

A Review On Various Herbal Plants And Behavioral Model's On Parkinson's Disease

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Abstract- Parkinson's disease is a chronic neurodegenerative disorder with a myriad of motor and non-motor symptoms. Its management is essentially palliative, and it can extend to three to four decades. Device-assisted therapy including deep brain stimulation, apomorphine pump, and levodopa gel intestinal infusion, have significantly improved management of advanced Parkinson's disease. The condition is associated with damage to the dopaminergic neurons in the substantia nigra pars compacta, a great decrement of dopamine neurotransmitter in the striatum, and a deficiency of tyrosine hydroxylase; the rate-determining enzyme during dopamine formation. Various approaches, including genetic manipulations and toxin-induced insults, aim to recapitulate both motor and non-motor aspects of PD in animal models. Parkinson's disease (PD) is the world's most widespread chronic neuron degenerative motion condition affecting more than 10 million people. The characteristic hallmark of PD involves a progressive loss of dopaminergic neurons in the brain's Substantia Nigra.

Keywords: Parkinson's disease, Levodopa, Dopamine agonists, Non-motor symptoms, Genetic models of PD, Motor impairment, Herbal Drug treatment

I. INTRODUCTION

Parkinson's disease is the second most prevalent neurodegenerative disease worldwide.¹ This condition is illustrated for the loss of up to seventy percent of the dopaminergic neurons in the substantia nigra pars compacta (SNc), a huge decrease in dopamine (DA) in the striatal neurons.² Parkinson's disease (PD) is an age-related neurodegenerative disorder that pathological feature is basically related on the progressive degradation of dopamine production in substantia nigra. The clinical manifestation include bradykinesia (especially having difficulties in initiating movement), hypokinesia (lose of facial expression), rigidity, rest tremor (pill-rolling movement of the forearm) and non-motor features including depression, psychosis autonomic dysfunction.³

II. CLASSIFICATION

I. Drugs affecting brain dopaminergic system

- Dopamine precursor : Levodopa (l-dopa)
- Peripheral decarboxylase inhibitors : Carbidopa, Benserazide.
- Dopaminergic agonists: Bromocriptine, Ropinirole, Pramipexole
- MAO-B inhibitor: Selegiline, Rasagiline
- COMT inhibitors: Entacapone, Tolcapone
- Glutamate (NMDA receptor) antagonist (Dopamine facilitator): Amantadine.

II. Drugs affecting brain cholinergic system

- Central anticholinergics: Trihexyphenidyl (Benzhexol), Procyclidine, Biperiden.
- Antihistaminics : Orphenadrine, Promethazine⁴

III. PATHOLOGY OF IDIOPATHIC IN A PARKINSON'S DISEASE:

The dominant pathology of idiopathic Parkinson's disease (PD) is primarily a loss of dopamine-producing cells in the substantia nigra in the midbrain, followed by degeneration of nigrostriatal pathway, depriving basal ganglia of dopamine required to facilitate all motor activities.⁵

1. Macroscopic Pathology

Depigmentation of the substantia nigra pars compacta (SNpc):

- The midbrain appears pale due to loss of neuromelanin-containing dopaminergic neurons in the SNpc.
- Locus coeruleus depigmentation may also occur.

2. Microscopic Pathology

- Loss of dopaminergic neurons: Primarily in the SNpc, leading to reduced dopamine levels in the striatum (especially the putamen).
- Lewy neurites: Abnormal neuritic processes containing α -synuclein.

3. Braak Staging of PD Pathology

Proposed by Heiko Braak, it describes the sequential progression of α -synuclein pathology:

- **Stage 1–2:** Involvement of the medulla and olfactory bulb (preclinical phase).
- **Stage 3–4:** Spread to midbrain (SNpc) and limbic areas (onset of motor symptoms).
- **Stage 5–6:** Involvement of neocortex (cognitive and neuropsychiatric symptoms).

4. Neurochemical Changes

- Dopamine deficiency in the striatum is the primary cause of motor symptoms.
- Secondary changes in other neurotransmitter systems: acetylcholine, serotonin, and norepinephrine also contribute to non-motor symptoms.⁶



Fig :- 1⁷ - Pathology of idiopathic in a Parkinson's disease

IV. DIAGNOSIS OF PD

Presently, the diagnosis of Parkinson's is primarily based on the common symptoms outlined above. There is no X-ray or blood test that can confirm the disease. However, noninvasive diagnostic imaging, such as positron emission tomography (PET) can support a doctor's diagnosis. Conventional methods for diagnosis include.

