

Skin Conditions and Movement Disorders: Hiding in Plain Sight

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Abstract: Skin manifestations are well-recognized non-motor symptoms of Parkinson's disease (PD) and other hypokinetic and hyperkinetic movement disorders. Skin conditions are usually well visible during routine clinical examination and their recognition may play a major role in diagnostic work-up. In this educational review we: (1) briefly outline skin conditions related to Parkinson's disease, including therapy-related skin complications and their management; (2) discuss the role of skin biopsies in early diagnosis of PD and differential diagnosis of parkinsonian syndromes; and focus more on areas which have not been reviewed in the literature before, including (3) skin conditions related to atypical parkinsonism, and (4) skin conditions related to hyperkinetic movement disorders. In case of rare hyperkinetic movement disorders, specific dermatological manifestations, like presence of angiokeratomas, telangiectasias, Mongolian spots, lipomas, ichthyosis, progeroid skin changes and others may point to a very specific group of disorders and help guide further investigations.

Introduction

Skin disorders are a well-recognized, although often overlooked, symptom associated with Parkinson's disease (PD) and other movement disorders. Multiple skin conditions have been previously well-described and comprehensively reviewed in the context of PD.^{1,2} Skin changes may be present also in atypical parkinsonism, although the body of literature in this regard is rather limited and related almost exclusively to autonomic skin changes and skin biopsies in the differential diagnosis of parkinsonian syndromes. In addition to hypokinetic disorders, several hyperkinetic movement disorders may be related to prominent dermatological manifestations, such as presence of lipomas related to mitochondrial disorders,³ angiokeratomas related to lysosomal storage disorders,⁴ or presence of progeroid skin changes, skin hypersensitivity and tumors associated with defects in DNA repair mechanisms.⁵ In this educational review we provide a brief overview of non-iatrogenic and iatrogenic therapy-related skin conditions related to PD, including the role of skin biopsies in the diagnosis and differential diagnosis of parkinsonian syndromes (for a more in-depth overview see e.g. the reviews of Skorvanek et Bhatia¹ or Niemann et al.²) and we concentrate more on

review of skin conditions associated with atypical parkinsonism and hyperkinetic movement disorders, which have not been comprehensively reviewed in the literature before.

Methods

We searched articles published in English using Pubmed without restriction on dates. We used a combination of medical subject headings (MeSH): "Skin" and/or "cutaneous," "dermat*," "melanoma," "basal cell carcinoma," "squamous cell carcinoma," "granuloma," "lipoma*," "seborrhoeic dermatitis," "rosacea," "sweating," "bullous pemphigoid," "erythema*," "pigmentary changes," "progeroid," "alopecia," "hypertrichosis," "hair," "self-injurious behavior," "self-mutilations," "parkinson*," "progressive supranuclear palsy," "multiple system atrophy," "corticobasal," "Dementia with Lewy bodies," "dystonia," "chorea," "myoclonus," "tremor," "ataxia," "tics." We also included additional references from relevant research and review articles.

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Skin Conditions Related to Parkinson's Disease

Seborrheic dermatitis

The relationship between seborrheic dermatitis (SD) and PD has been known since 1927.⁶ It is a chronic, relapsing dermatitis characterized by erythematous lesions with greasy scales, affecting sebum-rich areas of the scalp, face, hairline, nasolabial folds, ears and upper chest (Fig. 1A). SD is primarily seen in infants, in adults over the age 50 and more in men.⁷ In the study of Tanner et al.⁸ SD was associated with increased risk of PD. Moreover, in 4% of their PD cases the diagnosis of SD was made prior to the diagnosis of PD, suggesting a potential prodromal marker of the disease.⁸

The exact mechanisms underlying the association of PD and SD are not fully clear. Increased prevalence of SD in PD may be influenced by *Malassezia*, a yeast which is present in lipid-rich skin areas,⁹ and gene polymorphisms in *GBA*, *LRRK2*, *PINK1* or *SNCA*, playing a role in lipid regulation and coating of lipid droplets.⁷

Some of the contradictory causes of SD include autonomic dysfunction,¹⁰ although this was not confirmed in other studies;¹¹ the role of androgens or testosterone relating to higher incidence of SD in male populations,^{11,12} and the systemic effect of melanocyte-stimulating hormone.¹³

Appropriate anti-fungal treatment, such as ketoconazole can be useful for PD patients to reduce *Malassezia* growth and enzyme production. Anti-inflammatory agents like topical steroids or topical calcineurin inhibitors can also be used in the treatment.¹⁴

Rosacea

Rosacea is a chronic inflammatory disorder classified to 4 subtypes: erythematotelangiectatic, papulopustular, phymatous and ocular.¹⁵ Skin manifestations include centofacial erythema, telangiectasia,

papules, pustules, skin thickening of the nose, rarely beard or ear regions due to fibrosis and glandular hypertrophy (Fig. 1B). The pathogenesis of rosacea is not fully understood, but genetics, immune and environmental factors, neurovascular dysregulation, and microorganisms, may play a role in the pathogenesis.²

Association of rosacea with PD was shown in two large population-based studies with an almost 2-fold increase in the risk of PD among patients with rosacea, mostly the ocular type.^{16,17} Possible mechanisms linking PD and rosacea include: (1) up-regulation of matrix metalloproteinase (MMP) enzymes, notably MMP-1 and MMP-3 (which plays a role in tissue breakdown and repair in rosacea¹⁸ and contributes to nigrostriatal dopaminergic neuronal loss and neuroinflammation in animal models of PD¹⁹), (2) microbiome gut-brain axis,¹⁶ and (3) Neuropeptide Y which often accompanies the onset of rosacea.²⁰

Treatment of rosacea includes avoidance of triggering factors, topical treatment (metronidazole, azelaic acid, antibiotics, topical alpha-agonists, ivermectin, retinoids), systemic medications (doxycycline, beta blockers, hydroxychloroquine, in case of severe rosacea fulminans retinoids and corticosteroids), systemic treatment with anti IL17 injections, intradermal botulinum toxin injections, and surgical care (electrosurgery, 585-nm pulsed dye laser, mechanical dermabrasion, carbon dioxide laser peel, and surgical shave techniques).²¹

Sweating disturbances

Sweating disturbances are common and distressing non-motor symptoms of PD that are related mainly to autonomic dysfunction, off periods, and dyskinesias.²² They occur mainly on the head, neck and trunk and may be asymmetric. Several reports indicate that sweating disturbance may occur in 30% to 60% of PD patients, with hyperhidrosis being more common (9–100%, average 38%) compared to hypohidrosis (9–46%, average 15%).^{1,2}



FIG 1. Skin changes in Parkinson's disease. (A) Seborrheic dermatitis, (B) Rosacea, (C) Bullous pemphigoid.¹

