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Clinical pharmacology studies investigating novel formulations of dopaminergic drugs

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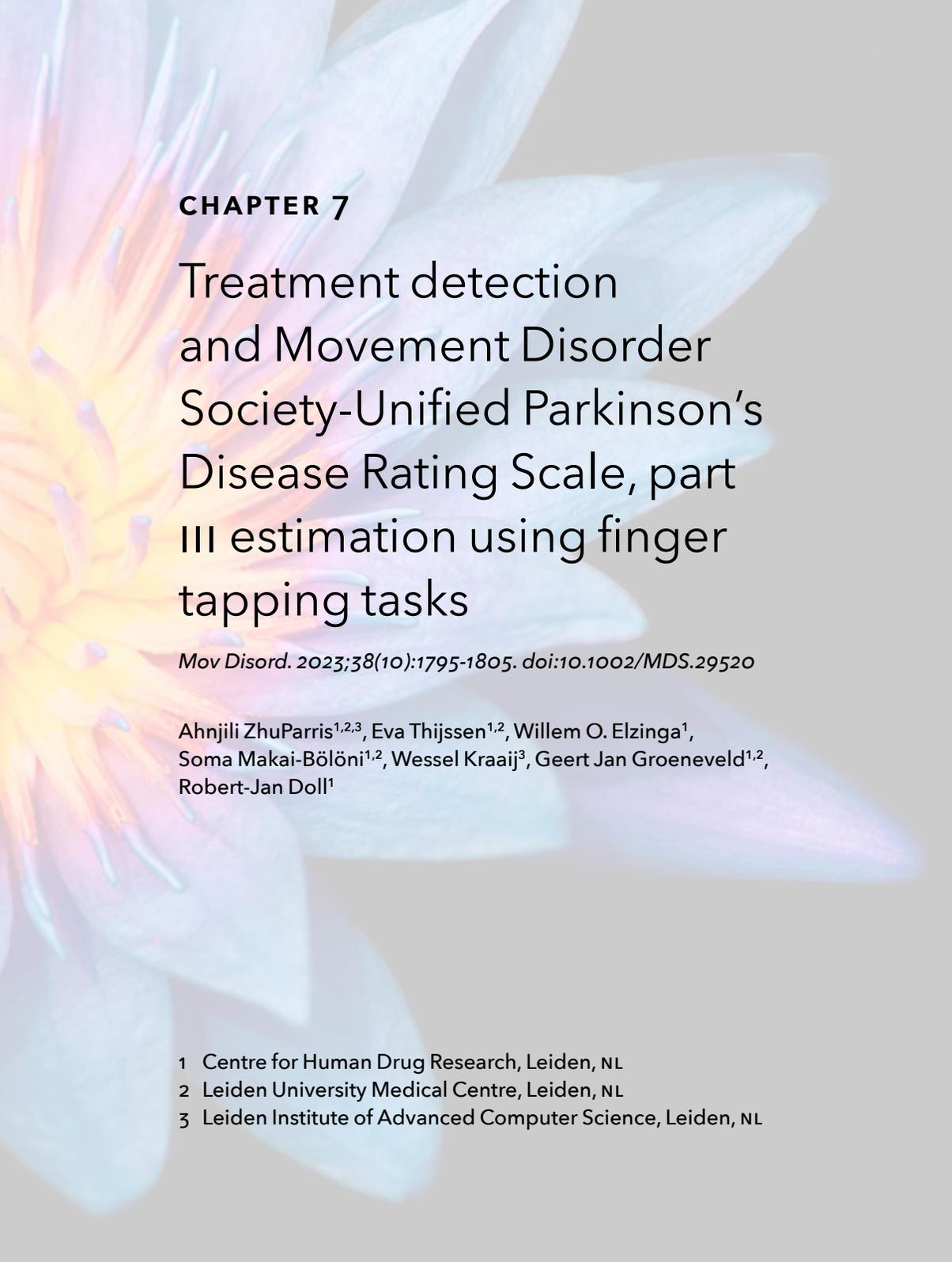
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CHAPTER 7

Treatment detection and Movement Disorder Society-Unified Parkinson's Disease Rating Scale, part III estimation using finger tapping tasks

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ABSTRACT

Background The validation of objective and easy-to-implement biomarkers that can monitor the effects of fast-acting drugs among Parkinson's disease (PD) patients would benefit antiparkinsonian drug development.

Methods We developed composite biomarkers to detect levodopa/carbidopa effects and to estimate PD symptom severity. For this development, we trained machine learning algorithms to select the optimal combination of finger tapping task features to predict treatment effects and disease severity. Data were collected during a placebo-controlled, crossover study with 20 PD patients. The alternate index and middle finger tapping (IMFT), alternative index finger tapping (IFT), and thumb-index finger tapping (TIFT) tasks and the Movement Disorder Society-Unified Parkinson's Disease Rating Scale (MDS-UPDRS III) were performed during treatment. We trained classification algorithms to select features consisting of the MDS-UPDRS III item scores; the individual IMFT, IFT, and TIFT; and all three tapping tasks collectively to classify treatment effects. Furthermore, we trained regression algorithms to estimate the MDS-UPDRS III total score using the tapping task features individually and collectively.

Results The IFT composite biomarker had the best classification performance (83.50% accuracy, 93.95% precision) and outperformed the MDS-UPDRS III composite biomarker (75.75% accuracy, 73.93% precision). It also achieved the best performance when the MDS-UPDRS III total score was estimated (mean absolute error: 7.87, Pearson's correlation: 0.69).

Conclusion We demonstrated that the IFT composite biomarker outperformed the combined tapping tasks and the MDS-UPDRS III composite biomarkers in detecting treatment effects. This provides evidence for adopting the IFT composite biomarker for detecting antiparkinsonian treatment effect in clinical trials.