- The presence of two of the three primary symptoms
- Responsiveness to Parkinson's medications, such as levodopa.⁸

V. COMMON SYMPTOMS

- Tremor or the involuntary and rhythmic movements of the hands, arms, legs and jaw
- Muscle rigidity or stiffness of the limbs – most common in the arms, shoulders or neck
- Gradual loss of spontaneous movement, which often leads to decreased mental skill or reaction time, voice changes, decreased facial expression, etc.

Symptoms of Parkinson's Disease

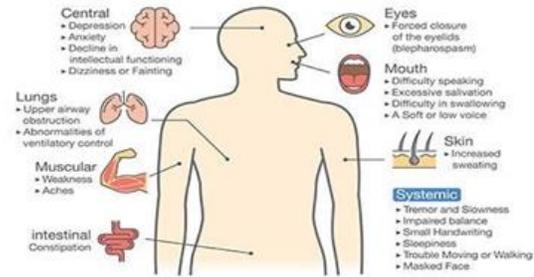


Fig:- 2 -Symptoms of Parkinson's disease

VI. CAUSES OF PARKINSON'S DISEASE

• Neurotransmitter Death

The brain's substantia nigra produce dopamine. If the dopaminergic neurons that secrete dopamine begin to die rapidly, the amount of dopamine in the body declines, resulting in Parkinson's symptoms.

• Gene Abnormality

The much more similar inherited cause of Parkinson's disease is a single genetic mutation in the LRRK2 gene.

VII. TREATMENT OF PARKINSON'S DISEASE

Pharmacologic treatments for Parkinson's disease motor symptoms are primarily dopamine based. Levodopa preparations, dopamine agonists, and monoamine oxidase-B (MAO-B) inhibitors are useful initial therapies. For young individuals with prominent tremors, anticholinergic agents (e.g., trihexyphenidyl) are useful, but caution is required because of the potential for adverse events, particularly relating to cognition. More than 40% of individuals treated with oral dopamine agonists (ropinirole, pramipexole) experience impulse control disorders (e.g., gambling, compulsive spending, abnormal sexual and eating behaviors, compulsive medication use, and lobbyism).⁹

VIII. VARIOUS PLANTS USE ON ANTI-PARKINSONIAN ACTIVITY

The herbal medicines were listed in table 3, which, according to their families, species and part of the plant used in treatment, have been shown to be effective on PD.

Sr. No	Plant Name	Families	Species	Plant Part
1	Chrysanthemum indicum	Asteraceae	C.indicum	Whole plant
2	Trifolium	Fabaceae	Trifolium pratense	Whole plant
3	Tripterygium	Celastraceae	Tripterygium wilfordii Hook F.	Root & bark
4	Bacopa	Plantaginaceae	Bacopa monnieri	Whole plant
5	Gynostemma	Cucurbitaceae	Gynostemma pentaphyllum [Thunb] Makino	Leaves
6	Clausena	Rutaceae	Clausena lansium	Leaves
7	Cynodon	Poaceae	Cynodon dactylon	Plant extract
8	Centella	Apiaceae	Centella asiatica	Whole plant
9	Ocimum	Lamiaceae	Ocimum sanctum	Whole plant
10	Plumbago	Plumbaginaceae	Plumbago scandens	Whole plant
11	Cassia Tora	Fabaceae	Sanna tora	Seed
12	Ginkgo biloba	Ginkgoaceae	G.biloba	Whole plant
13	Panax ginseng	Araliaceae	Panax ginseng	Whole plant

8.1 CHRYSANTHEMUM INDICUM



Fig 3:- Chrysanthemum indicum

The indicum *Chrysanthemum* L. The extract is protective against lipopolysaccharide-induced cytotoxicity in SH-SY5Y cellular model and BV-2 microglial cells of Parkinson's disease and 1-methyl-4-phenylpyridinium ion. Because of the greater identification of natural products, medicinal plants are in high demand in both developed and

developing countries, and they are sometimes the only source of health care. Herbal sources have been used to cure a variety of ailments since ancient times.^{10, 11}