Bullous pemphigoid

Several studies and case-series confirmed a significant association between bullous pemphigoid (BP) and several neurological diseases.²³ BP is an autoimmune bullous disease which commonly affects elderly people and is characterized by the generation of autoantibodies directed in particular against BP180/collagen XVII and BP230/dystonin. BP clinically presents with itchy erythematous patches, on which tense bullae with clear or hemorrhagic content later occur (Fig. 1C). After rupture, bullae leave erosions and crusts. Mucosal involvement is observed in 10%–30% cases.²⁴

BP has a significant association with PD, and the risk ratio of BP in patients with PD has been reported between 2.2 and 9.0. Based on current evidence it is not possible to differentiate whether the elevated risk of BP is driven by the neurological disorder itself or its treatment.²³

Systemic corticosteroid therapy represents the treatment of choice for severe forms. Adjunctive therapy includes combination with azathioprine, mycophenolate mofetil, tetracyclines plus nicotinamide, methotrexate, and dapsone. Bacterial superinfection of erosions should be treated with local antiseptics.²³

Malignant melanoma

The risk of dying from cancer is lower in PD patients compared to the general population. On the other hand, PD patients have a significantly higher risk of developing melanomas, which does not seem to be related to dopaminergic therapy.^{25–29}

Cutaneous melanoma (CM) causes 90% of skin cancer mortality. It is a malignant tumor that arises from melanocytes, primarily involves the skin, and can occur from a preexisting pigmented mole. In this case skin signs of CM are often based on ABCDE criteria (Asymmetry, Border irregularity, Color variety, Diameter, Evolution).³⁰ CM can occur also de novo and in that case the lesion usually looks like an "ugly duckling," being different from the others.

Clinical manifestations of CM subtypes include: (1) superficial spreading melanoma (macule or patch of irregular shape and different brown to black pigmentation), (2) nodular melanoma (nodular, exophytic, often bleeding tumor with brown-black pigmentation), (3) lentigo malignant melanoma (located on sun-damaged areas mainly face of elderly individuals), (4) acral lentiginous melanoma (subungual and palmoplantar location), (5) amelanotic melanoma (lesion with little or no pigmentation).³¹

Alterations in melanin and melanin-synthesizing enzymes, genetic factors, and abnormal autophagy, along with the fact that both melanocytes and neurons share their embryological origins from the neural crest, have all been proposed to underlie the increased risk of melanoma in PD.^{1,32}

No evidence-based recommendations can be made regarding the need for periodic dermatological screening in PD specifically. Nevertheless, in general any changing or otherwise concerning melanocytic nevus should be checked by a dermatologist, otherwise preventive dermatological screening for CM or non-melanoma skin cancer should be done every year.

Therapy-related skin disorders in PD

Iatrogenic skin complications of PD therapy were summarized in detail in several previously published reviews, with recommendations for both prevention and treatment.^{1,2} Apart from possible allergic reactions, oral pharmacotherapy-associated skin disorders were generally mild, with resolution after drug discontinuation in most cases. Lower limb oedema (associated with levodopa, dopamine agonists), livedo reticularis (amantadine), alopecia, vitiligo, hyperpigmentation (levodopa) can be listed as the most common ones.² In case of other administration routes such as transdermal patch (rotigotine), subcutaneous infusion (apomorphine, levodopa) or via percutaneous endoscopic gastrostomy (levodopa-carbidopa intestinal gel), skin complications were mostly procedure and maintenance related—wound infections, application/infusion site reactions, subcutaneous nodules etc., manageable by standard prevention and treatment measures.² As for deep brain stimulation, hardware-related infections and subsequent skin erosion were described.³³ The overview of skin complications and their management is outlined in Table 1.

Skin conditions related to atypical Parkinsonism

Multiple system atrophy

Multiple system atrophy (MSA) is a progressive neurodegenerative disorder, caused by underlying α -synuclein (α -syn) pathology and characterized by a combination of parkinsonism, ataxia, corticospinal dysfunction and autonomic failure.³⁴ Although formerly considered as a pure CNS degeneration, a peripheral component was also proposed recently as phosphorylated α -syn (p- α -syn) was detected in cutaneous small fiber nerves in MSA patients.³⁵

Anhidrosis occurs in majority of MSA subjects and tends to be progressive and widespread, compared to non-progressive asymptomatic hypohidrosis restricted to hands and feet in PD.³⁶ Pathogenetic mechanisms probably involve both postganglionic and preganglionic sudomotor dysfunction.³⁷ Several electrophysiological tests can detect autonomic skin abnormalities and distinguish between various neurodegenerative disorders. Mental or physiological stimuli normally lead to a transient rise of sweat secretion (sympathetic sweat response, SSWR) and transient reduction of skin blood flow in the palm/sole (skin vasomotor reflex, SkVR). Pure autonomic failure (PAF) also presents a condition of dysautonomia, but without extrapyramidal symptomatology. Diminished SSWR and preserved SkVR was observed in MSA, while attenuation of both seems to be characteristic of PAF, which can help to differentiate MSA and PAF, especially in the early stages.³⁸ Sympathetic skin response (SSR) tends to be abnormal in MSA (69–100%) much more frequently than in PD (0–7.7%).^{39,40} The Odds Ratio (OR) for having MSA-parkinsonism (MSA-P) vs. PD based on reduced sweating function (assessed by electrochemical skin

TABLE 1 Therapy-related skin complications and their management in Parkinson's disease, adapted from Niemann et al.²

Therapy		Possible complications	Recommendations
Pharmacotherapy	Route of administration		
Levodopa/ carbidopa	Oral	Lower extremity oedema, allergic cutaneous reactions, alopecia, vitiligo, skin hyperpigmentation, Laugier–Hunziker syndrome, Henoch–Schönlein syndrome, pseudobullous morphea, scleroderma-like illness	Drug discontinuation (resolution of most of the complications)
	Subcutaneous infusion	Subcutaneous nodules Other infusion site reaction (hematoma, infections, pain)	Prevention: rotation of infusion sites As in other subcutaneous delivery therapies; under investigation
	Via PEG-J (LCIG)	Wound infections, erythema at stoma site	Prevention: remove dressing before cleaning, clean with soap and water (avoid alcohol, iodine), mobilize PEG-J 2–3 cm in and out of stoma one healed; treatment: systemic antibiotics, possible removal of PEG-J
		Excessive granulation tissue Stoma leakage	Topical silver nitrate, surgical removal Avoid topical creams/ointments, apply dressing to keep stoma dry
Amantadine	Oral	Livedo reticularis	Resolution 2–4 weeks after drug discontinuation
Dopamine agonists: ropinirole, pramipexole (non-ergoline)	Oral	Lower limb oedema	Resolution with drug discontinuation
Dopamine agonists: rotigotine (non-ergoline)	Transdermal patch	Localized skin reactions (erythema, oedema, pruritus)	Prevention: rotation of application sites, apply patch to clean and dry skin, clean area with soap and water after patch removal; treatment: topical steroids
Dopamine agonists: bromocriptine, cabergoline, pergolide, lisuride (ergoline)	Oral	Erythromelalgia-like skin eruption – painful erythema and oedema of the feet and ankles	Resolution with drug discontinuation
Apomorphine	Subcutaneous infusion	Subcutaneous nodules, infusion site erythema (panniculitis)	Prevention: rotation of infusion sites, use Teflon needles, apply needle at 45–90° delivery angle, use lower concentration of apomorphine solution; treatment: massage, silicone dressing, ultrasound management
	Sublingual	Oropharyngeal erythema	Resolution with drug discontinuation