INTRODUCTION

Parkinson's disease (PD) motor impairments can be characterized as slow and rigid and can lead to a gradual reduction in movement speed over time.¹ The recommended instrument for assessing the severity of PD motor symptoms is the Movement Disorder Society's revised version of the Unified Parkinson's Disease Rating Scale, part III (MDS-UPDRS III).² The MDS-UPDRS III offers a reliable and valid metric for evaluating motor manifestations in each body area affected by PD.³⁻⁵ There are two main limitations of the MDS-UPDRS III. First, the MDS-UPDRS III requires approximately 15 minutes to complete with a trained rater, therefore making it time consuming and labor intensive.⁶ Thus, MDS-UPDRS III is not ideal for demonstrating the time of onset of fast-acting dopaminergic drugs, such as the inhaled forms of levodopa/carbidopa and apomorphine.^{7,8} Second, the MDS-UPDRS III provides only a coarse rating of motor function and therefore cannot identify or differentiate between specific kinematics of finger movements.³ As fine motor control abnormalities are typically the first manifestations of motor impairments in PD patients, it is important to develop composite biomarkers that are sensitive to these changes.⁹ To address these limitations, there is a demand for biomarkers that detect fine-grained changes in motor function and are congruent with the MDS-UPDRS.

Finger tapping tasks provide insights into fine motor activity^{10,11} and have been shown to be quick, effective, and simple assessments for estimating MDS-UPDRS motor disability^{12,13} and assessing antiparkinsonian drug effects.¹⁴⁻¹⁹ These tasks provide insights into finger and forearm movement speed, accuracy, amplitude, frequency, rhythm, and fatigue.^{10,14,20,21} PD patients often experience tremors, stiffness, and difficulty with movement, which can significantly impact their ability to perform daily activities, including buttoning a shirt, typing on a keyboard, or using utensils.^{22,23} As patients want treatments that will improve their ability to carry out daily activities, measuring motor function through tapping biomarkers can provide a more direct and meaningful assessment of the impact of treatments

on patients' lives. Therefore, the tapping tasks could be considered of interest to both clinicians and patients.

The complexity of parkinsonism motor impairment manifestations cannot be captured by a single biomarker. By exploiting machine learning algorithms, we can combine multiple objective biomarkers into a single composite biomarker that would represent a multidimensional characterization of PD.²⁴ Previous studies have demonstrated that composite biomarkers could effectively differentiate between PD and healthy controls and estimate MDS-UPDRS III symptom severity.²⁵⁻²⁷ This study investigates the accuracy and sensitivity of composite tapping biomarkers to detect drug effects and to estimate disease severity among PD patients.

PATIENTS AND METHODS

This is an extension of a previous study that investigated the reliability of tapping tasks to detect the longitudinal effects of levodopa/carbidopa and to determine the correlation of the tapping features with the MDS-UPDRS III.¹⁴ The study was conducted at the Centre for Human Drug Research (CHDR) in Leiden, the Netherlands, between July and November 2020 and is registered in the Netherlands Trial Register (trial NL8617).

Study overview

We conducted a double-blind, placebo-controlled, randomized, two-way crossover study with levodopa/carbidopa in 20 PD patients that had recognizable *OFF* episodes (symptoms not adequately controlled by their medication²⁸). Patients received a semi-individual dose of the investigational drug. To ensure an *OFF-ON* transition, the patients were given a supramaximal dose that was at least 25% higher than their usually administered morning dose.²⁹

Patient criteria

Enrolled patients had a clinical diagnosis of PD, as confirmed by a neurologist, and a classification of a Hoehn-Yahr stages I to III during

their *ON* state by an investigator. Patients were included if they were between ages 20 and 85 years during screening, experienced self-described motor fluctuations, and were taking oral antiparkinsonian medication. Patients were excluded if they had known conditions that would affect levodopa/carbidopa treatment or study compliance, such as previous intolerance, drug dependence, or psychiatric disease.

Assessments

MDS-UPDRS III

We selected the MDS-UPDRS III as the gold standard for the purposes of this study. The MDS-UPDRS III was conducted by trained raters at CHDR. The examination took on average 15 minutes to complete. It was performed pre-dose and at 10, 30, 60, and 90 minutes after dosing.

FINGER TAPPING TASKS

All the tapping tasks were performed twice pre-dose and once at 10, 25, 45, 60, 75, 90, and 105 minutes after dosing. If the tapping tasks and MDS-UPDRS III were planned simultaneously, then tapping tasks were performed first.

ALTERNATE INDEX AND MIDDLE FINGER TAPPING AND ALTERNATE INDEX FINGER TAPPING

Each patient was provided with a touchscreen laptop equipped with the alternate index and middle finger tapping (IMFT) and alternate index finger tapping (IFT) tasks.¹⁰ The patients were instructed to use the hand that was most affected (if both hands were equally affected, to use their dominant hand) and to perform each task as fast and accurately as possible for 30 seconds. For the IMFT, patients were asked to tap between the two targets (2.5 cm apart) with their index and middle fingers. For the IFT, patients were asked to tap the targets (20 cm apart) with their index finger.

The IMFT and IFT require two different movements; the IMFT and IFT are dependent on fine finger and forearm movements, respectively.¹⁰ Each of the two tasks generated 43 features relating to speed (e.g., total number of taps), accuracy (e.g., spatial error),

rhythm (e.g., inter-tap interval SD), and fatigue (e.g., change in velocity) (Supplemental Table 1).^{10,14}

THUMB-INDEX FINGER TAPPING

A wireless goniometer (Biometrics Ltd, Newport, UK) was placed on the metacarpal and proximal phalanx of the index finger of the most affected hand (if both hands were equally affected, to use their dominant hand).^{10,14,30} Each patient was instructed to sit comfortably, hold up the hand, and tap the index finger on the thumb as widely and quickly as possible continuously for 15 seconds. The thumb-index finger tapping (TIFT) assesses unilateral sequential fine finger movements. The 25 features of the TIFT include progressive changes in amplitude, hesitations, and tapping speed during the task (Supplemental Table 1).¹⁴

Statistical analysis

All data preprocessing and statistical analyses were conducted using Python (version 3.8.0)³¹ and the Scikit-Learn library (version 1.0.1).³²

DATA PREPROCESSING

All features were visually and statistically inspected for normality using histograms and Shapiro-Wilk tests, respectively. Log or square root transformations were applied when the features were not normally distributed. Only features that were normally distributed were included in the analysis. Missing values were not imputed, and only complete cases were considered.

As the tapping composite biomarker is designed to be a proxy for overall motor function, we did not account for laterality of the tapping task in the biomarkers. The need for assessing the tapping tasks with both hands is therefore avoided, which could streamline the assessment process and reduce the burden on patients.