8.2 TRIFOLIUM



Fig 4:- Trifolium

Red clover extract applies to the pre-tense plant known as *Trifolium*. Iso-flavones: red clover- Pratensein, formononetin and daidzein help to protect the nerves from dopaminergic LPS-induced neuronal damage. Biochanin A, an estrogenic red clover bioflavonoids, improves the consumption of dopamines. Red clover extract slightly lessens the scale of the lesion.^{10, 12}

8.3 TRIPTERYGIUM



Fig 5:- Tripterygium

Common Threewingnut Root (CTR) is a dried root of *Tripterygium wilfordii* Hook F. CTR extract protects dopaminergic neurons against lipopolysaccharide-induced inflammatory Dismissal. Effect and toxicity are two important aspects of drugs. Among the compounds obtained from plants or natural sources, Agents with remarkable efficacy and potential toxicity have attracted much attention in recent years.^{10, 13}

8.4 BACOPA



Fig 6:- Bacopa

Bacopa monnieri pretreatment of dopaminergic N27 cell lines demonstrated reduction of ROT-induced oxidative stress and cell death (in rotenone-Motivated mouse model), normalization of oxidative marker rates (ROS, malondialdehyde and hydroperoxide rates), restoration of GSH levels, dopamine levels, cytosolic antioxidant enzyme activity levels and neurotransmitter function. In a bioassay for paraquat oxidative tension it confers sometimes tremendous resistance.^{10, 14}

8.5 GYNOSTEMMA



Fig 7:-Gynostemma

Gynostemma pentaphyllum herbal ethanol extract demonstrates neuroprotective effects on PD type 6-OHDA-lesioned rat. Gypenosides, The G's saponins. Pentaphyllum, defensive dopaminergic neurons in primary culture or in the extensive PD mouse model against oxidative damage induced by MPP+ 22. Gynostemma pentaphyllum (Thunb.) Makino is a creeping perennial herb that belongs to the family Cucurbitaceae. As a well-known edible and medicinal plant, GP has a long history of application in oriental medicine since the Ming dynasty. The famous classical book of Chinese material medica, Compendium of Materia Medica, first recorded the usage and curative effect of GP.^{10, 15}

8.6 CLAUSEN



Fig 8:- Clausen

Clausena lansium is native fruit tree from southern China. Care in progress with Bu-7 a flavonoid from Clausena lansium leaves, decreased apoptosis induced by rotenone, mitochondrial potential and Added protein phosphorylation induced by rotenone.^{10, 16}

8.7 CYNODON



Fig 9 :- Cynodon

The traditional use of cynodon dactylon is in Ayurveda. Cynodon dactylon's anti-Parkinson activity attenuated the motor defects and shielded the brain from oxidative stress in the PD model of rotenone-induced Parkinson's rats. Weed control is a major challenge nowadays, considering the urgent need to feed a growing population, while reducing the environmental impacts of food production.^{10, 17}

8.8 CENTELLA



Fig 10:-Centella

Centella asiatica (Gotu Kola) is an Ayurvedic traditional medicine. *Centella asiatica* is protective against Parkinsonism Induced by MPTP. This works according to showing antioxidant involvement in brain area of the hippocampus and corpus striatum. *Centella asiatica*, also known as Gotu Kola, Bua-bok, Tiger grass, or Indian Pennywort, is an herbaceous perennial plant member of the Apiaceae family, also known as Umbelliferae.^{10, 18}

8.9 OCIMUM



Fig 11:-Ocimum

Ocimum tenuiflorum or tulasi (*Ocimum sanctum*). *Ocimum sanctum* leaf extract has a neuroprotective effect on a catalepsy caused by haloperidol in albino mice. *O. Sanctum* extract has a neuroprotective effect on parkinsonism induced by rotenone and a catalepsy induced by haloperidol in rats and muscle rigidity in mice.^{10, 19}

8.10 PLUMBAGO



Fig 12:-Plumbago

The *Plumbago scandens* is a plumbago genus. *Plumbago's* crude ethanolic extract and complete acetate fraction works against Parkinsonism by reducing locomotive

operation, catalepsy, and palpebral ptosis. It has been reported that many plants naturally produce secondary metabolites, commonly referred to as phytochemicals or biologically active compounds which are essential for plant metabolism but play a great role in the plants' protection mechanism (Ascensao et al., 1997).^{10, 20}

