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1 **Non-motor symptom burden grading as predictor of cognitive impairment in**
2 **Parkinson's disease**

3
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77 **Abstract**

78 **Background:** Identify predictors of incident cognitive impairment (CI), one of the most
79 problematic long-term outcomes, in Parkinson's disease (PD) is highly relevant for
80 personalised medicine and prognostic counselling. The Non-Motor Symptoms Scale (NMSS)
81 provides a global clinical assessment of a range of NMS, reflecting NMS burden (NMSB), and
82 thus may assist in the identification of an "at-risk" CI group based on overall NMSB cut off
83 scores.

84 **Methods:** To investigate if specific patterns of PD NMS profiles predict incident CI, we
85 performed a retrospective longitudinal study on a convenience sample of 541 non-demented
86 PD patients taking part in the Non-motor Longitudinal International Study (NILS) cohort, with
87 Mini-Mental State Examination (MMSE), NMSS and Scales for Outcomes in PD Motor Scale
88 (SCOPA Motor) scores at baseline and last follow-up (mean 3.2 years) being available.

89 **Results:** PD patients with incident CI (i.e., MMSE score ≤ 25) at last follow-up (n=107) had
90 severe overall NMSB level, significantly worse NMSS hallucinations/perceptual problems and
91 higher NMSS attention/memory scores at baseline. Patients with CI also were older and with
92 more advanced disease, but with no differences in disease duration, dopamine replacement
93 therapy, sex, and comorbid depression, anxiety and sleep disorders.

94 **Conclusions:** Our findings suggest that a comprehensive baseline measure of NMS and in
95 particular hallucinations and perceptual problems, assessed with a validated single instrument
96 can be used to predict incident CI in PD. This approach provides a simple, holistic strategy to
97 predict future CI in this population.

98

99 **Introduction**

100 Cognitive impairment (CI) is one of the most prominent and clinically relevant non-motor
101 features in Parkinson's disease (PD),¹ being an indicator for poor quality of life for patient as
102 well as carers and having a significant impact on societal and institutionalisation related costs.²
103 The spectrum ranges from subtle cognitive changes, through mild CI (PD-MCI) with no
104 significant difficulties of daily living, to PD dementia (PDD) with substantially affected daily
105 functioning and a greater degree and variety of cognitive deficits.¹ The identification of
106 predictors of CI is highly relevant for (a) personalised management strategies (e.g., advanced
107 counselling, avoiding anticholinergics and earlier use of cholinesterase inhibitors)³ and (b)
108 enriching trial populations for potential neuroprotection and palliative care.⁴ Based on the
109 available evidence, several clinical and demographic factors such as higher age at PD onset,
110 fewer years of formal education, increasing severity of disease, and psychiatric disorders (e.g.,
111 depression and psychosis) predict future development of PDD.^{5,6,7,8}

112

113 An approach to address the development of potential CI in PD, using for example a validated
114 and widely used NMS burden (NMSB) grading system^{2,9} seems intuitively reasonable, given
115 the reported links of CI with disease severity^{2,5,6} clinical subtypes¹⁰, neuropathological burden¹¹
116 and drug treatment (NMSB grading may also reflect drug-induced NMS for instance).¹²
117 NMSB grading provides a simple, yet comprehensive method for quantifying PD NMS load¹³
118 and can be used as a clinical biomarker¹⁴. The PD Non-Motor Symptoms Scale (NMSS)
119 remains the only scale (recently updated as MDS-NMS) as a specific measure of a range and
120 nature of NMS and validated cut offs for NMSB have been published.^{9,15}

121

122 In an effort to identify possible clinical predictors of CI in PD using one comprehensive tool
123 we aimed to explore two issues: (a) which out of the nine NMSS domains are associated with

124 CI in PD patients, using a large-scale cohort and a “real life” data mining-based analysis and
125 (b) does a higher NMSB at baseline predict to CI after 3 years. Our hypothesis was that the
126 burden of specific NMS and total NMSB in a large cohort of PD patients could be different in
127 those who developed CI at follow up from those who did not.