(Continues)

TABLE 1 Continued

Therapy		Possible complications	Recommendations
COMT inhibitors: entacapone	Oral	Bullous eruptions	Case report – i.v. antibiotic and corticosteroid treatment
Surgery			
DBS	Subcutaneous placement of hardware	Hardware infections	Prevention: use curved scalp incisions during placement, avoid externalization of hardware following surgery; treatment: wound debridement, hardware removal, i.v. antibiotics
		Skin erosions	Prevention: use of smaller hardware with lower profile, recessing hardware into drilled bone, using curved scalp incisions, implanting hardware under muscle fascia when possible; treatment: surgical revision, wound debridement, hardware removal or re-implantation

Abbreviations: PEG-J, percutaneous endoscopic gastrostomy; LCIG, Levodopa-carbidopa intestinal gel; COMT, catechol-O-methyltransferase; i.v., intravenous; DBS, deep brain stimulation.

conductance for hands and feet) is 4.94; in combination with orthostatic hypotension and reduced heart rate variations (HRV) to deep breathing the OR can be further increased to 11.68.⁴¹

Another autonomic cutaneous manifestation in MSA is disturbed neurovascular thermoregulation of distal extremities—the so-called cold hand sign.⁴² Palm skin temperature is significantly lower in MSA patients than in controls; the temperature <28°C can even distinguish MSA from PD, although with low sensitivity.⁴³

Dementia with Lewy bodies

Dementia with Lewy bodies (DLB) is a synucleinopathy characterized by dementia and varying combinations of the core clinical features of parkinsonism, REM sleep behavior disorder (RBD), fluctuating cognition/alertness and visual hallucinations.⁴⁴ Impaired sudomotor function can be detected by electrophysiological testing—typical findings are severely reduced SSWR⁴⁵ and absent or reduced SSR.⁴⁶ Skin vasomotor dysfunction is represented by reduced SkVR amplitudes.⁴⁵ Combined cutaneous and cardiovascular features of dysautonomia (abnormal SSR, reduced HRV) may distinguish DLB from non-synucleinopathy causes of dementia such as Alzheimer's disease.⁴⁷

Progressive supranuclear palsy

Progressive supranuclear palsy (PSP) is a neurodegenerative disease characterized pathologically by 4 repeat tau deposition in various cell types and anatomical regions. Richardson's syndrome (RS) is the initially described and one of the clinical phenotypes associated with PSP pathology, characterized by vertical supranuclear gaze palsy, postural instability with early falls and subcortical frontal dementia. PSP can manifest as several other clinical phenotypes, including

PSP-parkinsonism, pure akinesia with gait freezing, frontotemporal dementia, corticobasal syndrome, speech/language impairment.⁴⁸ In a previous study of Kikkawa et al.,⁴⁹ SSWR was severely diminished, whereas SVR was maintained and cardiovascular function was well preserved compared to PD. Abnormal results of electrophysiological tests (abnormal SSR, HRV) without clinical evidence of dysautonomia is more suggestive of PSP, while in MSA a significant correlation between the intensity of clinical symptoms of dysautonomia and electrophysiological tests results can be found.⁵⁰

Skin biopsies and α -Synuclein in Parkinsonian syndromes

Skin biopsy is a promising in vivo diagnostic tool for synucleinopathies, relevant for confirmation of the diagnosis, prodromal diagnostics and as a possible biomarker in future clinical trials.⁵¹ α -syn deposition is most prominent in sympathetic adrenergic nerve fibers innervating the arrector pili muscles, but also in sympathetic cholinergic nerve fibers.⁵²

In general, specificity of α -syn detection in PD is high (even up to 100%); multiple studies yielded various results especially for sensitivity (30–100%), depending on methodological differences e.g. biopsy site and size, number of samples, type of fixative and time duration, thickness of skin sections, technique—conventional immunohistochemistry (using different antibodies) or novel techniques assessing the seeding activity of α -syn.⁵¹

Apart from α -syn detection, peripheral neuropathy (reduced intraepidermal nerve fiber density, IENFD) was documented in skin samples of PD patients, affecting predominantly distal small

TABLE 2 Specific skin manifestations associated with hyperkinetic movement disorders

Skin manifestations	Disease	Movement disorder	Specification of skin manifestation
Photosensitivity, freckles	Hartnup disease	Ataxia, dystonia	
	Xeroderma pigmentosum	Chorea, ataxia	
Pigmentary changes	Xeroderma pigmentosum	Chorea, ataxia	Progressive freckle-like pigmentary changes
	Ataxia telangiectasia	Ataxia, dystonia, chorea, myoclonus	Vitiligo-like hypopigmented macules, Café-au-lait macules
	Incontinentia pigmenti	Ataxia	
	Hypomelanosis of Ito	Ataxia, hyperkinesias	
	Waardenburg-Shah syndrome	Ataxia	Skin and hair hypopigmentation
	ADAR1-related disease	Dystonia, ataxia, tremor, chorea	Dyschromatosis symmetrica hereditaria
	GM1 gangliosidosis	Ataxia, dystonia, parkinsonism	Mongolian spots
	Chediak-Higashi syndrome	Ataxia, parkinsonism	Oculocutaneous albinism
Ichthyosis	GM3 Synthase deficiency	Choreoathetosis, stereotypies	Salt and pepper pigmentary changes, atopic dermatitis, ichthyosis, SIB
	SCA34	Ataxia	Ichthyosis, erythrokeratoderma
	Refsum disease	Ataxia	Ichthyosis
	Type 2 Gaucher disease	Striatal toes, myoclonus, parkinsonism	Ichthyosis
Telangiectasias	GM3 Synthase deficiency	Choreoathetosis, stereotypies	Salt and pepper pigmentary changes, atopic dermatitis, ichthyosis, SIB
	Ataxia telangiectasia	Ataxia, dystonia, chorea, myoclonus	
Progeric skin changes	GM1 gangliosidosis	Ataxia, dystonia, parkinsonism	
	Xeroderma pigmentosum	Chorea, ataxia	
	Ataxia telangiectasia	Ataxia, dystonia, chorea, myoclonus	
Malignant tumors	POLR3A-related disease	Ataxia, dystonia, tremor	
	Xeroderma pigmentosum	Chorea, ataxia	
Benign tumors	Ataxia telangiectasia	Chorea, dystonia, myoclonus, ataxia	
	Mitochondrial disorders (especially MERRF)	Myoclonus, ataxia	Multiple systemic lipomatosis
	POLR3A-related disease	Ataxia, dystonia	Lipomas
	Ataxia telangiectasia	Ataxia, dystonia, chorea, myoclonus	Cutaneous granulomatosis
Erythema	Cerebrotendinous xantomatosis	Ataxia, parkinsonism, dystonia, myoclonus, postural tremor	Tendinous xantomas
	Sydenham's chorea	Chorea, tics	Erythema marginatum
	Antiphospholipid syndrome	Chorea	
	Systemic lupus erythematosus	Chorea	Malar rash
	Biotinidase deficiency	Myoclonus, dystonia, ataxia	Erythematous dermatitis