8.11 CASSIA TORA



Fig 13:- Cassia Tora

Cassia Cassiae Semen is the seed of dry, mature *Cassia obtusifolia* L. *Tora Cassia* L. (*Tora C.*). Alaternin, a part of *C. Tora* has powerful peroxynitrite-scavenging, stated to be PD, and attenuates neuronal cell death from transient cervical hypoperfusion in mice³⁵. *Cassiae Semen* extract has beneficial properties in PD models of 6-OHDA-induced neurotoxicity in PC12 cells and MPTP-induced neuronal degeneration in the PD form of the mouse, as well as seed extract in hippocampal cultures of the mouse.^{10, 21}

8.12 GINKGO BILOBA



Fig 14:- Ginkgo biloba

Ginkgo Folium is *Ginkgo biloba* L's entire, dried leaf. In software PD mice *G. Biloba* 761 attenuates the neuro

degeneration of the nigrostriatal pathway induced by MPTP and has an inhibitory effect on oxidative stress .In Cells of PC12, G. Biloba extract has protective effects against 6-hydroxydopamine induced parkinsonism on paraquat-induced apoptosis and PD rat models Ginkgo biloba L., known as a "living fossil,"has been utilized for over 2000 years as a therapeutically valuable plant for human health . The name "Ginkgo" is derived from a Japanese word, while the term "biloba" refers to the characteristic two-lobed shape of its leaves. ^{10, 22}

8.13 PANAX GINSENG



Fig 15:- Panax ginseng

The dry root and rhizome of Panax ginseng C is Ginseng Radix Et Rhizoma. Mey, A. Mey. Ginseng extract G115 has been significantly pro- tected against neurotoxic effects of MPTP and MPP+ in rodents. Ginseng saponins have enhanced the growth of dopaminergic-neuroblastoma cells SK-N-SH .Ginseng has an inhibitory function in MPP+ accumulation in dopaminergic neurons, suppresses oxidative stress caused by dopamine autoxidation and attenuates apoptosis caused by MPP+ and Growth factor for nerves (NGF) potencia. ^{10, 23}

IX. VARIOUS BEHAVIORAL METHODS FOR PARKINSON’S DISEASE

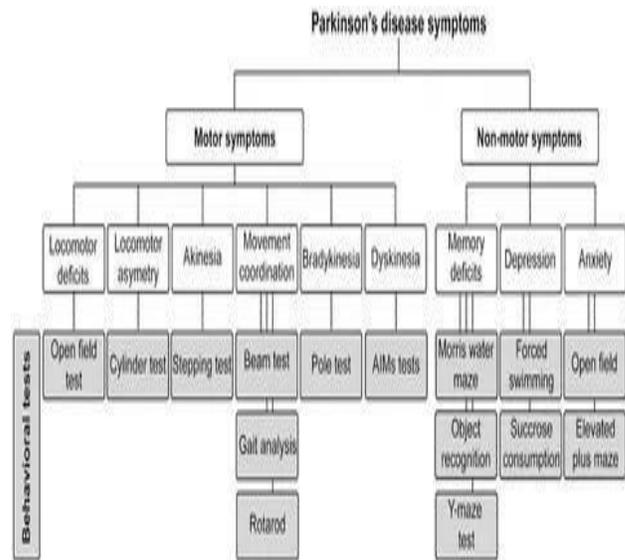


Fig 16:- Various behavioral methods for Parkinson’s diseases

9.1 Motor behavioral tests

Motor manifestations of PD encompass bradykinesia and akinesia, marked by diminished or absent movements alongside muscle rigidity and stiffness. These assessments involve diverse motor tasks, including: (i) tests for spontaneous movement (such as the free movement test, cylinder test, initiation movement test, pole test, beam traversal test, gait test, and adhesive removal test), (ii) evaluation of abnormal involuntary movements (AIMs) associated with akinesia and catalepsy, and (iii) assessment of rotational behavior using the rotarod test. ²⁴

a) Open field test (OFT)