128

129 **Methods**

130 For this analysis, we selected a longitudinal dataset of 541 consecutive PD patients taking part
131 in the Non-motor Longitudinal International Study (NILS) at King's College Hospital for
132 whom Mini-Mental State Examination (MMSE) scores were available and who had at least
133 one follow-up assessment as part of NILS. NILS was adopted by the National Institute of
134 Health Research in the United Kingdom (UKCRN No. 10084) as the first comprehensive
135 longitudinal study identifying non-motor profiles in PD, as well as the natural history of NMS,
136 treatment response and clinic-pathological-imaging correlations. The study was authorised by
137 local ethics committees (NRES SouthEast London REC3, 10084, 10/H0808/141). All patients
138 gave written consent prior to study procedures in accordance with the Declaration of Helsinki
139 and Good Clinical Practice.

140

141 Data were analysed from a cumulative cohort of PD patients recruited between November 2011
142 (start of NILS data collection) and July 2019 (data extracted on 1 July 2019) and only data
143 from patients included in the United Kingdom were analysed. The main inclusion criterion was
144 diagnosis of idiopathic PD according to the UK Brain Bank criteria. We only included data
145 from the baseline assessments and at last follow-up in the analysis. All included patients were
146 non-demented at baseline as defined by an MMSE score ≥ 28 .¹⁶ Exclusion criteria were (1)
147 diagnosis of Parkinsonism different to idiopathic PD; (2) inability to give consent to participate
148 in the study. The patient cohort was divided into two groups based on the MMSE scores at

149 follow-up: cognitively normal (CN) (MMSE score of ≥ 26) or cognitively abnormal (CA)
150 (MMSE score of ≤ 25).¹⁷

151

152 Demographic data of the included PD patients contained information regarding age, sex,
153 disease duration and duration of follow-up. In our analysis, we used data from Hoehn and Yahr
154 (HY) staging,¹⁸ Non-Motor Symptoms Scale (NMSS), levodopa equivalent dose (LEDD),¹⁹
155 MMSE²⁰ and Scales for Outcomes in Parkinson's disease (SCOPA)-MOTOR,²¹ comprising
156 of -motor examination (SCOPA-ME, activities of daily living (SCOPA-ADL), and motor
157 complications (SCOPA-MCompl) assessments. The NMSS facilitates a rater-administered
158 comprehensive assessment of NMS in PD patients, and includes 30 items grouped in nine
159 relevant domains: 1) cardiovascular including falls, 2) sleep/fatigue, 3) mood/apathy, 4)
160 perceptual problems/hallucinations, 5) attention/memory, 6) gastrointestinal tract, 7) urinary
161 function, 8) sexual function, and 9) miscellaneous. The NMSS Score for each item is based on
162 a multiplication of severity (from 0 to 3) and frequency (from 1 to 4) scores.¹⁵ Furthermore,
163 we included data from patient-reported outcomes (i.e., Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scale
164 (HADS-total); a 14-item, patient-completed scale with subscales for anxiety and depression²²;
165 PD Sleep Scale-version 1 (PDSS) and a 15-item, patient-completed clinical tool used to assess
166 the frequency of sleep disturbances during the past week in PD patients).²³ Using overall
167 NMSS scores the levels of NMSB were determined based on the validated cut offs of the
168 published NMSB grading system.⁹ NMSS total score of 0 is related to "no", 1-20 to "mild",
169 21-40 to "moderate", 41-70 to "severe" and ≥ 71 to "very severe" NMSB level.⁹

170

171 Data are represented as mean and standard deviation, median [interquartile range], or number
172 (percentage), unless otherwise specified. Group differences were tested using the Mann-
173 Whitney test and intragroup differences (baseline to follow-up) were tested using the Wilcoxon

