EPIDEMIOLOGICAL STUDY OF PARKINSON’S DISEASE IN THE NORTHEAST REGION OF BRAZIL FROM 2014 TO 2019

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**INTRODUCTION**

Parkinson’s disease (PD) is a neurodegenerative disorder that affects the dopaminergic system of the substantia nigra and is characterized by the triad: tremor, rigidity and bradykinesia. However, PD can affect other parts of the CNS, resulting in other symptoms, such as postural hypotension, dementia, among others. Currently, it is one of the most common neurological diseases that chronically and progressively affects all ethnicities and socioeconomic classes.

**GOAL**

The present work aims to describe the epidemiological profile of Parkinson’s disease in the Northeast region from 2014 to 2019.

**METHODOLOGY**

It concerns an epidemiological, cross-sectional, retrospective study with a quantitative approach. Data from the period 2014-2019 reported on the TABNET and DATASUS search website were used, considering the variables: region, federation unit, year of processing, age group and gender.

**RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

There was a total of 1,132 cases of hospitalizations due to Parkinson’s disease between 2014 and 2019 in the northeast region, the majority of which occurred in Ceará (29.86%), followed by Bahia (27.83%). From 2014 (281) to 2015 (289) the number of hospitalizations increased discreetly, which was followed by a considerable reduction in this number until 2018 (111), with a modest increase again in 2019 (128). The age group with the highest number of hospitalizations, 761, were people aged 60 or over (67.23%), followed by people aged 40 to 59 (27.83%).
According to gender, males were the most affected with 678 hospitalizations compared to 454 hospitalizations for females. It was possible to observe that over the years the number of hospitalizations decreased. This is due to pharmacological treatment methods with high success rates in both reducing disease progression and controlling PD symptoms. Furthermore, because it is multifactorial, that is, several factors influence its appearance and worsening, such as genetic predisposition and environmental factors; however, the aging process is directly associated with this condition. Therefore, proportional to increasing age, there is an increase in hospitalizations caused by PD. From the data, it is clear that PD affects more men than women, but it is not scientifically known why gender is a risk factor.

**CONCLUSION**

Therefore, it was observed that the number of hospitalizations caused by PD decreased over the years. Furthermore, it has been proven that this condition worsens with increasing age.