(Continues)

TABLE 2 Continued

Skin manifestations	Disease	Movement disorder	Specification of skin manifestation
	Phenylketonuria	Stereotypies, tics, tremor	Eczematous dermatitis, Acrodermatitis dysmetabolica
	GM3 Synthase deficiency	Choreoathetosis, stereotypies	Salt and pepper pigmentary changes, atopic dermatitis, ichthyosis, SIB
	Pellagra	Ataxia, myoclonus, parkinsonism, tremor	Dermatitis, hyperpigmentation, hyperkeratosis, vesicles and bullae in “wet pellagra”
Angiokeratomas	Galactosialidosis	Myoclonus	
	Fucosidosis	Dystonia	
	GM1 gangliosidosis	Ataxia, dystonia, parkinsonism	
	Fabry disease	Ataxia, parkinsonism	
Skin adnexes	<i>KMT2B</i> -related disease	Dystonia	Hypertrichosis
	<i>SURF1</i> -Leigh syndrome	Dystonia, ataxia, chorea	Hypertrichosis
	Ataxia telangiectasia	Ataxia, dystonia, chorea, myoclonus	Hypertrichosis
	Mucopolysaccharidoses (MPS-II, MPS-III, MPS-VII)	Choreoathetosis, ataxia	Hypertrichosis
	Biotinidase deficiency	Myoclonus, dystonia, ataxia	Alopecia
	Woodhouse-Sakati syndrome	Dystonia	Alopecia
	Systemic lupus erythematosus	Chorea	Alopecia
	Satoyosi syndrome	Pseudodystonia (muscle spasms)	Alopecia
	X-linked adrenoleukodystrophy	Ataxia	Alopecia, skin hyperpigmentations
	Gomez-López-Hernandez syndrome	Ataxia	Partial Alopecia
	Klinefelter syndrome	Tremor	Insufficient facial, axillary and pubic hair
	Giant axonal neuropathy	Ataxia	Curly/frizzly hair
	FA2H neurodegeneration	Ataxia, dystonia	Bristle-like appearance of hair
	Nail-patella syndrome	Dystonia	Small, poorly developed nails
Self-injurious behavior	Tics/Tourette syndrome	Chorea	
	Neuroacanthocytosis	Chorea, dystonia, tics	
	Lesch-Nyhan syndrome	Dystonia, chorea, stereotypies	
	NMDAR encephalitis	Chorea, dystonia, stereotypies	
	SCA17	Ataxia, chorea, dystonia	
	Rett syndrome	Dystonia, stereotypies, tremor	
	Phenylketonuria	Stereotypies, tics, tremor	
	6-Pyruvoyl-Tetrahydropterin Synthase deficiency	Dystonia, chorea	
	GM3 Synthase deficiency	Choreoathetosis, stereotypies	Salt and pepper pigmentary changes, atopic dermatitis, ichthyosis, SIB
Other specific skin conditions	Ehlers-Danlos syndrome	Dystonia, tremor, chorea, myoclonus, tic disorders	Abnormal skin fragility
	Complex regional pain syndrome	Fixed dystonia	Color changes

(Continues)

TABLE 2 Continued

Skin manifestations	Disease	Movement disorder	Specification of skin manifestation
	Aicardi-Goutières syndromes	Dystonia	Chilblain lesions
	<i>GNB1</i> encephalopathy	Dystonia, tics, ataxia, chorea	Mastocytosis and others
	Celiac disease	Ataxia, myoclonus	Dermatitis herpetiformis
	WDR73-associated disease (CAMOS syndrome)	Dystonia, ataxia	Abnormal osmiophilic pattern of skin vessels
	Erdheim-Chester disease	Ataxia	Periorbital xanthelasma, xanthoma-like papules
	Behçet's disease	Chorea, ataxia, myoclonus	Genital, oral and skin ulcers, folliculitis-like lesions
	NAXE and NAXD mutations	Ataxia, hypotonia	Leyll-like bullous skin lesions

fibers and autonomic fibers.^{53–55} Different underlying mechanisms were proposed, including levodopa intake or B vitamins deficiency. However, IENFD was reduced also in idiopathic RBD (iRBD) patients with normal vitamin levels and without levodopa medication, suggesting that small fiber neuropathy is intrinsic to the disease itself,⁵⁶ although the length-dependent reduction in IENFD and the α -syn-associated autonomic neuropathy are suggested to have different pathogenetic mechanisms.⁵²

P- α -syn is detected in PD skin samples from very early stages of the disease⁵² and even in patients with iRBD.⁵⁷ Skin biopsies therefore represent a promising biomarker of prodromal PD, as well as a helpful differential diagnostic tool, given that patients with secondary parkinsonism (vascular) without underlying α -syn pathology stain negative.⁵⁸ Regarding various genetic forms of PD, patients with *SNCA*, *DJ-1*, *LRRK2* or *GBA* mutations had substantial α -syn deposition in cutaneous sympathetic noradrenergic nerves, whereas those with biallelic *PRKN* mutations did not.⁵⁹

Localization and load differences of α -syn aggregates may potentially help distinguish different synucleinopathies. In PD, DLB and PAF the α -syn deposition was in autonomic fibers mainly at proximal sites, with PAF and DLB showing the highest α -syn load and a widespread involvement of autonomic skin nerve fibers, whereas in MSA-P the deposits were in somatic fibers, mainly at distal sites. MSA-cerebellar type displayed no skin deposits in the majority of analyzed patients.⁶⁰ In another study, p- α -syn was detected in all DLB subjects and no non-synucleinopathy dementia patients, proposing skin biopsy as a useful differential diagnostic marker.⁶¹ Through skin biopsy, PAF was also differentiated from acquired autonomic neuropathies.⁶² Concerning IENFD, somatosensory fibers are more affected in MSA compared to PD with more dominant involvement of autonomic fibers.³⁵