174 signed rank test, as the data used in this study were not normally distributed ($p \leq 0.001$; Shapiro-
175 Wilk test). The significance threshold was set at 0.05. A Quade's rank analysis of covariance
176 was performed to correct for statistically significant differences in age between the two groups
177 at baseline and a Benjamini-Hochberg correction was used in case of multiple comparisons.
178 To test for differences of gender and NMSB levels Pearson Chi-square analysis was used. To
179 estimate the association between the score of baseline clinical evaluations and the incident CI
180 at follow up, two binary logistic regression models were performed, using the dichotomized
181 MMSE at follow-up defined as normal (≥ 26) and abnormal (< 26) as dependent variable. The
182 independent variables in the first model were LEDD, PD duration, PDSS, SCOPA Motor and
183 NMSS total scores at baseline. In the second model the NMSS domains scores at baseline
184 replaced NMSS total scores. The rest of variables were not included due to possible
185 collinearity. Both regression models were adjusted for age and gender. All data were analysed
186 using SPSS Version 25 (IBM SPSS Statistics for Windows, Version 25.0. Armonk, NY: IBM
187 Corp).

188

189 **Results**

190 Of the 541 patients of our study, 434 had normal cognitive function at follow-up (CN group)
191 and 107 had CI (CA group). Mean duration of follow-up was 3.18 ± 1.48 years (minimum 0.6,
192 maximum 6.9 years) for the CN and 3.28 ± 1.79 years (minimum 0.4 years, maximum 7.2 years)
193 for the CA group. At baseline the 434 patients in the CN group had mean age 64.44 ± 11.27
194 years, disease duration 5.43 ± 5.21 years, median HY stage 2 [1.0-3.0] and NMSS total score
195 45.19 ± 35.29 . 24.1% (n=104) of these patients had mild, 30.8% (n=133) moderate, 24.1%
196 (n=104) severe and 19.9% (n=86) very severe NMSB level at baseline. Patients in CA group
197 (n=107) had a mean age of 70.66 ± 8.64 , disease duration of 5.63 ± 5.36) years, median HY
198 stage 2 [2.0-3.0] and NMSS total score 52.76 ± 40.97 at baseline. 24.3% (n=26) of these

199 patients had mild, 24.3% (n=26) moderate, 19.6% (n=21) severe and 30.8% (n=33) very severe
200 NMSB level at baseline. The two groups were well matched regarding gender (p=0.15),
201 duration of disease (p=0.79), follow-up (p=0.74), and LEDD (p=0.66). Furthermore, as per
202 inclusion criteria all patients were non-demented at baseline, as defined by MMSE of ≥ 28 .
203 Importantly no statistical differences were found in total NMSS scores between groups at
204 baseline (p=0.41), nor in distribution of NMSB grading (p=0.15). Nonetheless, patients from
205 the CA group were significantly older (p< 0.001) and showed, moreover, significantly higher
206 scores in SCOPA-ME (p= 0.004), SCOPA-ADL (p= 0.004) compared with the CN patients at
207 baseline. (**Table 1**)

208

209 In terms of the NMSS domain scores at baseline, the patients of the CA group had significantly
210 higher scores in domain 4 (perceptual problems/hallucinations) (p=0.024) compared with the
211 CN patients. No significant differences between the two groups of patients were found at
212 baseline in domains 1 (cardiovascular), 2 (sleep/fatigue), 3 (mood/apathy), 6 (gastrointestinal
213 tract), 7 (urinary function), 8 (sexual function) and 9 (miscellaneous) of NMSS (p \geq 0.48) or in
214 HADS-total, SCOPA-MCompl and PDSS scores (p \geq 0.45). No significant differences were
215 also found in NMSS domain 5 (attention/memory) (p=0.2) and HY stage (p=0.06) despite the
216 trend towards statistical significance founded in the analysis without correction for age and
217 multiple testing. (**Figure 1**)

218

219 At follow up, patients in the CA group showed significantly higher median HY scores (3.0
220 [2.0-3.0] vs. 2.5 [2.0-3.0]: p=0.019), NMSS total scores (60.72 \pm 43.11 vs. 46.26 \pm 37.90: p=
221 0.003), NMS cardiovascular domain scores (2.27 \pm 3.60 vs. 1.61 \pm 2.68: p= 0.033), sleep/fatigue
222 domain scores (11.17 \pm 9.08 vs. 9.40 \pm 9.02: p= 0.033), mood/apathy domain scores
223 (10.12 \pm 12.43 vs. 7.23 \pm 11.85: p= 0.010), perceptual problems/hallucinations domain scores

