

# Prevalence and trend of dorsopathies among hospitalized patients over 65: Monastir, Tunisia, 2002-2013

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## Introduction

The aging of the lumbar spine is well known in the dorsopathies. Indeed, the latter are responsible for a heavy morbidity. Hence the interest of our study aimed at assessing the prevalence and trend of this disease.

## Methods

We included all hospitalizations for dorsopathies using ICD-10 at Monastir Teaching Hospital between 2002 and 2013. The included patients were residents of Monastir. The data was collected from the Regional Hospital Morbidity and Mortality Registry, which is established in the Department of Preventive Medicine and Epidemiology.

The linear regression coefficient was used to estimate the trend of dorsopathies. All results were calculated for patients over the age of 65. Only crude prevalence rate were calculated for patients over 60 years of age (National Institute of Statistics gives this age limit).

## Results

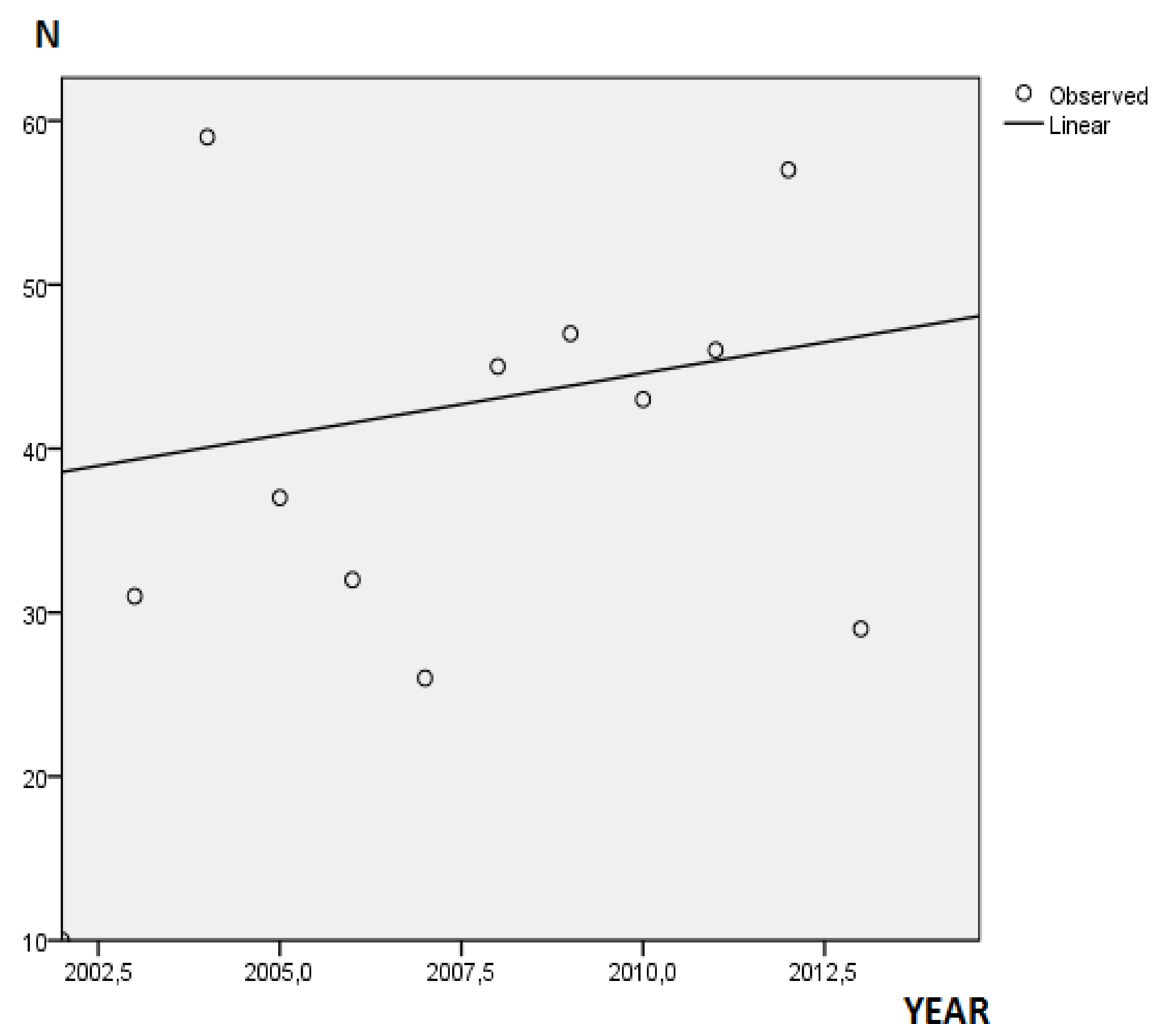
- During the period of 12 years, 462 hospitalizations for dorsopathies were recorded among people aged more than 65 years,
- The mean age was 71.39 years (SD= 5.50)
- sex ratio 0.75

**Table 1:** Number of patients and Crude Prevalence Rate of dorsopathies in patients aged 65 years old and over in university hospital of Moanstir (2002-2013)

	Effectifs (%)	CPR/ 100 000*
Age≥65 years	462 (100%)	88.58
Male	198 (42,9%)	80.16
Female	264 (57,1%)	96.16

\*CPR: Crude Prevalence Rate/100 000 inh/ year

The crude prevalence rate was 88.58 / 100 000 inhabitants per year, with 80.16 / 100 000 for men and 96.16 / 100 000 for women (Table 1).



**Figure 1 :**Trends of dorsopathies hospitalisations (2002-2013)

- We reported a significant increase in the number of cases admitted for dorsopathies from 2002 to 2013; ( $b = 0.75$ ,  $p < 10^{-3}$ ).

## Conclusion

The results showed a high prevalence especially in women with a slight increase of cases of dorsopathies during the 12 years, which pushes the investigators to look for the factors facilitating the occurrence of these diseases and to act on the various preventive axes.