COMPOSITE BIOMARKERS

We developed 10 composite biomarkers. The composite biomarkers represented the baseline-uncorrected or baseline-corrected MDS-UPDRS III 18-item scores; all three tapping tasks combined; and the

IFT, IMFT, and TIFT tasks individually. From a statistical viewpoint, we corrected for baseline to remove any concomitant variability in the treatment response, which would therefore improve the precision of the treatment detection.³³ From a practical viewpoint, we considered using the baseline-uncorrected values to reduce the number of measurements needed for treatment classification. The baseline-uncorrected model would require only a single tapping assessment, whereas the baseline-corrected model would require two.

CROSS-VALIDATION

We applied a nested k-fold cross-validation strategy to assess the performance and the generalizability of the composite biomarkers.³⁴ In nested cross-validation, the outer fold assesses the performance of the model, whereas the inner fold performs the model and hyperparameter selection. In our study, the outer-fold step was repeated 100 times, with each iteration containing a different combination of training (80% of the data) and test sets (20%). Each outer training set was further split into an inner training (80% of the data) and validation sets (20%). The inner-fold step was repeated 50 times, and the best-performing inner model would be evaluated in the outer fold. The final results would be represented as the averaged and standard deviation of the models selected by each outer fold.³⁴

For the classification and regression models, we applied a group-shuffle split (same distribution of placebo and active treatments in each split) and a stratified-shuffle split (same distribution of MDS-UPDRS III scores in each split), respectively. To stratify the MDS-UPDRS III scores, we assigned each score to one of three binned ranges (e.g., the baseline-corrected MDS-UPDRS III binned ranges were [-13, -8.76], [-8.76, -4.53], and [-4.53, 0.3]). Each outer fold had the same distribution of binned ranges. Stratification was not applied to the inner fold, as the small sample size would limit the number of samples available per bin. Within each inner fold, all features were standardized by subtracting the mean and scaling to the unit variance. To identify the features that were predictive of the outcomes, we identified features that were selected at least once by all outer-fold models.³⁴

CLASSIFICATION OF ACTIVE OR PLACEBO TREATMENTS

Classification models were trained to classify the active or placebo treatments. As we intended to predict the probability of treatment at all time points, we chose the last measurements to train the models. The MDS-UPDRS III classification model was trained on the 90-minute MDS-UPDRS III item scores.¹⁴ The tapping classification models were trained on measurements taken immediately after the MDS-UPDRS III starting at 105 minutes.

To identify the optimal classification model, we compared three classification models: support vector machines, logistic regression, and linear discriminant analysis (LDA). These classification models were selected as they are easy to implement and to interpret.³⁵⁻³⁷ Previous studies have also used these algorithms to classify PD diagnosis or estimate MDS-UPDRS III.³⁸⁻⁴¹ Models were compared based on their mean accuracy, precision, and F1 scores.⁴⁰

In addition, each model selected by the outer folds was used to predict the treatment at the other time points, with the 20% of patients who were not used for training. This would allow researchers to identify at which time point treatment effects are detected. For each time point, the mean and standard deviation of the class probabilities were based on the predicted log-odd ratios from each fold. Additionally, these probabilities were used to estimate the repeatability and effect size. The repeatability was assessed by calculating the intraclass correlation coefficients (ICC) using the placebo results only. Using a random intercept model with the intercept and time point as fixed effects, the ICC was calculated by dividing the between-subject variance by the sum of the between-subject and within-subject variances. The effect size was calculated using all available data and a random intercept model with intercept, time point, treatment, and interaction between time point and treatment as fixed effects. In addition, the effect size was calculated as the contrast between the probabilities after treatment and the averaged baseline probabilities divided by the square root of the sum of the between-subject and within-subject variations.

ESTIMATION OF THE MDS-UPDRS III TOTAL SCORE

To assess if the tapping composite biomarkers (baseline uncorrected and baseline corrected) could estimate the MDS-UPDRS III total score, linear regression with elastic-net regularization (optimized for α and the l1 ratio) was used to predict the MDS-UPDRS III total score at 90 minutes using the 105-minute tapping biomarkers. These two time points were compared, as it was previously shown that the IFT and TIFT showed significant and moderate-to-strong correlations with the MDS-UPDRS III.¹⁴ Further, the 90- and 105-minute tapping tasks were equally as close to the 90-minute MDS-UPDRS III in timing and therefore we assumed would perform equally well.

To assess the performance of the models, we estimated the mean absolute error (MAE) of the outer-fold models. We evaluated the correlation between the predicted and true MDS-UPDRS III scores at all time points for each outer-fold model. Like the classification models, the MDS-UPDRS III scores were estimated at other time points with the 20% patients who were not used for training. Additionally, as for the classification models, those data were also used to estimate the repeatability and effect size.

RESULTS

Data collected

Twenty PD patients participated in this study. An overview of the demographic and disease characteristics of the patients was published previously;¹⁴ 14 patients were male, and their ages ranged from 48 to 70 years. Patients received one to four capsules of 100/25 mg levodopa/carbidopa as they had a supramaximal morning levodopa equivalent dose (LED) ranging from 47 to 391 milligrams. The median MDS-UPDRS III score (when using regular medication) was 23 and 22 on their placebo and active treatment days, respectively.¹⁴

We analyzed 31 IMFT, 31 IFT, and 25 TIFT features. No features were excluded due to nonnormal distribution. Due to goniometer

damage, we had missing data for 1 patient in the placebo condition and 2 patients in the active condition. As 6 patients had difficulties performing the IMFT, this led to missing data. However, the missing data were equally distributed across the treatment conditions and therefore deemed missing at random.

Classification of placebo and active treatments

We found that the LDA classifier consistently yielded the highest accuracy for all models (for both baseline uncorrected and baseline corrected); thus, we reported only the LDA results.

CLASSIFICATION OF TREATMENT EFFECTS

The best-performing baseline-uncorrected composite biomarker, the IFT, yielded an accuracy, precision, F1 score, and large effect size of 68.50%, 70.23%, 68.93%, and 1.60 respectively (Table 1). The best-performing baseline-corrected composite biomarker, the TIFT, achieved a higher average accuracy, precision, F1 score, and large effect size of 83.50%, 93.95%, 80.09%, and 2.58. Both models outperformed the MDS-UPDRS III classification models across all metrics. The IFT features that were mutually identified as important features for the baseline-uncorrected and baseline-corrected classification models were related to accuracy (e.g., spatial errors and the bivariate contour ellipse area), fatigue (e.g., velocity changes), and velocity (e.g., inter-tap intervals) (Figure 1).