224 (3.44±5.02 vs. 1.77±3.72: $p = 0.003$), attention/memory domain 5 scores (8.81±8.45 vs.
225 4.79±6.79: $p < 0.001$), as well as of SCOPA-ME scores (13.65±5.55 vs. 10.35±5.11: $p < 0.001$),
226 SCOPA-ADL scores (8.93±3.80, vs. 6.46±3.82: $p < 0.001$), HADS-total scores (13.97±7.69 vs.
227 11.29±6.81: $p = 0.003$) compared to CN patients. No significant differences were observed in
228 any of the other used clinical assessments. **(Figure 2)**

229

230 In order to identify the important baseline predictive factors of relevant CI at follow-up we
231 designed two binary regression models. In the first regression model, retained variables were
232 age (odds ratio, OR: 1.06; 95% confidential interval, 95% CI: 1.03-1.08) and SCOPA-ME (OR:
233 1.07; 95% CI: 1.02-1.11) at baseline. In the second model, NMSS domain 4 (perceptual
234 problems/hallucinations) scores at baseline were retained (OR: 1.10; 95% CI: 1.02-1.19)
235 together with age (OR: 1.05; 95% CI: 1.03-1.08) and SCOPA-ME (OR: 1.06; 95% CI: 1.01-
236 1,10) at baseline. **(Table 2)**

237

238 **Discussion**

239 In this large scale, longitudinal cohort based retrospective analysis we showed that:

- 240 1. PD patients who developed CI over the 3.2 years follow up period had significantly
241 worse NMSS baseline scores for hallucinations/perceptual problems with no baseline
242 intergroup differences in disease duration, dopaminergic medication, gender and
243 presence of depression, anxiety and sleep disorders.
- 244 2. Higher burden of hallucinations/perceptual problems, but not overall non-motor burden
245 at baseline, predicted CI in PD, which suggests that these symptoms are likely to
246 precede CI, as measured by objective screening tools such as the MMSE.

247 We believe that this may be the first study which examined whether CI could be predicted
248 using a single instrument such as the NMSS. CI in PD is, similar to other PD symptoms,

249 heterogeneous and usually occurs concomitant with a variety of other NMS and associated
250 burden of NMS.² Thus, a comprehensive method for quantifying PD manifestations such as CI
251 in the context of other NMS is worthwhile, especially in prodromal stages.¹³ The NMSS
252 encompasses practically and quantitatively the severity and frequency of NMS of patients with
253 PD including items addressing functions related to cortex and limbic system. Also validated
254 cut offs for NMS burden have been published.¹⁵ We did not find significant differences in
255 distribution of overall NMSB grading between the study groups but in specific NMS domains,
256 which was confirmed in the logistic regression models. This is in line with the concept of
257 several NMS dominant subtypes of PD, among which the limbic and cortical subtypes both
258 encompass aspects of cognitive deficits.^{24, 25, 26} The cognitive aspect of non-motor
259 endophenotype in PD is also supported by prodromal studies, which suggest cognitive deficit
260 in a subset²⁷ and also gut based cholinergic imaging studies.²⁸

261

262 Our results regarding significant higher baseline NMSS scores for hallucinations and
263 perceptual problems (as reflected by the total scores for Domain 4 of the NMSS) are consistent
264 with previous studies, which have shown that psychotic symptoms in PD, including delusions
265 and hallucinations, are risk factors for the development of dementia and predictors of poor
266 prognosis, mortality, and nursing home placement.^{7, 29} The two groups in our study did not
267 differ in disease duration and LED, so the difference in NMSS hallucinations/perceptual
268 problems scores is unlikely to be the result of duration and dopaminergic medication dose.
269 Indeed, studies from the pre-levodopa era did mention hallucinations as part of disease
270 manifestations.³⁰ Besides, contrary to the results of other studies, in which sleep disorders were
271 identified to be predictors of CI³¹; we did not find any differences in overall PDSS scores
272 between CA and CN groups at baseline. Moreover, we found that the patients in the CA group
273 were significantly older, showed significantly higher SCOPA-ME and -ADL scores and had a

