogeneity of anxiety presentations in PD, the importance of tailoring interventions to meet the specific needs and unique symptom profiles of each individual cannot be overstated. In order to facilitate the timely and personalized management for all forms of clinically significant anxiety in PD, routine screening every 6–12 months, combining the use of validated self-report scales, and skilled clinical interview (which directly assesses the atypical manifestations of PD anxiety described herein) as well as collateral information from the caregiver, is encouraged.⁸⁵

CONCLUSION

Atypical anxiety disorders in PD patients are currently characterized as anxiety NOS, anxiety associated with motor fluctuations, and FOF. They substantially influence daily functioning and quality of life of PD patients. Atypical anxiety symptoms increase with disease progression, and it is essential to identify and appropriately treat such symptoms at early stages in order to improve clinical management and long-term outcomes. Therefore, improving assessment and recognition of atypical anxiety, developing a more appropriate classification of PD-related anxiety, elucidating pathophysiological mechanisms and examining the association of cognitive impairment with atypical anxiety in PD are important next steps toward achieving these goals.

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

Nadeeka N. Dissanayaka, Elana J. Forbes, Kate Perepezko, Albert F.G. Leentjens, Roseanne D.

Dobkin, Kathy Dujardin and Gregory M. Pontone made substantial contributions to the conception/design of the work, data interpretation and drafting and critically revising the work for important intellectual content. Elana J. Forbes and Kate Perepezko contributed to data acquisition and analysis.

DATA STATEMENT

The data has not been previously presented orally or by poster at scientific meetings

DISCLOSURES

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SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS

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