CLASSIFICATION OF TREATMENT EFFECTS AT ALL TIME POINTS

In Figure 2, the classification models were applied to all time points, showing the mean predicted probability of an active (>0.5) or placebo treatment (<0.5). In the baseline-corrected IFT, TIFT, and MDS-UPDRS III models, the mean predicted probability of a patient receiving a placebo treatment was consistently less than 0.5. In contrast, when active treatment was administered, the baseline-corrected IFT and MDS-UPDRS III model had a mean predicted probability above 0.5 from 60 minutes onward. The baseline-corrected IMFT and TIFT models crossed the 0.5 thresholds after 45 minutes. We found that the baseline-corrected IFT biomarker determined a large effect size

(0.81) at 30 minutes, whereas the baseline-uncorrected IFT biomarker reached a large effect size of 0.84 at 60 minutes. The MDS-UPDRS III achieved a large effect size at 60 minutes (1.69 and 1.04 for baseline corrected and baseline uncorrected, respectively) (Supplemental Figure 2). The MDS-UPDRS III demonstrated higher repeatability than the tapping tasks. Whereas the baseline-uncorrected MDS-UPDRS III biomarker obtained an excellent ICC, the IFT and TIFT both achieved good ICCs (0.78, 0.80).⁴² However, the ICCs of the baseline-corrected MDS-UPDRS III and the IFT, IMFT, and TIFT biomarkers decreased to a moderate ICC range between 0.52 and 0.66.⁴²

Estimation of MDS-UPDRS III

The mean MDS-UPDRS III total scores at 90 minutes for the placebo and active treatments were 33.5 and 22.0, respectively. When baseline-corrected, the mean MDS-UPDRS III scores for the placebo and active treatments were 0.3 and -13.0, respectively (Figure 3).

ESTIMATION OF MDS-UPDRS III

The best-performing baseline-uncorrected regression models were the TIFT and IFT composite biomarkers, which achieved the lowest average MAE of 10.31 and 10.36, respectively. In addition, the TIFT and IFT showed large effect sizes of 1.47 and 2.23, respectively, when estimating the MDS-UPDRS III. The best-performing baseline-corrected model was the IFT composite biomarker, which yielded the lowest average MAE of 7.87. For both the baseline-uncorrected and baseline-corrected models, the best-performing composite biomarkers outperformed that of the composite biomarkers of the three tasks. For the IFT features, the features that were mutually selected by both models were similar to that of the IFT classification features (Figure 2; Supplemental Figure 1).

ESTIMATION OF MDS-UPDRS III AT ALL TIME POINTS

The predicted and true MDS-UPDRS III scores were significantly correlated for the baseline-corrected and baseline-uncorrected models (Table 2). Once again, the best positive correlations were achieved by the TIFT baseline-uncorrected composite biomarker

($r=0.58$, $p<0.01$) and the IFT baseline-corrected composite biomarker ($r=0.69$, $p<0.01$). The greatest difference in the true MDS-UPDRS III scores between the placebo and active treatment interventions was at 90 minutes (Figure 3). The tapping tasks achieved a moderate to good ICC (Table 2).

DISCUSSION

Detection of treatment effects

The IFT biomarker (baseline corrected and baseline uncorrected) was, on average, more predictive of and more sensitive to treatment effects than the MDS-UPDRS III biomarker in terms of accuracy, precision, and clinical significance (as supported by the effect-size performances) (Table 1). This is significant as the ability to detect changes in aspects of motor function that may be missed by traditional assessments allows for a more sensitive measure of treatment efficacy. This can be valuable for detecting small and early changes in motor function that are indicative of a treatment response. The most important IFT features used to classify treatment effects are in concert with previous studies (Figure 1) that also identified that forearm movements relating to velocity, amplitude, and rhythm are sensitive to antiparkinsonian drug effects.^{10,15,43,44}

We demonstrated that treatment effects were detected at 45 and 60 minutes for the TIFT and IFT composite biomarkers, respectively (Figure 2). This finding is notable as the mean onset of levodopa/carbidopa action is about 50 minutes.⁴⁵ This suggests that tapping tasks can detect the onset of oral levodopa/carbidopa. The MDS-UPDRS III was not performed at 45 minutes, so it could not be determined whether the MDS-UPDRS III biomarker could detect treatment effects at 45 minutes. These findings further propound that the tapping tasks are practical and sensitive composite biomarkers for detecting motor response changes induced by antiparkinsonian drugs.⁴⁶ Further, the large effect sizes can potentially reduce sample size requirements and enhance power for future tapping task trials that assess treatment effects.

The performance of the classification models (except for the ICC) improved when the features were baseline corrected. Despite this, both models provide practical and clinical value. The baseline-uncorrected models required only a single measurement and represent the current motor function status. The baseline-corrected models require two measurements and represent the changes in motor function over time. The increased performance suggests that treatment response is dependent on the patient's tapping profile during their *OFF* state and adjusting for baseline removes variation in the levodopa/carbidopa response.

Estimation of MDS-UPDRS III

We found that the baseline-corrected IFT biomarker, despite yielding the best performance among all the biomarkers, achieved a prediction error of approximately eight points and was significantly moderately correlated using the MDS-UPDRS III. The prediction error is comparable to existing sensor-based composite biomarkers used to estimate the MDS-UPDRS III. Studies using data sourced from an Axitvity AX3 (placed on the wrist and back or only the wrist) to estimate the gold standard achieved an MAE ranging from 4.29 to 6.29 points.^{47,48}

The tapping biomarkers predicted a smaller range of MDS-UPDRS III scores compared to that of the true MDS-UPDRS III scores (Figure 3). It is likely due to using only hand and forearm motor function assessments to predict the MDS-UPDRS III total scores, which includes motor assessments of other regions affected by PD, such as gait, facial expression, and speech.⁴ As the correlations of the true and predicted MDS-UPDRS III scores were moderate (Table 2), the tapping biomarkers still showed concurrent validity with the gold standard. This suggests that the tapping biomarkers could provide clinicians with an understanding of the acute effects of drugs on motor fluctuations within a short monitoring period.