274 trend towards significantly more advanced HY stage compared with the patients in the CN
275 group at baseline. These results are in line with previous studies, which provide clear evidence
276 that age, motor impairment and measures of impairment in daily activities at baseline disease
277 could predict the CI of patients.³² Using Quade's rank analysis of covariance correction we
278 could show that the observed statistically significant higher NMSS domain 4 score in the
279 patients of CA group was not due to age difference in the group, which suggest that
280 hallucinations/perceptual problems might be initial manifestation of a subgroup of PD patients
281 predisposed to CI and higher motor scores and age seem to be independent predictors, as also
282 identified in our regression analyses.

283

284 Our analysis also revealed a trend towards significantly higher scores in the NMSS domain 5
285 (attention/memory) in the CA group compared to CN group at baseline. A 2-step meta-analysis
286 comparing 30 neuropsychological tests of multiple cognitive domains showed that in non-
287 demented PD patients memory, additionally to the more commonly reported domains of
288 attention and executive function are impaired.³³ This study is consistent with ours, as cognitive
289 domains of memory and attention are addressed by the question in domain 5 of NMSS. In terms
290 of other neuropsychiatric symptoms such as depression and anxiety measured by HADS at
291 baseline, our analysis did not reveal any significant differences. These findings are not
292 consistent with other studies indicating that depression and anxiety are predictors of CI in PD.³⁴
293 Moreover, male sex has been proposed to be associated with CI as opposed to findings of our
294 study, where no gender differences were found.³⁵ Our results suggest that the development of
295 clinically relevant CI, appears to be preceded by patient-reported attention and memory
296 problems before these can be objectified using formal cognitive assessment screening tools,
297 such as the MMSE, but this phenomenon is not independent from age, gender and the other
298 baseline clinical characteristics of our cohorts.

299 A link between psychotic symptoms, attention/memory problem and development of CI in non-
300 demented PD patients has been reported.²⁹ Cholinergic dysfunction appears to be a common
301 pathophysiological mechanism and cholinergic endophenotype of PD has been proposed.^{1,36,37}
302 Neuropathological studies from PD patients with visual hallucinations showed atrophy in the
303 pedunculopontine nucleus and nucleus basalis of Meyner,^{38,39} which suggest the involvement
304 of cholinergic system in the pathogenesis of hallucinations in PD. Moreover, in PD patients
305 without a CI, such as the cohort of our study at baseline, lower cortical acetylcholinesterase
306 positron-emissions-tomography activity was associated with reduced cognitive performance
307 scores for attention, memory and executive functions.¹ Our results may thus indicate that
308 higher burden of hallucinations/ perceptual and attention/memory problems might be a marker
309 for the “cholinergic endophenotype” of PD which has therapeutic connotations.⁴⁰ In clinical
310 practice, our findings suggest that, in patients with concomitant higher burden of perceptual
311 and attention/memory problems, corresponding higher score in NMSS domain 4 and 5, the
312 awareness of dementia development also in the next 3 years should be considered in relation
313 to advanced planning and directive. Therefore, screening of PD patients with NMSS in addition
314 to MMSE might be a useful method of predicting CI. This could have major potential clinical
315 impact in relation to personalised medicine, enriching cohorts for neuroprotective studies,
316 advanced directives as well as focussed palliative care and caregiver support.

317

318 The retrospective design and a relatively short and variable follow-up are the main limitations
319 of this study, which should be addressed in future studies. For the diagnosis of idiopathic PD
320 the UK PD Brain Bank criteria were applied, because the start of data collection for our
321 cohort dates back 2011, where the revised Movement disorder society (MDS) PD criteria⁴¹
322 were not available, and even now, some of the requisites for the 2015 MDS PD criteria
323 such as objective testing of olfaction, cardiac metaiodobenzylguanidine (MIBG) scans are