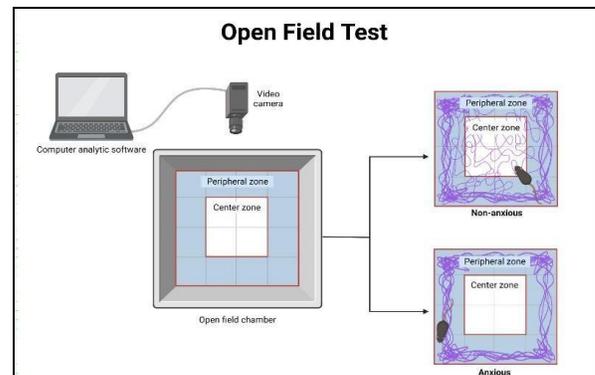


Fig 17:-Open field test

Open Field was a circular arena, made of plastic; the floor was divided by a marker into compartments with a

central area. Each rat was then scored for the locomotor activity, which was expressed as the sum of lines crossed plus the number of balances. A score for exploratory behavior was given, which was the sum of the number of times the rat passed through central area plus the duration of time the rat stayed in the central area, finally, an anxiety score was calculated, equal to the sum of urine and feces spots.²⁵

b) Cylinder test

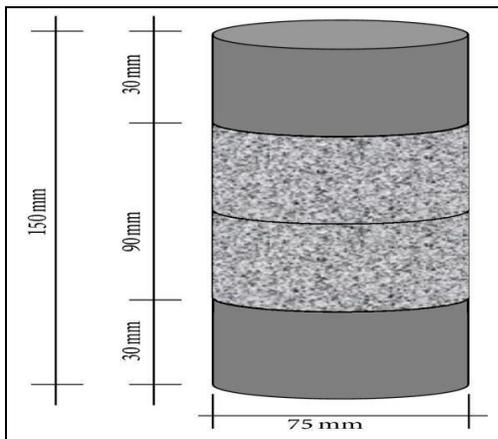


Fig 18:- Cylinder test

Locomotor asymmetry represents a key motor phenotype of PD, characterized by the initial onset of symptoms affecting one side of the body, which persists as the most prominently affected side throughout the course of the disease, even as the other side becomes affected.²⁶ In rodent models, locomotor asymmetry, sensorimotor coordination, and forelimb use are evaluated using the cylinder test.²⁷

c) Stepping test

Deficits in forepaw movements have been shown to be an effective model of parkinsonian akinesia, and the type of test commonly used to examine this phenomenon is referred to as the stepping test. As the disease advances to the middle stages, there is a noticeable reduction in the number of steps, reflecting increasing difficulty with gait and mobility. In the advanced stages, severe akinesia often develops, where individuals struggle to initiate movements, resulting in minimal or no steps being taken.²⁸

d) Beam test

Several types of beam tests have been adapted to examine hind limb coordination in rodent models, providing a means to assess motor coordination in animal models of Parkinson's disease (PD). In the early stages of PD, rodents show a slight increase in traversal time. As the disease

progresses to the middle stages, they experience frequent slips and longer traversal times. In the advanced stages, rodents often become unable to traverse the beam without falling.²⁹

e) Pole test

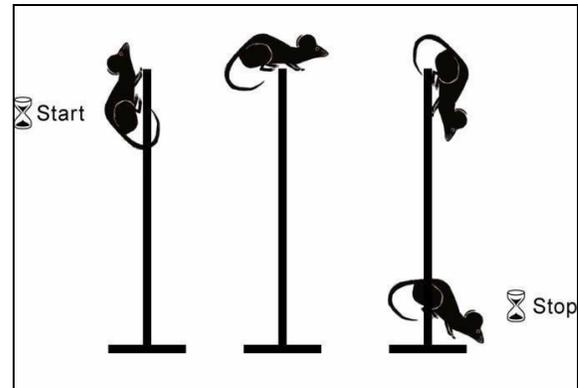


Fig 19:- Pole test

Another highly sensitive test aimed at examining bradykinesia, nigrostriatal dysfunction and motor coordination in PD mice is known as the pole test. During the early stages, mice demonstrate a slight increase in the time it takes to descend the pole, reflecting mild motor impairment. In the middle stages, there are noticeable delays and hesitations as the motor deficits become more pronounced. In advanced stages, significant delays, or a complete inability to descend the pole are observed, indicating severe motor dysfunction.³⁰

e) AIMs test

The AIMs test has been used to reflect and measure dyskinesia, and catalepsy in rodent models of PD after administration of drugs like L-DOPA. The AIMs test has been described in depth by Cenci et al., and is classified into different subtypes based on the type of measurement of the behavioral abnormality. These subtypes include measurements of: (i) locomotive dyskinesia also known as contraversive rotational response characterized by the increase in locomotion, which is dependent on the contralateral side of treatment, (ii) contralateral twisted posturing of both the neck and upper body,³¹

f) Rotarod test



Fig 20:- Rotarod test

The rotarod test is one of the oldest and best-defined methods to assess behavioral deficits in rodent models of PD, and this test was first described by Dunham and Miya in 1957. In the advanced stages, there is a significant reduction in the time spent on the rod, often accompanied by frequent falls, mirroring the severe motor dysfunction seen in advanced PD in humans.³²