Despite the discrepancies between the true and predicted MDS-UPDRS III total scores, with the advancements in technology, it is not unusual for the performance of new clinical assessments to

outperform the current gold standard. However, the discrepancy between the two assessments influences the accuracy estimates of the new clinical assessments, and as it would be interpreted as a prediction error.⁴⁹ Therefore, we argue that accurate estimation of the MDS-UPDRS III score is not essential for the adoption of the composite biomarker as a new complementary assessment for estimating symptom severity. Rather, the consequences resulting from the disagreement between the gold standard and the tapping composite biomarkers should be investigated.

Future work

We demonstrated that the tapping composite biomarkers could detect the onset of oral levodopa/carbidopa at 45 minutes. A follow-up study could investigate if the tapping composite biomarkers could detect an earlier onset of an even faster-acting antiparkinsonian drug, such as inhaled apomorphine that has an onset as early as 8 minutes.⁸ This would further validate the sensitivity of the tapping composite biomarker to detect fast-acting dopaminergic drug effects.

Our sample size may limit the generalizability of this study's findings as a small sample size may not be representative of the broader population of patients with PD, making it difficult to generalize its results to a larger population.⁵⁰ This is particularly relevant for PD studies, where the disease can manifest in different ways and progress at different rates in different patients. To mitigate the effect of the small sample sizes, we employed cross-validation to bootstrap and validate the models against different groups of patients. We propose conducting a follow-up trial to implement the tapping tasks among more PD patients with more diverse MDS-UPDRS III profiles. The data collected from the trial can be used as an independent data set to assess the validity, reliability, and generalizability of our current methods.

Although composite biomarkers have the advantage of capturing multiple aspects of motor function, the effects of individual components within the composite biomarker must be carefully examined to avoid misleading interpretations of the results. For example, a treatment that improves tapping speed but worsens

tapping rhythm may result in an overall neutral effect, making it difficult to interpret the treatment's efficacy. Like other composite measures, such as the MDS-UPDRS III total score, it is crucial to examine the effects of each feature of the composite biomarker separately, as well as in conjunction with the overall composite score, to better understand the treatment's impact on finger motor function.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the IFT biomarker was more predictive of and sensitive to the detection of treatment effects than the MDS-UPDRS III biomarker; therefore, the tapping biomarkers appear to hold promise for evaluating the early and rapid effects of antiparkinsonian drugs. Moreover, the tapping task is easy to perform and can be done in clinical settings as well as at home by patients themselves, making it a practical and convenient method for monitoring disease progression and treatment response. Using tapping biomarkers, clinicians can obtain accurate and reliable data that can inform treatment decisions in real time.

TABLE 1 The mean and standard deviations of the accuracy, precision, F1 score, and effect size for each biomarker (at 90 minutes for MDS-UPDRS III and 105 minutes for the tapping task) are based on the 100 outer folds of the nested cross-validation.

| | Tasks | Accuracy | Precision | F1 score | ICC | Effect size |
|----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Baseline uncorrected | IMFT | 56.90% (15.09%) | 61.67% (22.53%) | 56.56% (18.07%) | 0.60 (0.25) | 0.64 (0.57) |
| | IFT | 68.50% (12.56%) | 70.23% (16.31%) | 68.93% (14.9%) | 0.78 (0.21) | 1.60 (0.82) |
| | TIFT | 67.72% (15.84%) | 65.55% (21.03%) | 67.51% (18.22%) | 0.78 (0.22) | 1.14 (0.80) |
| | All three tasks | 63.0% (16.91%) | 64.35% (27.32%) | 59.82% (23.16%) | 0.68 (0.29) | 0.91 (0.68) |
| | MDS-UPDRS III item scores | 63.75% (11.25%) | 61.20% (10.9%) | 68.90% (11.52%) | 0.92 (0.10) | 1.03 (0.60) |
| Baseline corrected | IMFT | 66.86% (15.23%) | 70.83% (17.25%) | 69.01% (15.04%) | 0.57 (0.17) | 1.44 (0.98) |
| | IFT | 83.50% (10.74%) | 93.95% (11.25%) | 80.09% (14.92%) | 0.53 (0.16) | 2.58 (0.90) |
| | TIFT | 77.86% (14.97%) | 82.32% (21.43%) | 74.72% (18.44%) | 0.52 (0.17) | 1.14 (0.80) |
| | All three tasks | 77.98% (13.26%) | 81.85% (21.15%) | 74.66% (19.17%) | 0.48 (0.18) | 0.91 (0.61) |
| | MDS-UPDRS III item scores | 75.75% (14.45%) | 79.95% (17.64%) | 73.93% (16.42%) | 0.66 (0.11) | 2.12 (1.25) |

The mean ICC and standard deviation are based on all time points for the placebo condition only. The numbers in **bold** font represent the highest mean performance per model per column.

IMFT, alternate index and middle finger tapping; IFT, alternate index finger tapping; TIFT, thumb-index finger tapping; MDS-UPDRS III, Movement Disorder Society-Unified Parkinson's Disease Rating Scale part III; ICC, intraclass correlation coefficient.

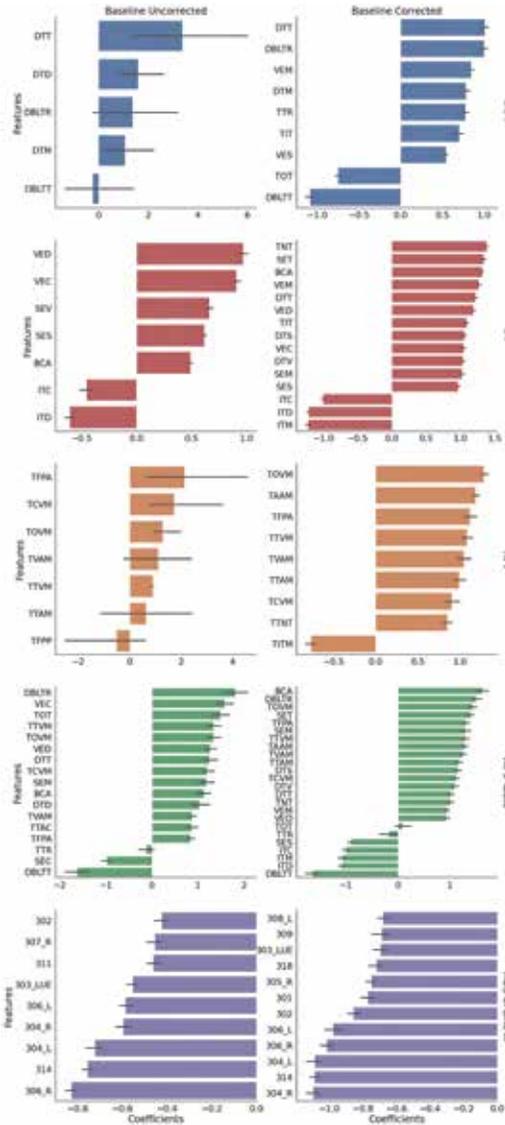
TABLE 2 Average correlation and ICC (95% CI) between the true and predicted MDS-UPDRS scores across all time points for the repeated nested cross-validation 100 outer-fold predictions.