In atypical parkinsonism caused by tauopathies (PSP, CBS), cutaneous α -syn was either not detected by conventional immunohistochemistry at all⁶³ or in just negligible minority with clinical features suggesting atypical synucleinopathy or a mixed pathology.⁶⁴ RT-QuIC and PMCA analyses of seeding activity of α -syn were also negative.⁶⁵ Neither of the tau-pathologies is spread widely in the periphery—with only a minority of skin samples of CBS/PSP patients staining positive for total tau and none for

phosphorylated tau (p-tau)⁶⁶; another study showed p-tau positivity in PSP patients and mixed p-tau/ α -syn pathology in PD.⁶⁷

Skin Conditions in Hyperkinetic Movement Disorders

Movement disorders related to skin hypersensitivity, pigmentary changes, skin tumors and progeroid syndromes

Disorders related to skin hypersensitivity, skin tumors (i.e. malignant melanoma, squamous cell or basal cell carcinoma), pigmentary changes and progeroid syndromes are often associated with defects in the nuclear envelope and DNA repair mechanisms,⁵ such as Xeroderma pigmentosum and Ataxia telangiectasia (Table 2). Skin hypersensitivity may present with visible or non-visible subjective symptoms such as dry skin, irritation, eczema, redness, desquamation, burning, itching or stinging. Progeroid syndromes are a heterogeneous group of very rare disorders resembling features of accelerated aging, i.e. hair loss, short stature, skin atrophy with loss of cutaneous elasticity, dysfunction of cutaneous appendices, increased susceptibility for malignant tumors, cardiovascular diseases and osteoporosis.^{68–70}

Xeroderma pigmentosum (XP) is an autosomal recessive disorder with 100% penetrance, characterized by enzymatic defect in DNA repair pathway known as nucleotide excision repair (NER) and a combination of cutaneous, ophthalmological and neurological symptoms. Depending on the involved genes, complementation groups from XP-A to XP-G and XP-V have been described.⁷¹ Patients with XP typically show extreme hypersensitivity to UV exposure with sunburns often occurring from early infancy (60% of infant cases after minimal UV exposure), skin xerosis (dryness), progressive freckle-like pigmentary changes

(often prominent already around 2 years of age), progeroid skin changes and an increased incidence of skin malignancies (Fig. 2A, B).⁷¹ Skin cancer usually occurs in the face/head/neck area and compared to healthy population may be increased 2000-fold for cutaneous melanoma and up to 10,000-fold for

squamous cell and basal cell carcinomas.⁷² In addition to cutaneous manifestation, ophthalmological symptoms may include ocular surface pathology, eyelid damage, and ophthalmic malignancies. Approximately 20–30% of cases (esp. XP-A and XP-B) may present with neurological symptoms, which typically



FIG 2. Skin changes in hyperkinetic movement disorders. (A) Freckle-like pigmentary changes and (B) Skin xerosis on left elbow in a patient with biallelic *ERCC4* variants causing Xeroderma pigmentosum type F presenting also with generalized chorea, ataxia and mild cognitive problems, (C) Cutaneous telangiectasias (arrow) in a patient with biallelic *ATM* variants, (D) Incontinentia pigmenti, (E) Hypomelanosis of Ito (hypomelanotic streak on the left leg—black arrows), (F) Mongolian spots in a child with GM1-gangliosidosis, (G) Angiokeratoma (adapted with permissions from Cuestas et al. 2019⁹⁷), (H) Hypertrichosis in a child with biallelic *SURF1* variants, (I) Erythema marginatum, (J) Malar rash in lupus erythematosus.

start with decreased tendon reflexes and sensorineural hearing loss and later may progress to severe ataxia, swallowing difficulties and progressive cognitive impairment.⁷³ In addition, patients with XP-E complementation group may present with a Huntington's disease-like syndrome including prominent chorea, ataxia, progressive cognitive decline and neuropsychiatric symptoms.⁷⁴ Classic dermatological and oncological features of XP need to be investigated in choreic patients with negative genetic tests for Huntington's disease.

Ataxia telangiectasia (AT) is an autosomal recessive disorder caused by biallelic variants in the *ATM* gene, which is involved in cell cycle progression, nuclear and mitochondrial DNA repair, protection of chromosome ends and apoptosis.^{75,76} The dysfunctional ATM protein in addition induces expression of hypoxia inducible factor (HIF-1) and subsequently vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF), leading to the development of telangiectasia.⁷⁷ It is a multisystem disease characterized by progressive neurologic decline, oculocutaneous telangiectasias, immunodeficiency, susceptibility to sinopulmonary infections, autoimmune or other chronic inflammatory diseases, radiation sensitivity, and malignancies. In typical cases, progressive ataxia starts in the first years of life, leads to a wheelchair-bound state around the second decade and is variably accompanied by other movement disorders like chorea, dystonia, or myoclonus.⁷⁵ Nevertheless, increasing evidence expands the spectrum of AT to atypical or variant forms with a later age of onset, prolonged survival, and absence of ataxia or telangiectasias in the disease course.^{75,78} While ocular telangiectasia may be present in up to 97% of AT cases, telangiectasia on other body parts may be less frequent (Fig. 2C). Other skin manifestations include progeric changes of the skin and hair (premature hair graying since childhood), cutaneous atrophy with decreased subcutaneous tissue, pigmentary anomalies, including café-au-lait macules and vitiligo-like hypopigmented macules, melanocytic nevi, facial papulosquamous rash and hypertrichosis.^{75,76} Cutaneous granulomatosis presenting as skin nodules and ulcerated erythematous plaques disseminated on the face, and on trauma-prone areas of upper and lower extremities was described as well.⁷⁹ In addition, approximately 24.7% of AT cases develop malignancies over their lifetime, mostly hematological, and although the incidence of melanoma has not been characterized well, previous reports emphasize the importance of performing periodic longitudinal complete skin examinations with a focus on changing nevi in AT population.⁸⁰

In addition, progeroid changes and movement disorders may be a prominent feature of *biallelic POLR3A variants*, related to the Wiedemann-Rautenstrauch syndrome, a rare neonatal progeroid syndrome with growth and developmental retardation, lipoatrophy, a distinctive face, sparse scalp hair, prominent scalp veins, and dental anomalies. Ataxia, tremor and dystonia may be a common manifestation in these individuals.^{81,82}

Hartnup disease is an autosomal recessive disorder caused by *SLC6A19* mutations leading to impaired functioning of the sodium dependent B0 AT1 neutral amino acid transporter and impaired intestinal uptake and tubular reabsorption of all neutral amino acids. The disorder typically manifests with cutaneous and neurological symptoms, including a typical pellagra-like rash, light-

sensitive dermatitis, intermittent cerebellar ataxia and psychiatric symptoms.⁸³ In addition, phenotypes presenting with intermittent dystonia and hereditary spastic paraplegia have been described.^{84,85}

