

2025 PFNCA SYMPOSIUM

View Sessions On Demand Available Until Oct. 20th 2025
Live Online Kick Off Event on Sat. June 28th 2025

SESSIONS

A Doctor of Osteopathy's Perspective on Parkinson's

Dr. Evan Gray, Integrated Neurology Services

The Osteopathic approach is holistic and patient centered at its heart. Join Dr. Gray to learn about what makes his perspective on treating Parkinson's unique and how he focuses on finding health as much as treating illness.

Alphabet of Dysautonomia in PD: **A**utonomic dysfunction, **B**ladder problems, **C**onstipation, **D**izziness and **E**rectile dysfunction

Dr. F. Rainer Von Coelln, University of Maryland

This presentation covers a group of non-motor symptoms of Parkinson's disease that are very common and often affect quality of life a lot, even though they are not always recognized as symptoms of Parkinson's. Specifically, we will discuss problems with dizziness in an upright position (due to low blood pressure), bladder (urge with urination), constipation and erectile dysfunction in men. We will talk about the symptoms many of our patients experience and what we can do to address these problems.

Atypical Parkinsonism

Dr. Gary Volkell, MedStar Franklin Square Medical Center Neurology Department and Georgetown University

This presentation will cover the basics of atypical Parkinsonism including: dementia with Lewy bodies, multiple system atrophy, progressive supranuclear palsy, and corticobasal degeneration.

Benefits of Exercise for Parkinson's Disease

Dr. Bonnie Kaas, Parkinson's and Movement Disorders Center of Maryland

The benefits of exercise for people with Parkinson's disease will be reviewed. Different types of exercise and recommendations for developing an exercise routine will be discussed.

Changes to Research Environment

Dr. Codrin Lungu, Dr. Greg Pontone, University of Florida and Dr. Zoltan Mari, Cleveland Clinic

This session will share recent changes to the research environment in these evolving times. Speakers will share how research funding, projects and researchers themselves may evolve in the future.

Learning the Language of Parkinson's

Dr. Patrick Kerns, Christiana Care Neurology Specialists

This session will provide a glossary approach to sharing terminology relating to Parkinson's Disease. While anyone interested in Parkinson's will benefit from this session, those newly learning about the disease will especially find it helpful.

Medical Management of PD

Dr. Panagiotis Kassavetis, George Washington University

This session will review the available medications that are used in Parkinson's disease. It will also discuss their indications, side effects and the specific pitfalls in the use of these medications.

Overview of Parkinson's

Dr. Anvi Gadani, MedStar Montgomery Medical Center/ MedStar Georgetown University Hospital

This session will review the available medications that are used in Parkinson's disease. It will also discuss their indications, side effects and the specific pitfalls in the use of these medications.

Parkinson's Medications A to Z

Dr. Mick Reedy, Inova

This presentation discusses the different medications used in treatment of Parkinson's Disease.

Psychological Aspects of Living with Parkinson's Disease

Dr. Christopher Morrow, The Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, Dr. Cynthia Fields, The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and Rebecca Rye RN, MSN, CRNP-PMH, Johns Hopkins University

Living with a chronic condition like Parkinson's disease (PD) can bring emotional challenges that impact both patients and their families. This session will explore the unique mental health impacts of PD, including changes in mood and cognition. We will discuss the experience of adjusting to new limitations and the uncertainty of disease progression. We will also provide some supportive strategies and treatments to promote resilience, well-being, and a sense of control for patients and families living with PD.

Sharing The News – Considerations of Sharing Diagnosis with Employer and Family

Dr. Steven Lo, Georgetown University

This session will explore considerations when disclosing a Parkinson's diagnosis to important people in your life, including family, friends and co-workers. It will also address informing an employer of your diagnosis and how it may impact your work experience.

Surgical and Non-Invasive Options

Dr. Zachary Levine, Washington Brain & Spine Institute

Surgical treatment for Parkinson's disease has traditionally been invasive lesioning. This has been replaced by deep brain stimulation which still requires the placement of a probe into the brain. This session will discuss a less invasive method of treating symptoms of Parkinson's disease with a discussion of the method, outcomes and the future of surgical and non-invasive options.