| | Tasks | Correlation coefficient (r) | P-value | ICC | Effect size |
|----------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| Baseline uncorrected | IMFT | 0.10 (0.03, 0.16) | p<0.05 (<0.05, 0.05) | 0.69 (0.65, 0.73) | 0.67 (0.53, 0.81) |
| | IFT | 0.52 (0.45, 0.59) | p<0.01 (<0.01, <0.01) | 0.80 (0.76, 0.83) | 1.02 (0.91, 1.14) |
| | TIFT | 0.58 (0.53, 0.63) | p<0.05 (<0.01, <0.05) | 0.78 (0.74, 0.82) | 1.47 (1.27, 1.67) |
| | All three tasks | 0.11 (0.04, 0.18) | p<0.05 (<0.05, 0.05) | 0.66 (0.61, 0.71) | 0.75 (0.62, 0.88) |
| | IMFT | 0.34 (0.27, 0.40) | p<0.05 (<0.01, 0.06) | 0.48 (0.44, 0.52) | 1.10 (0.92, 1.28) |
| Baseline corrected | IFT | 0.69 (0.65, 0.73) | p<0.001 (<0.001, <0.005) | 0.45 (0.42, 0.48) | 2.23 (2.01, 2.45) |
| | TIFT | 0.65 (0.60, 0.69) | p<0.001 (<0.001, <0.001) | 0.50 (0.46, 0.54) | 1.37 (1.20, 1.54) |
| | All three tasks | 0.56 (0.52, 0.61) | p<0.05 (<0.001, <0.05) | 0.43 (0.39, 0.47) | 1.06 (0.91, 1.21) |

The average effect size (95% CI) between the baseline and 90 minutes for MDS-UPDRS III and 105 minutes for the tapping tasks was also included. The numbers in **bold** font represent the highest correlation coefficient (r), ICC, and effect size for each treatment and task.

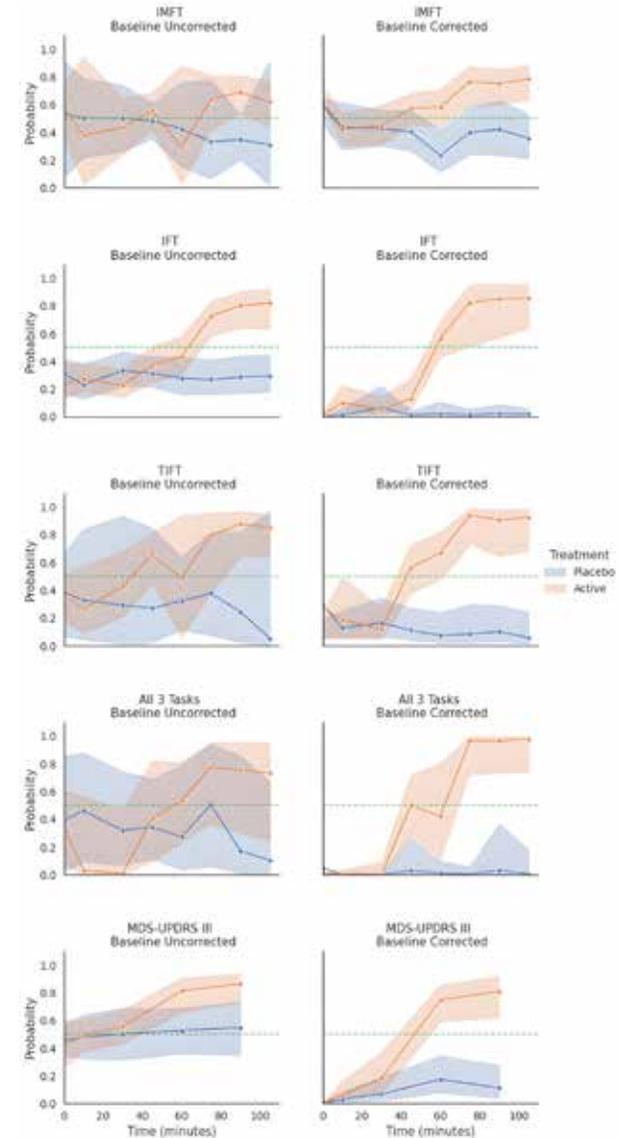
ICC, intraclass correlation coefficient; CI, confidence interval; MDS-UPDRS, Movement Disorder Society-Unified Parkinson's Disease Rating Scale; IMFT, alternate index and middle finger tapping; IFT, alternate index finger tapping; TIFT, thumb-index finger tapping.

FIGURE 1 The average feature coefficients of the respective features selected by the linear discriminant analysis (LDA) classifier for each finger tapping task feature and the Movement Disorder Society-Unified Parkinson's Disease Rating Scale (MDS-UPDRS) part III item score features (baseline-uncorrected and baseline-corrected models). The error bars represent the 95% confidence interval.