Other movement disorders related to pigmentary changes

Incontinentia pigmenti is a rare X-linked dominant neurocutaneous disorder caused by *NEMO* gene variants, affecting ectodermal tissues—the skin, skin adnexes, eyes, central nervous system and teeth.⁸⁶ Pigmentary skin changes are very typical (Fig. 2D) and commonly occur with a distribution on Blaschko lines, which present lines of normal cell development in the skin. They usually follow a V shape over the back, S shaped whirls over the chest and sides and wavy shades on the head. Skin manifestations commonly occur in 4 stages, which may overlap or not occur at all—erythema, then vesicles and pustules (Stage 1, first weeks of life); verrucous lesions (Stage 2, first months of life); linear hyperpigmentation (Stage 3, around 6 months of life); and depigmentation (Stage 4, mostly described in adults).⁸⁷ Neurological features occur in about 20–30% of cases and typically present with cerebellar ataxia, seizures (most common), mental retardation, pyramidal involvement and microcephaly.⁸⁸

Hypomelanosis of Ito is a rare neurocutaneous disorder related to reduced melanin in the epidermis, which is characterized by presence of hypopigmented lesions that can also follow the Blaschko lines or have a block-like configuration (Fig. 2E).⁸⁷ Hypopigmentations may fade in later life. Neurological manifestations include especially mental retardation, epilepsy, motor system dysfunction, including cerebellar ataxia and psychiatric symptoms including autism and cortical visual impairment.^{87,89}

Chediak-Higashi syndrome is a rare autosomal recessive disorder characterized by oculocutaneous albinism and immune deficiency with an increased susceptibility to infections. Neurological symptoms usually occur in early adulthood and may include cerebellar deficits, polyneuropathies, spasticity, cognitive decline and parkinsonism.⁹⁰

Waardenburg-Shah syndrome due to dominant *SOX10* mutations combines Waardenburg syndrome (congenital hearing loss and eye, skin and hair hypopigmentation) and demyelinating neuropathy, central dysmyelination and Hirschsprung disease. Ataxia, spasticity and developmental delay are common.⁹¹

Variants in *ADAR1* gene are responsible for rare neurological and dermatological syndromes including Aicardi-Goutieres syndrome type 6 (severe infantile encephalopathy with intracranial calcifications), bilateral striatal necrosis and dyschromatosis symmetrica hereditaria, which is characterized by a mixture of hypopigmented and hyperpigmented macules on the dorsa of both hands and feet, and freckle-like macules on the face.⁹² In a recent review of 57 subjects with *ADAR1* variants, movement disorders were present in 60% of these cases, with dystonia being the most common (39%, in 2 cases presenting with a severe status dystonicus), followed by spasticity (19%), tremor (7%) and rigidity, chorea and ataxia (all 5%).⁹³

GMI gangliosidosis is an autosomal recessive lysosomal storage disorder with a spectrum of phenotypes ranging from severe

infantile to mild chronic/adult forms.⁹⁴ Types II and III may present with progressive ataxia or generalized dystonia followed by later development of akinetic-rigid parkinsonism and cognitive decline. Skin manifestations typically include Mongolian spots, generally presenting as large, non-blanching, hyperpigmented, blueish to slate-gray macules or patches over the lower back, buttocks, and occasionally flanks or shoulders (Fig. 2F), as well as angiokeratomas (discussed in more details below), eczematoid facial rash, truncal macular rash, ecchymosis and generalized telangiectasias.⁹⁵

Pigmentary changes described as “salt and pepper” may be present in about 70% of cases with *GM3 Synthase deficiency* caused by recessive *ST3GAL5* mutations. All of the individuals have profound intellectual disability, choreoathetosis, and hearing loss. In addition, severe atopic dermatitis, ichthyosis and self-injurious behavior have been described in this condition.⁹⁶

Movement disorders related to angiokeratomas

Angiokeratomas (AKs) (Fig. 2G)⁹⁷ are benign capillary malformations that can form dark red to black papules, nodules, or plaques with associated overlying epidermal hyperplasia (acanthosis or hyperkeratosis).⁹⁷ The diffuse form—angiokeratoma corporis diffusum (ACD) is characterized by multiple AKs typically located between the naval and upper thigh and is related to lysosomal storage disorders (LSDs). Several LSDs, including GM1 gangliosidosis described in more details above, have been previously associated with presence of AKs and hyperkinetic movement disorders. *Fucosidosis* is an autosomal recessive neurodegenerative disorder presenting with coarse facial features, growth retardation, recurrent upper respiratory tract infections, dysostosis multiplex and AKs. Focal dystonia has been previously reported in 12% of fucosidosis cases and generalized dystonia has been also reported.^{98,99} *Galactosialidosis* is an autosomal recessive disorder caused by a primary defect of protective protein/cathepsin A and/or a secondary defect of components of the lysosomal multienzyme complex (LMC), which includes galactosidase and neuraminidase-1.¹⁰⁰ Patients with juvenile/adult type of Galactosialidosis present with a spectrum of coarse facies, vertebral changes, cherry-red spots and neurological symptoms including cognitive impairment, epilepsy, ataxia and myoclonus.¹⁰¹ In addition to LSDs related to hyperkinetic disorders, Fabry disease has been previously linked to presence of Parkinson's disease. In a report of Wise et al.¹⁰² 2.2% of Fabry patients and 7.4% of their first line relatives fit the criteria for a conservative diagnosis of PD. In addition to angiokeratomas, patients with Fabry disease may also present with other skin abnormalities including scant body hair and hypo/hyper/hidrosis.⁴

Movement disorders related to lipomas

Lipomas are a rare disorder of the adipose tissue.¹⁰³ While the etiology is still unclear, a potential link with mitochondrial dysfunction has been hypothesized³ best known in the association of

Myoclonic epilepsy with ragged red fibers (MERRF) and presence of cervical lipomas. A recent study on mitochondrial disorders in Italy identified 22 (1.7%) patients with lipomas among the 1300 enrolled mitochondrial patients.¹⁰⁴ The most common presentation of lipomas in this study was in form of multiple systemic lipomatosis affecting symmetrically the cervical-cranial-thoracic region, only 2 patients had lipomas localized in a single anatomical site. Eighty-six percent had mutations in mtDNA coding for tRNA lysine (*MERRF*). In addition to mitochondrial disorders, presence of lipomas and movement disorders has been reported in *POLR3A*-related disease,⁸² discussed in more details above.