324 not routinely performed at diagnosis. In addition, we used only MMSE as an instrument to
325 evaluate the CI in PD. This was because at the time of the setup of NILS in 2010 MMSE was
326 recommended as the tool for cognitive assessment by the steering group of NILS. Despite its
327 debatable accuracy and sensitivity, especially in mild cognitive deficits in PD patients, MMSE
328 is still recommended as the primary screening instrument for PDD⁴² and used as a longitudinal
329 test.⁴³ We used the threshold of 25 score of MMSE at endpoint follow up to dichotomise our
330 cohorts and form the CA and CN groups. Scores under 25 are widely used to define the start
331 of CI, relevant in daily life and therefore fulfilled the main criterion of dementia, as
332 recommended from the movement disorder society task for PDD.¹⁷ At baseline the MMSE
333 score between the groups was also significant different, but not relevant in clinical practice as
334 the difference was only 0.66 (mean) and MMSE score was above 28 as per inclusion criteria.
335 The NMSS is a validated tool for assessing NMS in PD patients, reflecting a real-world
336 experience; however, NMSS contains only three items addressing cognitive domains, which
337 are mainly assessed by history taking and are not an objective cognitive test. The strength of
338 our study was that we studied a large number of patients (n=541) and a diversity of variables
339 regarding demographics and outcome of PD patients and we corrected for age and multiple
340 comparisons.

341

342 To conclude, our results suggest that non-motor profiling of PD patients by using the NMSS
343 could be useful in aiding the prediction of CI development in PD patients over an average
344 period of three years. Moreover, it can contribute to categorising patients into a subgroup,
345 where cholinergic systems might be pathophysiologically involved. High scores on the
346 hallucinations/psychosis domain of the NMSS should alert the clinician to the likelihood that
347 PD patients would develop CI over the coming years, preceding changes in more objective

348 cognitive screening tools, such as the MMSE. In addition to sophisticated and detailed tools to
349 predict CI, the NMSS system adds a pragmatic, quick win based strategy that can be widely
350 applicable even in non-specialised clinics.

351

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362 or the Department of Health.

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373 **Table 1: Descriptive statistics of the study groups at baseline and at follow up. Data are represented as**
 374 **mean ± standard deviation, unless otherwise specified. Group differences tested using Mann-Whitney U**
 375 **test.**