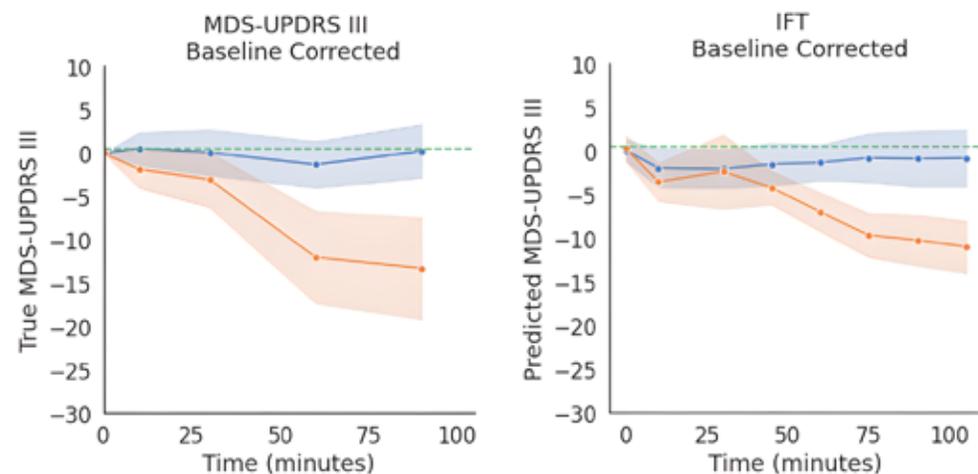
An overview of finger tapping task features is provided in Supplemental Table 1. IMFT, alternate index and middle finger tapping; IFT, alternate index finger tapping; TIFT, thumb-index finger tapping.

FIGURE 2 The mean predicted probability that active treatment was administered in the placebo (blue) and active (orange) treatment groups. The green dotted line represents the 0.5 decision boundary. The bands represent the 95% confidence interval.



IMFT, alternate index and middle finger tapping; IFT, alternate index finger tapping; TIFT, thumb-index finger tapping, MDS-UPDRS III, Movement Disorder Society-Unified Parkinson's Disease Rating Scale part III.

FIGURE 3 Average true and predicted Movement Disorder Society-Unified Parkinson's Disease Rating Scale part III scores with standard deviation from 0 to 105 minutes post dose for the placebo (blue) and active (orange) treatment interventions when corrected for baseline.



MDS-UPDRS III, Movement Disorder Society-Unified Parkinson's Disease Rating Scale part III; IFT, alternate index finger tapping.

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

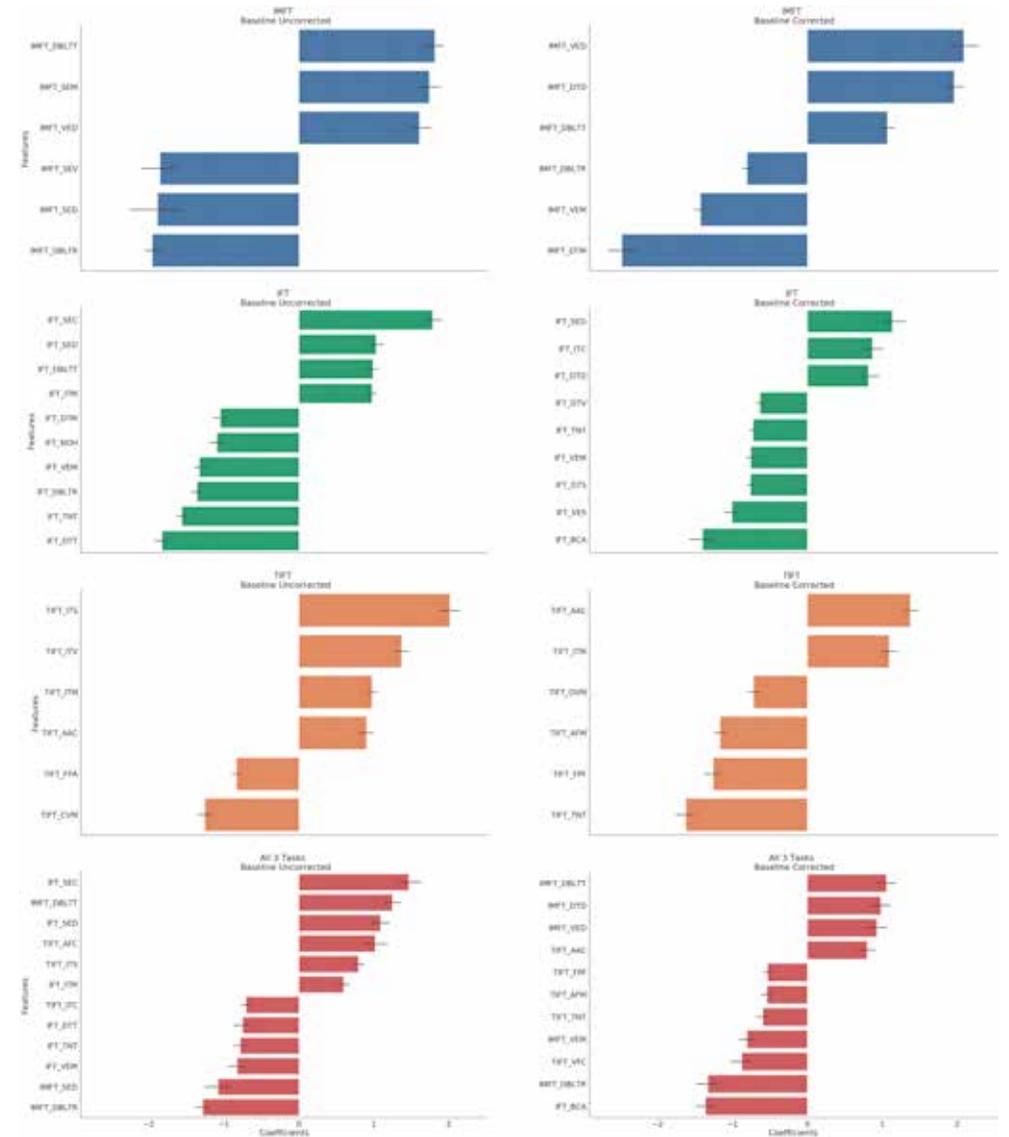
SUPPLEMENTAL TABLE 1 Overview of features for the alternate index and middle finger tapping (IMFT), alternate index finger tapping (IFT), and thumb-index finger tapping (TIFT) tasks.

