



Hindawi

## Parkinson's Disease

Special Issue on

# Diagnostic Accuracy in Parkinson's Disease

# CALL FOR PAPERS

The correct diagnosis of Parkinson's disease (PD) is important for prognosis and treatment options; however, it is also crucial to conduct clinical, pharmacological, and epidemiological studies. Despite the advances in neuroimaging and genetics of parkinsonian disorders, the diagnosis of PD remains primarily clinical. The definite diagnosis can be obtained only by pathological examination. Misdiagnoses and misclassifications are still quite common in clinical and scientific settings. In addition, the diagnosis may be changed after a prolonged clinical follow-up. Accordingly, diagnosis of PD in the early stage of disease remains challenging in a proportion of cases even for expert clinicians. One of the main problems is that all current diagnostic criteria include criteria with presence of signs and symptoms as well as exclusion criteria emerging in the later stage of disease. As the age progresses, the diagnostic challenges increase when elderly patients with parkinsonism are evaluated, possibly due to the increasing presence of comorbidities and mixed pathology.

There is an urgent need to obtain reliable biomarkers to support the clinical diagnosis *in vivo* and possibly new diagnostic criteria that have to be more specific for the early stages of the illness.

We invite investigators to contribute original research articles as well as review articles that will focus on the state of the art of the diagnosis of PD and will focus on possible tools that could increase the diagnostic accuracy.

Potential topics include, but are not limited to:

- ▶ Clinical diagnosis of PD
- ▶ Magnetic resonance imaging and PD diagnosis
- ▶ Nuclear medicine and PD diagnosis
- ▶ Other imaging techniques and PD diagnosis
- ▶ Bioptic findings and PD diagnosis
- ▶ CSF findings and PD diagnosis
- ▶ Blood findings and PD diagnosis
- ▶ Neurophysiological findings and PD diagnosis
- ▶ Pathological diagnosis of PD: diagnostic pitfalls

Authors can submit their manuscripts via the Manuscript Tracking System at <http://mts.hindawi.com/submit/journals/pd/dapd/>.

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