376

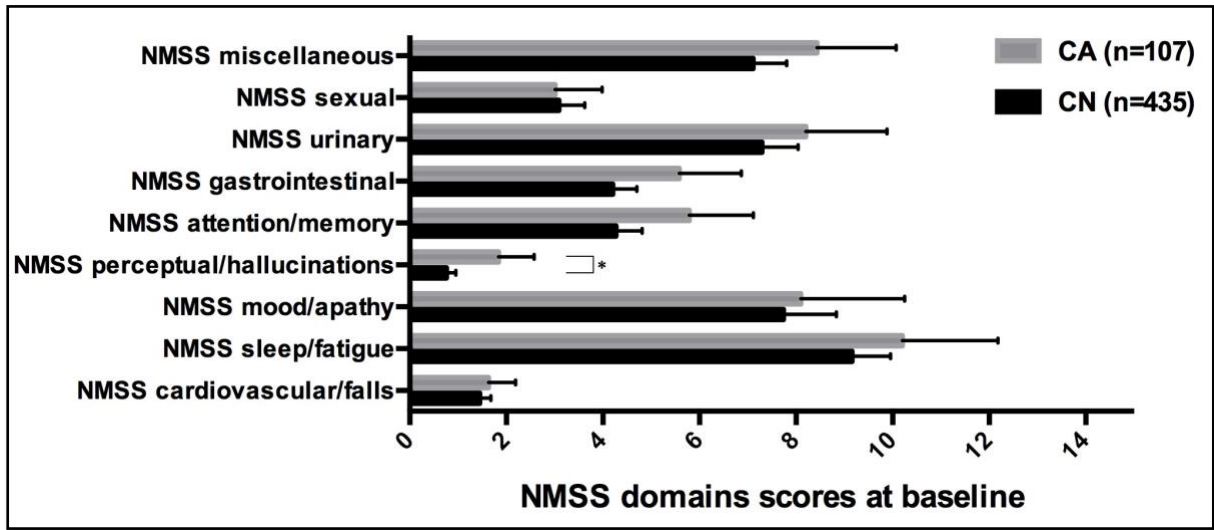
Baseline demographics	Baseline				CA (n=107)
	CA (n=107)	CN (n=435)	P ¹	P ²	
Age (ys)	70.66±8.64	64.44±11.27	<0.001	N/A	73.78±8.46
Gender (M/F)	69.2%/30.8%	61.8%/38.2%	0.159	0.318	69.2%/30.8%
Disease duration (ys)	5.63±5.36	5.43±5.21	0.798	0.798	8.81±5.85
Duration follow-up (ys)	3.18±1.48	3.28±1.79	0.743	0.798	N/A
LEDD (mg)	473.37±407.35	512.70±475.03	0.667	0.798	728.02±460.96
HY †	2.0 [2.0-3.0]	2.0 [1.0-3.0]	0.023	0.061	3.0 [2.0-3.0]
Outcome measures					
SCOPA-ME	11.36±5.36	9.40±4.89	0.001	0.004	13.65±5.55
SCOPA-ADL	6.23±3.45	4.98±3.29	0.001	0.004	8.93±3.80
SCOPA-MCompl	1.68±2.82	1.61±2.52	0.592	0.798	1.98±2.12
NMSS cardiovascular/falls	1.63±2.91	1.45±2.47	0.642	0.963	2.27±3.60
NMSS sleep/fatigue	10.20±10.32	9.16±8.45	0.771	0.973	11.17±9.08
NMSS mood/apathy	8.10±11.21	7.74±11.63	0.892	0.973	10.12±12.43
NMSS perceptual/hallucinations	1.84±3.82	0.76±2.05	0.002	0.024	3.44±5.02
NMSS attention/memory	5.79±6.90	4.27±5.80	0.034	0.204	8.81±8.45
NMSS gastrointestinal	5.58±6.71	4.20±5.35	0.071	0.284	6.06±6.23
NMSS urinary	8.20±8.77	7.29±8.00	0.322	0.552	8.56±9.29
NMSS sexual	3.01±5.06	3.09±5.66	0.892	0.973	1.88±4.70
NMSS miscellaneous	8.43±8.57	7.11±7.42	0.223	0.454	8.60±8.50
NMSS total	52.76±40.97	45.19±35.29	0.139	0.417	60.72±43.11
PDSS total	109.92±27.48	107.36±25.51	0.227	0.454	95.23±29.07
HADS total	11.01±7.44	10.77±6.47	0.985	0.985	13.97±7.69

377 CA, cognitively abnormal (MMSE score of ≤25 at follow up); CN, Cognitively normal (MMSE score of ≥26 at
 378 follow up); N, number; ¹, Uncorrected p-values; ², P-values corrected for age (Quade's rank analysis of covariance
 379 correction) and multiple testing (Benjamini-Hochberg procedure); †, Median [25th-75th percentile]. Ys, years;
 380 M, male; F, female; HY, Hoehn and Yahr; LED, Levodopa equivalent dose; SCOPA, SCAles for Outcomes in
 381 Parkinson's disease; -ME, motor examination; -ADL, - activities of daily living; - MCompl, motor complications;
 382 NMSS, non-motor symptom scale; HADS, hospital anxiety and depression scale; PDSS, Parkinson's disease sleep
 383 scale.

