

Abstract Information

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Title of the Symposium :	AfrAbia's Genetic Puzzle: Mapping the Genetic Terrain of Parkinson's Disease
Category :	Invited Speakers
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Title :	Challenges of managing PD in Morocco
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Parkinsonian syndromes are common in Morocco; they constitute the fourth reason for consultation among Moroccan neurologists.

In addition, Parkinson's disease represents more than 60% of all Parkinsonian syndromes, and whose familial forms constitute approximately 10%.

Over the last 50 years, medicine in general and neurology in particular have made great progress in Morocco; both on clinical, paraclinical investigations (such as new MRI techniques, functional imaging or neurogenetics), than in terms of medical care, rehabilitation and functional surgery.

Despite all this progress, challenges persist. And after a survey among our neurologists, we found the following reasons:

- The long delay before consulting specialists.
- The widespread traditional practices and further delay the management.
- The non-neurologist collaborates (rheumatologists and neurosurgeons); also take care of this pathology, and unfortunately do not control it, and one of the reasons for their involvement is the low number of neurological patients in Morocco (< 240 for the 38 million inhabitants).
- Genetic forms are often underdiagnosed, due to the lack of neurogenetic centers and, if they exist, they lack expertise.
- Antiparkinsonian drugs are few in number compared to European countries, often missing and their prices are more expensive than in Europe (tax issues).
- Parkinson's surgery has started about a dozen years ago but remains very little developed,

and focused on large university hospitals.

Finally, prevention especially of secondary Parkinson's is insufficiently developed, even if research work done; which has focused on the role of carbon monoxide, heavy metals and insecticides.

Conclusion: Management of parkinsonian syndromes has significantly progressed, and if PD is the dominant cause, we have high number of toxic parkinsonian syndromes. This management is still facing many challenges that request:

- ? Good coordination between authorities, clinicians, scientists,
- ? Develop and promote research in different field of Parkinson
- ? Create expertise centers of genetics for Parkinson
- ? And finally, broaden the therapeutic choice for clinicians and develop preventive strategies for secondary parkinsonisme.