Movement disorders related to skin adnexes pathology

The skin appendages (or adnexes) are epidermal and dermal-derived components of the skin and include hair, nails, sweat glands, and sebaceous glands.¹⁰⁵ In the context of hyperkinetic movement disorders, abnormalities of the hair are the most common. Alopecia, or hair loss, is associated with several following conditions. In *Woodhouse-Sakati syndrome*, a rare autosomal recessive disease caused by *DCAF17* mutations, alopecia occurs along with hypogonadism, diabetes mellitus, hypothyroidism, intellectual disability, sensorineural hearing loss and movement disorders (mainly dystonia and chorea). Childhood-onset hair thinning often progresses to alopecia totalis in adulthood. Eyebrows and facial hair are sparse or absent.^{106,107} In *biotinidase deficiency*, caused by *BTD* mutations, various neurological symptoms such as epilepsy, deafness, optic atrophy, spastic paralysis, ataxia or dystonia, combine with skin manifestations, including alopecia, dermatitis, dry skin, yellow hair, keratitis and others. Biotin replacement therapy is usually effective.¹⁰⁸ The combination of alopecia totalis, painful spasms and diarrhea suggests *Satoyosi syndrome*.¹⁰⁹ Other differential diagnoses of alopecia with movement disorders include *X-ALD* presenting additionally with ataxia, pyramidal signs, leukodystrophy and skin hyperpigmentations,¹¹⁰ and a very rare *Gomez-López-Hernandez syndrome* presenting with a classic triad of rhomboencephalosynapsis, partial non-scarring alopecia and trigeminal anesthesia with additional ataxia in a proportion of cases.¹¹¹ Recently, *RHOBTB2 gene variants*, usually presenting with epileptic encephalopathy, intellectual disability, microcephaly, facial dysmorphism, choreatic and/or dystonic dyskinesias (including paroxysmal), were anecdotally reported also with aplasia cutis congenita.¹¹² In *Klinefelter syndrome* (mostly 47, XXY), sparse body and facial hair are often present besides the cardinal features (hypogonadism, cryptorchidism, infertility, gynecomastia, decreased testosterone levels and learning problems) and various movement disorders (ET-like tremor, myoclonus and even parkinsonism).^{113,114} A condition seen in children is *giant axonal neuropathy*. Disease typically starts in childhood with sensory-motor axonal neuropathy and ataxia with curly/frizzy hair found in nearly all patients. MRI is also characteristic, with T2/FLAIR hyperintensity in the white matter surrounding the dentate nucleus.¹¹⁵ In addition, bristle-like appearance of hair is commonly present in *Fatty acid 2-hydroxylase (FA2H)*

neurodegeneration, which can present with ataxia, pyramidal signs and frequent dystonia (50%) in childhood. Leukodystrophy, cerebellar and pontine atrophy, thin corpus callosum and T2-hypointensity of globus pallidus are typical imaging clues.¹¹⁶

Hypertrichosis may be a clinical clue to *SURF1-associated Leigh syndrome* (Fig. 2H), which typically presents also with feeding difficulties, developmental delay, hypotonia, ataxia, choreoathetosis, dystonia and symmetrical T2 hyperintense lesions in the brainstem and/or basal ganglia.¹¹⁷ In addition, hypertrichosis may present also in *mucopolysaccharidoses* (MPS-II, MPS-III, MPS-VII), which may manifest also with choreoathetosis and ataxia.¹¹⁸

Unusual paroxysmal cranial dystonic dyskinesias triggered by wind, touch and water, have been recently described in a large multigenerational Danish family as a novel feature of *nail-patella syndrome*. This autosomal dominantly inherited disorder is otherwise characterized by morphological changes of nails, joints, bones, renal disease, polyneuropathy and behavioral and psychiatric symptoms.¹¹⁹

Movement disorders related to erythema and dermatitis

In addition to polyarthritis, carditis, and Sydenham chorea, another major feature of *rheumatic fever (RF)*, an autoimmune response to a preceding Streptococcus group A infection, is erythema marginatum (Fig. 2I). It refers to erythematous, peripherally spreading macules developing patchy areas, and typically occurring several weeks after Streptococcal infection. Lesions are typically fluctuant, migrating, fading and reappearing within hours. However, although typical, it is recognized only in <6% of patients. Another cutaneous manifestation of RF are subcutaneous nodules.^{120,121} Cutaneous symptoms are frequent in *systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE)* and *antiphospholipid syndrome (APS)*, both manifesting sometimes with movement disorders (with chorea being the most common in both, and ataxia and parkinsonism less often in SLE).¹²² The skin is involved in up to 85% of SLE cases. Some of the numerous skin manifestations of SLE include malar rash (a butterfly-shaped erythema over the cheeks and bridge of the nose, Fig. 2J), macular or diffuse erythematous rash in sun-exposed areas, discoid rash, alopecia, and cutaneous vasculitis.¹²³ Cutaneous manifestations of APS include livedo reticularis, necrotizing vasculitis, thrombophlebitis, erythematous macules, purpura, and others.¹²⁴

Another skin symptom, called dermatitis herpetiformis, may appear along with ataxia, both in the context of *gluten sensitivity*.¹²⁵ A number of nutritional deficiencies can present with skin changes. Myoclonus, ataxia, tremor and parkinsonism have been reported in *pellagra*, caused by nicotinic acid (vitamin B 3) deficiency, which is otherwise characterized by a combination of 3Ds—dermatitis, diarrhea and dementia—and is possibly fatal if left untreated (death as the 4th D).^{126,127} Although being predominantly found in developing regions such as India, Africa, and China in context of unbalanced diet, pellagra occurs sporadically also in developed countries, particularly in patients with alcohol abuse, malabsorption syndromes, HIV infection, specific

medication (immunosuppressants and antituberculotics), carcinoid syndrome, Hartnup disease, food faddism and eating disorders such as anorexia nervosa, and in homeless people.¹²⁸ Pellagra dermatitis is a photosensitive eruption, typically bilateral, symmetrical, limited to sun-exposed sites with a sharp line of demarcation from unexposed skin (dorsal hands and feet, face, neck/upper chest—collar-like lesion on the neck is called “Casal’s necklace”); reddish at the beginning and dry, dark, scaly and cracked later on (hyperpigmented, hyperkeratotic plaques, Fig. 3A);¹²⁹ with vesicles or bullae in severe form termed wet pellagra.¹³⁰ Pellagra typically responds well to niacin or nicotinamide administered either orally or intravenously (300 mg/day divided into 3–4 doses, 3–4 weeks) and a diet enriched in niacin, as well as to supplementation of other group B vitamins (multivitamin deficiency is seen in majority of patients, especially alcohol abusers).¹³¹

Movement disorders related to ichthyosis

Ichthyosis is characterized by dry, thickened, scaly skin (Fig. 3B). While it may be associated with a number of genetic conditions, several present also with movement disorders or ataxia, especially ELOVL4 (SCA34), Refsum disease, type 2 Gaucher disease and GM3 Synthase deficiency. In addition to ichthyosis, patients with *ELOVL4-related ataxia (SCA34)* present with adult-onset ataxia and frequent erythrokeratoderma (40%). Also, 40–50% of SCA34 subjects may present with a hot cross bun sign on brain MRI mimicking MSA.^{132–135} *Refsum disease* is associated with elevated plasma phytanic acid levels, late childhood-onset (or later) retinitis pigmentosa, and variable combinations of ichthyosis, anosmia, polyneuropathy, deafness, ataxia, and potentially life-threatening cardiac complications including arrhythmias and heart failure caused by cardiomyopathy. Dietary restriction of phytanic acid intake helps resolve ichthyosis, sensory neuropathy, and ataxia.¹³⁶ Ichthyosis may be associated also with early-onset forms of *Gaucher disease*, including the perinatal lethal form or type 2 Gaucher disease, which affects infants and typically leads to death before the age of 2–3 years.^{137,138} Neurological features may include among others oculomotor apraxia, head retroflexion, striatal toes, myoclonus and hypertonus with or without hypokinesia.¹³⁹

