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# Difficulties of Podoscopy in Ataxia

**Topic:** Neuroscience

Ranya Elalaoui Mdaghri[1], Kassimi Elhassan[2], Ayoub Sellah[2]

[1]*Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Mohammed VI University Hospital, Agadir, Morocco*
[2]*Physical Medicine and Functional Rehabilitation, CHU Souss-Massa, Agadir, Morocco*

## BACKGROUND

Ataxia is a neurological disorder characterized by impaired motor coordination, which often leads to difficulties in maintaining posture and performing coordinated movements. Podoscopy, a technique used to assess foot pressure distribution and posture, presents unique challenges when applied to patients with ataxia.

This study aims to explore and understand the specific difficulties encountered during podoscopic examinations in this patient population.

## METHODS

The study included adults patients diagnostiges with various type of ataxia,excluding those with severe cognitive impairment

The equipment used included a static podoscope to measure plantar pressure distiution and postural stability. Clinical evaluation included a neurological examination and functional tests to assess the patients balance and walking ability.

## RESULTS

This study showed that patients with ataxia face significant challenges during podoscopic evaluations, primarily due to postural instability and involuntary movements 78% of patients had difficulty maintaining a stabe position, and 65 ù exhibited tremors affecting the accuracy of measurements. Weight distribution and pressure points were irregular in 60% of patients. Gait analysis revealed an unstable gait in 55% of patients.

## CONCLUSION

In conclusion, although podoscopy in patients with ataxia presents unique challenge, practical and tailored solutions can make this evaluation method accessible and effective, thereby contributing to better clinical management and more accurate assessments of foot health and gait stability in these patients.

**Statement of Disclosures**

None

**Corresponding Author:**
Ranya Elalaoui Mdaghri
Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Mohammed VI University Hospital, Agadir, Morocco
**Email:** ranyaelalaouimdaghri292@gmail.com

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