9.2 Non- motor behavioral tests

a) Morris water maze test (MWMT)

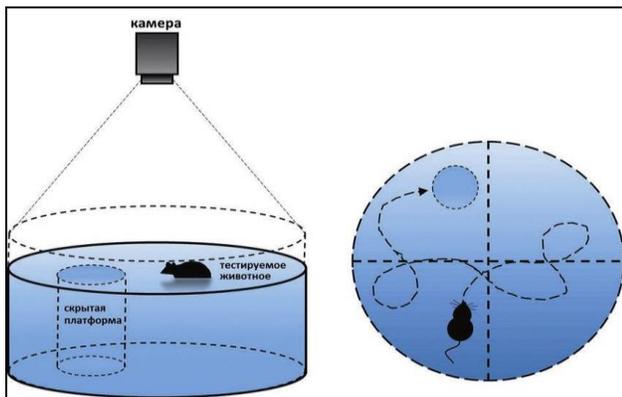


Fig 21:- Morris water maze test (MWMT)

Working and spatial memory can be assessed using the Morris water maze, which involves a circular pool filled with opaque water and a hidden platform placed just below the surface. Rodents are placed in the pool, and the test then measures the capacity of the animal to make use of external spatial cues to locate the platform placed in the pool. As the disease progresses to the middle stages, more noticeable impairments in learning and memory become apparent, with rodents requiring longer times or exhibiting inconsistent navigation strategies.³³

b) Forced swimming test (FST)

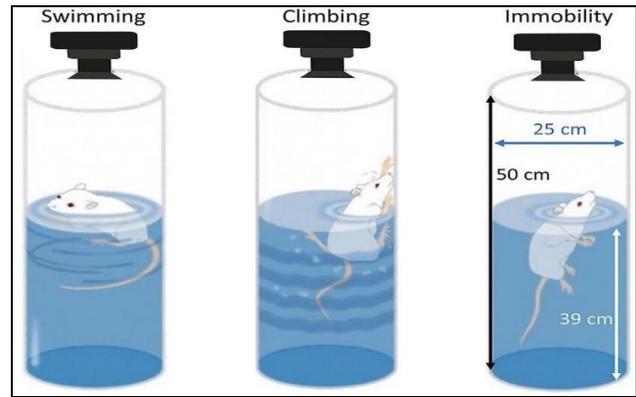


Fig 22:- Forced swimming test (FST)

The FST is one of the most used tests to evaluate depression-like behavior in mice and rats. In early stages of PD, rodents exhibit a slight increase in immobility time during the FST, indicating emerging depression-like behavior. This behavioral assay consists of placing the animal in a vertical plexiglass cylinder filled with water, and after 24 h of training, a short session of around 5 min is carried out. The rodent's despair is analyzed by measuring the total duration of immobility during the test.³⁴

c) Open field test

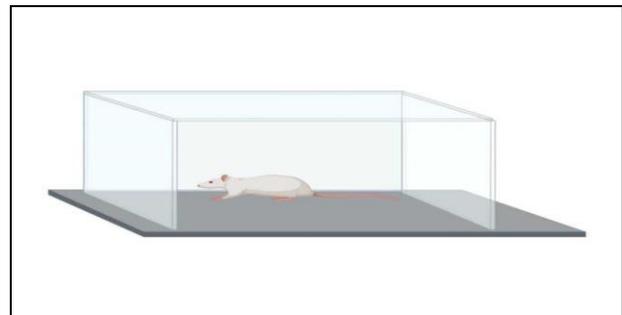


Fig 23:-Open field test

Open field test results revealed not only an increase in activity, but also reduced anxiety like behavior in transgenic A53T mouse models. These studies show that A53T mice seemed to develop an age-related anxiolytic-like phenotype. In fact, 12-month-old A53T mice showed to spend more time in the center as compared to either WT or younger A53T mice. Similarly, another study showed that mice overexpressing the human WT α -syn (Thy1- α -syn) tend to have more center entries and exploration time when compared to WT mice.³⁵

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