Treatment Case Studies

Dr. Sanskruti Patel, MedStar Georgetown University Hospital

This session will present case studies on five hypothetical patients and explain rationale for treatment options and courses of action followed.

Translating What Is In The News to Living with Parkinson's Today

Dr. Justin Martello, Christiana Care Neurology Specialists

Stories of promising new Parkinson's disease treatments or miracle cures are frequently seen in the news. However, media stories may misrepresent results or omit important information related to the research. In this session, we explore recent specific examples and strategies for interpreting these news stories.

Unusual Behaviors in Parkinson's Disease

Dr. Howard Weiss, Johns Hopkins University

This session will review some of the unusual ways in which Parkinson disease can alter ones behavior and thought processes. Features such as apathy, bradycognition (slowness of thought), hallucinations and non-motor fluctuations are relatively common, but often misunderstood. Insight into these conditions can help persons with Parkinson's disease and their care-partners better understand and manage their situation.

ADDITIONAL ON-DEMAND CONTENT

ABC's of Parkinson's Disease

Dr. Paul Fishman, University of Maryland

Autonomic Aspects of Parkinson's

Dr. Zoltan Mari, Cleveland Clinic

Battle Isolation: Socialization Strategies

Dr. Gregory Pontone, University of Florida

Blood Pressure and Parkinson's

Dr. Drew Falconer, Inova

Checklist For Those Newly Diagnosed

Dr. Sean Rogers, Inova

Depression and Mood Changes in PD

Dr. Joseph Seemiller, Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center

Driving Safely and Parkinson's Disease

Dr. Randy Stephenson, Neurology Center of Fairfax

DBS and FUS for Parkinson's Disease: Pros and Cons

Dr. Paul Fishman, University of Maryland

Falls and Fall Prevention

Dr. Justin Martello, Christiana Care Neurology Specialists

Financial Considerations of Facing Parkinson's

Dr. Justin Martello, Christiana Care Neurology Specialists

Freezing of Gait

Dr. Howard Weiss (Retired)

Genetics of Parkinson Disease: Is It a Family Affair?

Dr. F. Rainer Von Coelln, University of Maryland

How Does PD Affect Vision?

Dr. Joe Savitt, University of Maryland

How PD Impacts Balance and What You Can Do About It

Dr. Steven Lo, Georgetown University

Humanizing Surgery Options Including DBS

Dr. Alexander Ksenzovsky, University of Maryland

Integrative Approaches to Parkinson's Disease

Dr. Mikhail Kogan, George Washington University

Introduction to Clinical Trials

Dr. Stephen Grill, Parkinson's and Movement Disorder Center of Maryland

Medication Options After Diagnosis

Dr. Patrick Kerns, Christiana Care Neurology Specialists

Motor Fluctuations and Mitigation Strategies

Dr. Aviva Ellenstein, Washington Brain & Spine Institute

Navigating The Emergency Room

Dr. Bonnie Kaas, Johns Hopkins University

Orthostatic Hypotension in Parkinson Disease

Dr. Joshua Chua, Johns Hopkins University

Overview of Parkinson's

Dr. Gary Volkell, MedStar Franklin Square Medical Center Neurology Department and Georgetown University

Parkinson's and Hospitalization: A Case Study

Dr. Pritha Ghosh, George Washington University

Parkinson's In The Workplace

Dr. Sean Rogers, Inova

PD Controversies and Myth-Busting

Dr. Justin Martello, Christiana Care Neurology Specialists

Primer for Adult Children of Patients with Parkinson's

Dr. Margaret Ferris, University of Maryland

Swallowing Challenges and How to Prevent Them

Dr. Randy Stephenson, Neurology Center of Fairfax and Susan I. Wranik, MS, MA, CCC-SLP

Ten Common Questions about Parkinson's Medications

Dr. Debra Ehrlich, National Institutes of Health

Understanding Non-Motor Symptoms of Parkinson's Disease

Dr. Fernando Pagan, Georgetown University

Voiding Dysfunction in Patients with Parkinson's Disease

Dr. Frank Nezu, Johns Hopkins University

Water: Friend or Foe?

Dr. Stephen Grill, Parkinson's and Movement Disorder Center of Maryland

