

Press release

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Basic information

Name: Karoline Knudsen Email: karoknud@rm.dk Phone: 21 24 30 65

Department of: Clinical Medicine

Main supervisor: Professor, consultant Per Borghammer

Title of dissertation: Measures of Gastrointestinal Function in Parkinson's Disease

Date for defence: November 22nd 2018 at (time of day): 14:00 Place: Palle Juul-Jensen Auditoriet, Nørrebrogade 44, building 10G, Aarhus University Hospital

Press release (Danish)

Undersøgelser af mave-tarmfunktionen hos patienter med Parkinsons sygdom

Objektive og subjektive mål af mave-tarmfunktionen ved Parkinsons sygdom er undersøgt i et nyt ph.d.-projekt fra Aarhus Universitet, Institut for Klinisk Medicin. Projektet er gennemført af Karoline Knudsen, der forsvare det d. 22. november 2018.

En stor del af patienter med Parkinsons sygdom (PS) oplever symptomer fra mave-tarmkanalen selv i meget tidlige sygdomsstadier. Det er påvist, at sygdomsspecifik patologi er til stede i tarmen hos patienterne flere år før diagnosen, og en nyere hypotese postulerer, at patologien ved PS muligvis starter i nerveenderne i mavetarmkanalen hos nogle patienter, hvorefter det spreder sig til centralnervesystemet og hjernen. For at forstå mave-tarmkanalens rolle i sygdomsprocessen og udviklingen er det blevet af stor vigtighed at etablere standardiserede mål for mave-tarmfunktionen ved PS.

Dette ph.d. projekt har testet forskellige objektive metoder til mål af mave-tarmfunktionen hos diagnosticerede PS patienter og patienter med REM søvnforstyrrelse (RBD), som vides i de fleste tilfælde at udvikle PS over tid. Ligeledes er det undersøgt, hvor god overensstemmelse der er mellem objektive funktionsmål og patienternes selvrapporterede symptomer.

Forsvaret af ph.d.-projektet er offentligt og finder sted d. 22. november kl. 14:00 i Palle Juul-Jensen Auditoriet, Aarhus Universitetshospital, Nørrebrogade 44, bygning 10G, Aarhus C. Forsvaret holdes på engelsk. Projektets danske titel er "Undersøgelser af mave-tarmfunktionen hos patienter med Parkinsons sygdom".

Yderligere oplysninger: Ph.d.-studerende Karoline Knudsen, e-mail: karoknud@rm.dk, tlf. 21243065.

Bedømmelsesudvalg:

Professor, overlæge Jens Christian Hedemann Sørensen, Institut for Klinisk Medicin, Aarhus Universitet, Neurokirurgisk afd., Aarhus Universitetshospital

Overlæge, dr. med. Filip Scheperjans, Department of Neurology, Helsinki University Hospital, Department of Clinical Neurosciences, University of Helsinki, Finland

Lektor, overlæge Annemette Løkkegaard, Neurologisk afd., Bispebjerg Hospital, København

Press release (English)

Measures of Gastrointestinal Function in Parkinson's Disease

Objective and subjective measures of gastrointestinal function were evaluated in a new PhD project from Aarhus University, Department of Clinical Medicine. The project was carried out by Karoline Knudsen, who is defending her dissertation on November 22nd 2018.

The majority of patients with Parkinson's disease (PD) experience symptoms from the gut even at very early disease stages. It has been shown that PD specific pathology is present in the gut several years prior to diagnosis, and a more recent hypothesis suggests that the pathology in some patients may initiate in the nerve terminals of the gut, and subsequently spread to the brain. To understand the involvement of the gut in relation to the disease process and development, it is of great importance to establish standardised measures of gut function in PD.

This PhD project has evaluated different objective measures of gut function in diagnosed PD patients and patients with REM sleep behavior disorder (RBD), which is now recognized as a prodromal sign of PD in most cases. Furthermore, the relationship between objective functional measures and patient reported symptoms has been studied.

The defence is public and takes place on November 22nd 2018 at 14:00 in the Palle Juul-Jensen Auditorium, Aarhus University Hospital, Nørrebrogade 44, building 10G, Aarhus C.

The title of the PhD thesis is "Measures of Gastrointestinal Function in Parkinson's Disease".

For more information, please contact PhD student Karoline Knudsen, email: karoknud@rm.dk, Phone +45 2124 3065.

Assessment committee:

Professor, consultant Jens Christian Hedemann Sørensen, Institute of Clinical Medicine, Aarhus University, Department of Neurosurgery, Aarhus University Hospital, Denmark

Dr. med., consultant Filip Scheperjans, Department of Neurology, Helsinki University Hospital, Department of Clinical Neurosciences, University of Helsinki, Finland

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