# PARKINSON PERSONALITY TRAITS Clinical, psychodiagnostic and graphomotor assessment

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Several studies have described certain character features of the personality of patients with Parkinson's disease - like traits of inflexibility, moral rigidity, punctuality, tendency to introversion, tendency to obsessive-compulsive behavior, etc.

The aim of this study was to evaluate the question, do Parkinson patients (P) have significantly different personality traits in comparison to healthy controls, and if so, did these personality traits exist already before the onset of illness?

The study included 38 P patients (average age 54,9), who had been ill by means of 5,2 years with Essential Tremor (ET), and 17 healthy controls, all matched in age and sex distribution.

The intellectual performance was tested (MiniMental State, Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale, WAIS), the emotional state was assessed (Geriatric Depression Scale, GDS) and the actual personality profile was assessed (Cattell's 16 P.F Personality Inventory).

For assessment of **premorbid character and behavior traits** an extensive, semistandardized biographical interview was conducted with the patients and the healthy controls to cover premorbid habits, hobbies, family life, professional career and social activities. The same interview was also conducted with a close relative.

We collected handwriting samples from 30 patients and from the control group, dating back an average of **26 years** before onset of the disease. These handwritings were subjected to a blinded graphomotor examination (Prof. Lockowandt, University of Bielefeld). 73% of the specimens were correctly judged as handwritings of persons who later developed Parkinson's disease.

The results of these studies show that there are differences in personality traits between patients and controls. These differences were already there in early youth as well as motor dysfunction (early handwriting) was apparent in early youth.

Alpine Basal Ganglia Club Symposium; May 27-29, 2004, Mikulov, Czech Republic

## ALPINE BASAL GANGLIA CLUB Mikulov, Czech Republic May 27–29, 2004

ORGANIZED BY Movement Disorders Section of the Czech Neurological Society

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### SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

### FRIDAY, MAY 28

#### 08:30-10:30 NEUROPSYCHIATRIC ASPECTS OF BASAL GANGLIA DISORDERS CHAIR: C. COLOSIMO, P. KAŇOVSKÝ

 o8:30-09:00
 PD, PD with dementia and dementia with Lewy bodies: The clinical spectrum of a single biological entity?

 c. Colosimo (Roma)
 09:00-09:25

 Dementia in Parkinson's disease and Alzheimer's disease I. Rektorová (Brno)

 09:25-09:50
 Neuropsychology and event-related potentials in basal ganglia disorders Z. Pirtosek (Ljubljana)

 09:50-10:15
 Cognitive potentials in the basal ganglia – frontocortical circuits I. Rektor (Brno)

10:15-10:25 Parkinson personality traits: Clinical, psychodiagnostic and graphomotor assessment E. Karamat, F. Gerstenbrand (Wien), W. Poewe (Innsbruck)

10:25-11:00 Coffee break

- 11:00-13:00 DEEP BRAIN STIMULATION IN MOVEMENT DISORDERS CHAIR: I. REKTOR, J. BENETIN
- 11:00-11:30 Non-motor effects of DBS A. Albanese (Milano)
- 11:30–11:55 Inclusion criteria and clinical effects of DBS E. Růžička (Prague)
- 11:55-12:20 Deep brain stimulation stereotactic procedure D. Urgošík (Prague)
- 12:20–12:45 Functional imaging of DBS R. Jech (Prague)
- 12:45-12:55 Subthalamic nucleus vs. internal globus pallidus stimulation in the same Parkinson's disease patients: different, but additional effects A. Peppe, M. Pierantozzi, A. Bassi, M. G. Altibrandi, L. Brusa, A. Stefani, P. Stanzione, P. Mazzone (Roma)

12:55-14:30 Lunch break