Movement disorders related to self-injurious behaviors

Some cutaneous or mucosal changes may appear as part of self-injurious behavior (SIB), presenting also in several hyperkinetic movement disorders. By definition, SIB encompasses deliberate, repetitive and persistent behaviors directed towards the body (e.g. hitting, biting, scratching), leading to significant physical injury, in the absence of suicidal intent or sexual arousal (Fig. 3C, D). Management of SIB includes wearing protective restraints (e.g. helmets, bite splints), behavioral therapy, pharmacotherapy and surgical therapy (tooth extraction, deep brain



FIG 3. Skin changes in hyperkinetic movement disorders. (A) Classical pellagra dermatitis over sun-exposed area of the lower limb with a clear cut-off at the margins of clothing (adapted with permissions from Madhyastha et al. 2020).¹²⁹ (B) Ichthyosis. (C) self-injurious behavior—artificial skin changes. (D) Self-injurious behavior—lip biting in antiNMDAR encephalitis. (E) Chilblain lesions in Aicardi-Gutierrez syndrome (adapted with premissions from Videira et al. 2020)¹⁴⁹ (F) Mastocytosis. (G) Tendon xanthomas in Cerebrotendinous xanthomatosis (courtesy of Dr. Paldaufova, Dr. Serdahely, Dept. of Neurology, Skalica, Slovakia). (H) Periorbital xanthelasma in Erdheim-Chester disease (adapted with permissions from Chasset et al. 2016).¹⁵⁴ (I) Abdominal skin ulcerations in Behçet disease (adapted with permissions from Scherrer et al. 2017).¹⁵⁵

stimulation).^{140,141} The most common and representative hyperkinetic disorders with SIB are *Tourette syndrome (TS)*, *Lesch–Nyhan syndrome (LNS)* and *chorea-acanthocytosis (CHAc)*. SIB in TS occurs in up to 60% of individuals and correlates with impulsivity and tic severity.¹⁴² LNS is a rare X-linked recessive neurometabolic disorder caused by severe inborn deficiency of hypoxanthine-guanine phosphoribosyl transferase (HPR1) enzyme. Consequently, patients with LNS have increased uric acid in both serum and urine. Clinical symptoms include mental retardation, dystonia,

choreoathetosis, spastic paresis, and finally, aggressive self-mutilating behavior, typically in perioral region (especially lower lip). Skin and tissues of the fingers and hands are frequently seriously damaged.¹⁴³ CHAc, a progressive autosomal recessive disorder, typically presents in early adulthood with chorea, orolingual (tongue protrusion) dystonia, epilepsy, peripheral neuropathy, head drops, parkinsonism, tics, obsessive-compulsive behavior, and SIB (tongue-, lip-, cheek- or finger biting and others), where the latter are caused by psychiatric features rather than movement disorder.¹⁴⁴

SIB has been described also in other disorders with hyperkinetic movement disorders, like Rett syndrome, anti-NMDAR encephalitis (Fig. 3D), spinocerebellar ataxia type 17,^{141,145} 6-Pyruvoyl-Tetrahydropterin Synthase deficiency,¹⁴⁶ or phenylketonuria which may present also with skin conditions including eczematous dermatitis, acrodermatitis dysmetabolica and movement disorders typically including stereotypies, tics and tremor.¹⁴⁷

Movement disorders related to other skin manifestations

The list of skin manifestations associated with hyperkinetic movement disorders is certainly broader than the list presented here. Many of them do not fit the above-mentioned skin manifestation categories, for instance skin color changes in complex regional pain syndrome (often presenting with dystonia);¹⁴⁸ chilblain lesions in Aicardi-Goutières syndrome (Fig. 3E);¹⁴⁹ cutaneous mastocytosis (Fig. 3F) in *GNB1* encephalopathy;¹⁵⁰ tendon xantomas in cerebrotendinous xantomatosis (Fig. 3G) typically associated also with ataxia, dystonia, diarrhea and cataracts;¹⁵¹ abnormal osmiophilic pattern of skin vessels in WDR73-associated disease labeled also as Cerebellar ataxia with Mental Retardation, Optic Atrophy and Skin Abnormalities (CAMOS) syndrome;¹⁵² peri-orbital xanthelasma and xanthoma-like papules in Erdheim-Chester disease which may present also with ataxia (Fig. 3H);^{153,154} genital, oral and skin ulcers (Fig. 3I) in Behçet's disease presenting also with chorea, ataxia and myoclonus.^{155,156} Leyll-like bullous skin lesions may be present in potentially treatable NAXE and NAXD mutations, which can lead in addition to infantile fever-related subacute encephalopathy, with hypotonia, ataxia and frequent respiratory failure. There are some reports of vitamin B3 stabilizing this disease.^{157,158}

Conclusions

Skin conditions are usually easily visible during routine clinical examination and their recognition may play a major role in diagnostic work-up. Skin changes may precede onset of motor symptoms in parkinsonian disorders and presence of α -syn in skin biopsies seems to be a promising biomarker for prodromal PD or differentiation of neurodegenerative parkinsonian syndromes. Literature on skin disorders in atypical parkinsonism is very limited. It is not clear whether skin manifestations typically associated with PD are disease-specific or their presence extends also to other neurodegenerative parkinsonian disorders and further studies in this regard are warranted. In case of hyperkinetic movement disorders, specific dermatological manifestations, like presence of angiokeratomas, telangiectasias, Mongolian spots, lipomas, progeroid skin changes, etc. may point to a very specific group of disorders and help guide further investigations. While several of the non-iatrogenic and iatrogenic therapy-related skin conditions associated with movement disorders may be very bothersome and decrease patient quality of life,²² their active screening and

management as well as involvement of a dermatologist in movement disorders multidisciplinary teams may significantly improve diagnostic and therapeutic outcomes in movement disorder patients.

Author Roles

1. Research project: A. Conception, B. Organization, C. Execution; 2. Statistical Analysis: A. Design, B. Execution, C. Review and Critique; 3. Manuscript Preparation: A. Writing of the first draft, B. Review and Critique.

K.K.: 1B, 1C, 3A, 3B.

J.B.: 1C, 3A, 3B.

J.N.: 1C, 3A, 3B.

M.S.: 1A, 1B, 1C, 3A, 3B.

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