

Driving in Parkinson's Disease

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Parkinson's Disease





Driving issues





Classen et al., 2014; Uc et al., 2009; Wood et al., 2005



Cordell et al., 2007; Classen et al., 2014; Uc et al., 2009; Wood et al., 2005



Lee et al., 2007



Cordell et al., 2008; Lee et al., 2007



Driving issues



Problems to adapt the speed (Crizzle & Myers, 2013; Uc et al., 2007; Cordell et al., 2008; Ranchet, et al., 2013; Uc et al., 2009)

Difficulties with visual scanning behavior





Inappropriate response to traffic events (Classen et al., 2014; Uc et al., 2009)





Driving issues



Compensation strategies by

- adjusting travel distance, time of the day, route (Uc et al., 2011)
- Avoiding driving at night and in inclement weather (Crizzle & Myers, 2013)
- Get lost in traffic while driving a memorized route (Uc et al., 2007)



Risk of motor vehicle crashes



Epidemiological studies and meta-analyses showed that PD was not associated with higher risk of crashes (Lafont et al., 2008; Thompson et al., 2018; Uc et al., 2011)

 \rightarrow They are more likely to cease driving or self-regulate using compensatory strategies (Lafont et al., 2010, Uc et al., 2011)



Assessment of fitness-to-drive in PD



In France, it is the physician (general practitioner or neurologist) who advises the patient regarding his/her fitness to drive.

In other countries (e.g. US, Belgium), there are fitness to drive assessments

Percentage of drivers with PD who failed the on-road driving evaluation ranged from 30 to 56% (Devos et al., 2015)

In a recent study in Belgium, 69 % of PD patients (n = 50 out of 72) were considered fit to drive (Ranchet et al, 2016)



Assessment of fitness-to-drive in PD



Devos et al., 2015

Rapid pace walking

Fine motor movements





Cognitive screening – Useful Visual Field of View





Screening tools

Cognitive screening – Trail Making Test

Trail Making Test







Part B: Draw line connecting # -> letter -> #

Visuomotor tracking (Amick et al., 2007)

Set shifting (Amick et al., 2007; McCarthy et al., 2007) and cognitive flexibility (Devos et al., 2013, Ranchet et al., 2013)







Cognitive screening – Figure of Rey



Visuoconstructive abilities (Amick et al., 2007)



- $_{\odot}~$ Drivers with PD showed driving difficulties
- $\circ~$ Many individuals with PD remain fit-to-drive
- Clinical screenings may help neurologists in selecting patients who need further testing
- $_{\odot}~$ Good target population for driving rehabilitation



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