

## **IS THE TRADITIONAL DEFINITION OF PD STILL RELEVANT? - NO**

**Amos D. Korczyn**

*Sackler School of Medicine, Tel-Aviv University, Israel*

The diagnosis of Parkinson disease (PD) is based on clinical criteria, and is needed for useful symptomatic therapy. However, it became quite clear in recent years that the same features can result from different etiopathogenic mechanisms. Thus, it is accepted now that what is called PD is the result of phenotypic convergence. Even pathological diagnosis of PD, based on the demonstration of typical distribution of alpha-synuclein deposits, is a manifestation of phenotypic convergence at the tissue level.

Since the clinical manifestations of PD can be the result of quite divergent mechanisms, the clinical definition is of a syndrome.

In a similar vein, the pathological description is of a "syndrome", not identifying a single pathogenic pathway.