

Background

Modulation of artistic creativity has occasionally been reported in individuals with Parkinson's disease (PD) following dopamine replacement therapy. Who better to describe this phenomenon than professional artists living with PD? This study aimed to explore their personal experiences of creating art while living with the condition.

Cases

We interviewed five professional artists with PD. Each artist responded sequentially to six questions focused on PD, dopamine, and creativity in the context of art-making. Four themes were identified: (1) *Impact of PD*; Most reported negative effects on quality of life and daily function (2) *Artistic changes*; All noted changes in style or technique but not in creativity. (3) *Medications and ON/OFF effects*; Artists adapted their work schedules around dopamine fluctuations. (4) *Artistic representation*; Three created PD-related pieces, some of which were commercialized.

Literature Review

A narrative literature review of 29 studies shows multiple instances art facilitation and novelty among PD patients, touching on interactions with dopaminergic medications and other treatments.

Conclusions

Exploring the artistic experiences of individuals with PD may provide insights relevant to managing both motor and non-motor symptoms associated with the disease.