Author's response to reviews

Title: Actigraphy as a diagnostic aid for REM sleep behavior disorder in Parkinson's disease

Authors:

Maartje Louter (maartje.louter@gmail.com)
Johan B.A.M. Arends (arendsj@kempenhaeghe.nl)
Bastiaan R. Bloem (b.bloem@neuro.umcn.nl)
Sebastiaan Overeem (s.overeem@neuro.umcn.nl)

Version: 2 Date: 21 October 2013

Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear members of the editorial board,

Please find attached our paper entitled “Actigraphy as a diagnostic aim for REM sleep behavior disorder in Parkinson’s disease”, which we would like to submit as an original article in BMC Neurology.

In clinical practice, the diagnosis of rapid eye movement (REM) sleep behavior disorder (RBD) in Parkinson’s disease patients requires video polysomnography, which is costly and time consuming. A less expensive, easy to use methods to diagnose RBD would therefore be welcome. We compared wrist-worn actigraphy results between Parkinson's patients with and without RBD. In addition, we determined optimal cut-off values to implement the use of actigraphy in clinical practice.

Our results show a significantly higher number of bouts scored as "wake" in RBD patients. ROC analyses indicate that actigraphy has a very high specificity and a good positive predictive value for RBD in Parkinson's disease. We therefore feel that our data provide a valuable contribution to augment the current diagnostic trajectory. No potential competing interests are present. The paper is not under consideration at another journal. In the revised version we included the name of the Ethics Committee.

With kind regards, also on behalf of the other authors,

Sebastiaan Overeem, MD, PhD
Department of Neurology
Donders Institute for Brain, Cognition and Behaviour
Radboud University Nijmegen Medical Centre
PO Box 9101
6500 HB Nijmegen, The Netherlands
Fax: +31-24-3617018
Email: s.overeem@neuro.umcn.nl