| Acronym | Description (unit) | Task |
|---------|---|-----------------|
| BCA | Bivariate contour ellipse area (represents the area of an ellipse which encompasses the fixation points) (mm ²) | IMFT, IFT |
| BCT | Angle of the bivariate contour ellipse's major axis (degree) | IMFT, IFT |
| DBLTR | Ratio good taps:total taps (a good tap is defined here as a tap on the correct side (left/right) of the touchscreen) | IMFT, IFT |
| DBLTT | Total number of double/missed taps | IMFT, IFT |
| DTC | Change in distance travelled over time, i.e., linear slope over all inter-tap distances (mm/min) | IMFT, IFT |
| DTD | Difference in mean distance travelled between the first 10 taps and the last 10 taps (cm) | IMFT, IFT |
| DTM | Mean distance travelled between two consecutive taps (cm) | IMFT, IFT |
| DTS | Standard deviation of all distances between consecutive taps (cm) | IMFT, IFT |
| DTT | Total distance travelled between consecutive taps (cm) | IMFT, IFT |
| DTV | Distance traveled: coefficient of variation (DTS/DTM * 100) (%) | IMFT, IFT |
| ITC | Change in inter-tap interval over time, i.e., linear slope over all inter-tap intervals (ms/min) | IMFT, IFT, TIFT |
| ITD | Difference in mean inter-tap interval between the first 10 taps and the last 10 taps (ms) | IMFT, IFT |
| ITM | Mean inter-tap interval (ms) | IMFT, IFT, TIFT |
| ITS | Standard deviation of all inter-tap intervals (ms) | IMFT, IFT, TIFT |
| ITV | Inter-tap interval: coefficient of variation (ITS/ITM * 100) (%) | IMFT, IFT, TIFT |
| NOH | Number of halts (taps where the inter-tap interval is larger than 2 * ITS) | IMFT, IFT |
| SEC | Change in spatial error over time, i.e., linear slope over all taps' spatial errors (mm/min). (Spatial error is the Euclidean distance of a tap from the targets' center point) | IMFT, IFT |
| SED | Difference in mean spatial error between the first 10 taps and the last 10 taps (mm) | IMFT, IFT |
| SEM | Mean spatial error (mm) | IMFT, IFT |
| SES | Standard deviation of the spatial errors (mm) | IMFT, IFT |
| SET | Total spatial error (mm) | IMFT, IFT |
| SEV | Spatial error: coefficient of variation (SES/SEM * 100) (%) | IMFT, IFT |
| TIT | Taps inside the target circle | IMFT, IFT |

[continuation of Supplemental Table 1]

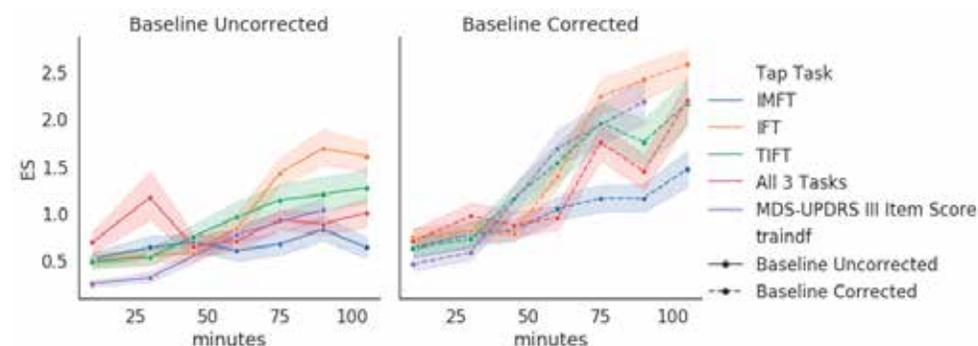
| Acronym | Description (unit) | Task |
|---------|---|-----------|
| TNT | Total number of taps | IMFT, IFT |
| TOT | Taps outside the target circle | IMFT, IFT |
| TTR | Ratio taps inside:total taps | IMFT, IFT |
| VEC | Change in velocity over time, i.e., linear slope over all inter- tap velocities (cm/min ²) | IMFT, IFT |
| VED | Difference in mean velocity between the first 10 taps and the last 10 taps (cm/min) | IMFT, IFT |
| VEM | Mean velocity (cm/min) | IMFT, IFT |
| VES | Standard deviation of the velocities (cm/min) | IMFT, IFT |
| VEV | Velocity: coefficient of variation (VES/VEM * 100) (%) | IMFT, IFT |
| AAC | Change in maximum angle amplitude over time (degree ² /s) | TIFT |
| AAM | Mean of the tapping angle amplitude (degree ²) | TIFT |
| AFC | Change in peak tapping frequency over time (Hz/min) | TIFT |
| AFM | Mean peak tapping frequency (Hz) | TIFT |
| CVM | Mean closing velocity: mean of the amplitude (i.e., angle) travelled per second for each tap when moving the index finger towards the thumb (closing); velocity extracted from the derivative of the amplitude (degree/s) | TIFT |
| FPA | Amplitude at peak frequency (degree ² /Hz) | TIFT |
| FPF | Peak frequency (Hz) | TIFT |
| FPP | The total power around the peak frequency, i.e., the area under the curve in the power spectrum around the peak frequency (measure of amplitude) (degree ²) | TIFT |
| OVM | Mean opening velocity: mean of the amplitude (i.e., angle) travelled per second for each tap when moving the index finger away from the thumb (opening); velocity extracted from the derivative of the amplitude (degree/s) | TIFT |
| TAC | Change in tapping amplitude over time, i.e., linear slope over all tapping amplitudes (degree/s) | TIFT |
| TAM | Mean tapping amplitude (degree) | TIFT |
| TVM | Mean angular tapping velocity (degree/s) | TIFT |
| VAM | Mean tapping angle velocity ((degree/s) ²) | TIFT |
| VFC | Change in tapping angle velocity frequency over time (Hz/min) | TIFT |

SUPPLEMENTAL FIGURE 1 The average feature coefficients selected by the elastic-net linear regression models for each of the composite biomarkers under baseline-uncorrected and baseline-corrected conditions. The errors represent the 95% confidence intervals.



IMFT, alternate index and middle finger tapping; IFT, alternate index finger tapping; TIFT, thumb-index finger tapping.

SUPPLEMENTAL FIGURE 2 Effect sizes of each of the tapping tasks and the Movement Disorder Society-Unified Parkinson's Disease Rating Scale part III composite biomarkers at each time point.



IMFT, alternate index and middle finger tapping; IFT, alternate index finger tapping; TIFT, thumb-index finger tapping; MDS-UPDRS III, Movement Disorder Society-Unified Parkinson's Disease Rating Scale part III.

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