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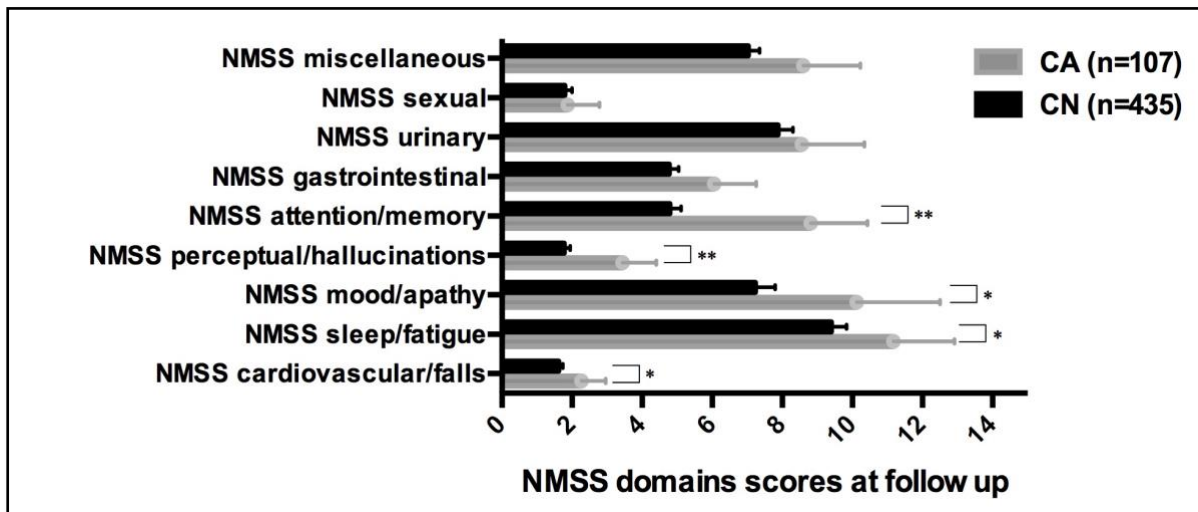
386 **Figure 1: NMSS domains scores between the study groups at baseline. Data presented as mean and 95%**
 387 **confidence intervals (bars).**



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 389 CA, cognitively abnormal (MMSE score of ≤ 25 at follow up); CN, Cognitively normal (MMSE score of ≥ 26 at
 390 follow up). * Indicates a p value of 0.024 (Quade's rank analysis of covariance correction for age and Benjamini-
 391 Hochberg procedure correction for multiple testing); The NMSS Score for each item is based on a multiple of
 392 severity (from 0 to 3) and frequency (from 1 to 4) scores.

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407 **Figure 2: NMSS domains scores between the study groups at follow up. Data presented as mean and 95%**
 408 **confidence intervals (bars).**



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 410 CA, cognitively abnormal (MMSE score of ≤ 25 at follow up); CN, Cognitively normal (MMSE score of ≥ 26 at
 411 follow up). * Indicates a p value < 0.05 (Quade's rank analysis of covariance correction for age and Benjamini-
 412 Hochberg procedure correction for multiple testing); ** indicates a p value < 0.005 (Quade's rank analysis of
 413 covariance correction for age and Benjamini-Hochberg procedure correction for multiple testing); The NMSS
 414 Score for each item is based on a multiple of severity (from 0 to 3) and frequency (from 1 to 4) scores.

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429 **Table 2: Results of logistic regression models. First model: Dependent variable; the dichotomized MMSE**
 430 **at follow-up defined as MMSE_FU_REC: 0=normal (≥ 26); 1=abnormal (< 26). Independent variables were**
 431 **Levodopa equivalent dose (LED), PD duration, Parkinson's disease sleep scale (PDSS), Scales for**
 432 **Outcomes in Parkinson's disease -motor examination (SCOPA-ME) and non-motor symptom scale**
 433 **(NMSS) total scores at baseline. Second model: Dependent variable; defined as MMSE_FU_REC:**
 434 **0=normal (≥ 26); 1=abnormal (< 26). Independent variables LED, PD duration, PDSS, SCOPA-ME and**
 435 **NMSS domains scores at baseline. Only data for significant predictors are shown.**

	B	p-value	OR	95% C.I. for OR	
				Lower	Upper
First Model					
Age	0.055	<0.001	1.057	1.033	1.081
SCOPA-ME	0.067	0.002	1.069	1.025	1.116
Constant	-5.828	<0.001	0.003		
Second Model					
Age	0.053	<0.001	1.055	1.031	1.079
SCOPA-ME	0.054	0.017	1.056	1.010	1.103
NMSS domain 4	0.097	0.014	1.102	1.020	1.191
Constant	-5.681	<0.001	0.003		

436 B, Beta value; OR: Odds Ratio. C.I., confidence interval; NMSS domain 4, perceptual problems/hallucinations

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