



PRESS RELEASE



Parkinson's
Progression
Markers
Initiative

The Institute for Neurodegenerative Disorders, Inc. (“IND”) Joins Michael J. Fox Foundation’s Expansion of the Parkinson’s Progression Markers Initiative (PPMI), Landmark Study toward Better Treatments and Prevention of Disease

- **IND** aims to enroll people recently diagnosed with Parkinson’s and individuals over age 60 with certain risk factors in the Parkinson’s Progression Markers Initiative (PPMI), landmark study by The Michael J. Fox Foundation
- Launched in 2010, the observational PPMI study has enrolled and followed more than 1,400 participants to date, creating the most robust open-access Parkinson’s data set in the world
- New enrollment will support a seismic expansion to 4,000 in-clinic volunteers across nearly 50 sites in 12 countries by year-end 2023

December 6, 2021 — **The Institute for Neurodegenerative Disorders, Inc. (“IND”)** announces that it is one of nearly 50 clinical sites across 12 countries participating in the sizable expansion of the Parkinson’s Progression Markers Initiative (PPMI) study from The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson’s Research (MJFF). The study team at IND is recruiting people recently diagnosed with Parkinson’s and people age 60 and older who do not have Parkinson’s but are living with certain risk factors.

Launched in 2010, PPMI has developed the most robust Parkinson’s disease (PD) data set and biosample library in the world toward acceleration of better treatments, cures and even prevention of the disease. IND has been a PPMI site since 2010. Today, PPMI is entering its most ambitious era yet and growing its in-clinic study recruitment from 1,400 to 4,000 volunteers through year-end 2023. Participants contribute biological samples and undergo assessments to characterize Parkinson’s risk, onset and progression.

“Findings from PPMI have revolutionized the field’s understanding of Parkinson’s biology and design of clinical trials testing potential new treatments, but there is much more to uncover,” said Dr. David Russell, PPMI principal investigator at IND. “We are proud to be partnering with The Michael J. Fox Foundation, other PPMI sites and the study’s dedicated volunteers toward a future of disease prevention and better options for those living with Parkinson’s.”

“When the Foundation started in 2000, we set out to change the game on how Parkinson’s research gets done,” said Michael J. Fox. “Two decades later, I’m proud that we have continued to meet this challenge because it has taken us to places we never could have imagined. PPMI’s expansion is about building energy toward an end, to curing Parkinson’s and preventing the disease from ever impacting another family.”



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Recruiting Robust Study Cohorts to Predict and Prevent Parkinson's

In order to accelerate frameworks for prevention of Parkinson's disease, PPMI will study cohorts representative of the full continuum of disease: those not diagnosed, the newly diagnosed, and those with progressing disease. While following previously enrolled participants — some now more than a decade from diagnosis — PPMI is recruiting new volunteers:

- People diagnosed with Parkinson's in the past two years and who are not yet taking medication
- People age 60 and older who do not have Parkinson's, but are living with certain risk factors, including:
 - o A parent, sister, brother or child with Parkinson's
 - o A genetic mutation linked to Parkinson's (GBA, LRRK2, SNCA, PRKN, PINK1)
 - o Acting out dreams while asleep (REM sleep behavior disorder)
- People with no known connection to Parkinson's who wish to participate as control volunteers

PPMI's expansion also includes online enrollment of up to 100,000 individuals with and without a Parkinson's diagnosis by year-end 2023. Anyone over age 18 in the United States can participate through the study's online platform[ppmionline.org].

Volunteers interested in enrolling at IND can contact the study team at 203-401-4300. Learn more about the study at michaeljfox.org/ppmi.

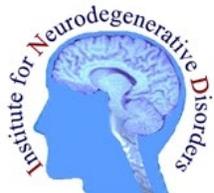
"Tapping the power of community to expand our knowledge of Parkinson's biology and the patient experience is how MJFF works to deliver practical results patients can feel in their everyday lives," said MJFF CEO and Co-Founder Deborah W. Brooks, who has participated in PPMI as a control volunteer since 2010. "By amplifying the patient voice and empowering members of the broader community to contribute to a cure, PPMI promises to fundamentally alter how scientists understand Parkinson's and conduct brain research."

About The Institute for Neurodegenerative Disorders ("IND")

The Institute for Neurodegenerative Disorders (IND), founded in 2001, is an independent 501(c)3 nonprofit research institute based in New Haven, Connecticut. IND utilizes a team of expert researchers including neurologists, nurses, study coordinators, and nuclear medicine technologists working together to help find improved treatments and potential cures for Parkinson's and Alzheimer's diseases. We envision a future in which research provides methods of early detection and effective treatment and ultimately the prevention of these neurologic conditions.

About The Parkinson's Progression Markers Initiative (PPMI)

The Michael J. Fox Foundation launched PPMI in 2010 to better understand Parkinson's and advance new treatments. Since then, the study has changed how research is done and what scientists know about the brain. It is a cornerstone of our understanding of disease and has heavily influenced clinical



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trials. More than 1,400 participants enrolled in PPMI over its first decade at 33 sites around the world. Today, with more therapies in testing, PPMI is expanding to enroll 4,000 participants across nearly 50 clinical sites in 12 countries and up to 100,000 volunteers through its online platform. Sponsored by MJFF, PPMI is made possible with financial and strategic contributions from a consortium of 40 industry players, nonprofit organizations and individual funders.

About The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research (MJFF)

As the world's largest nonprofit funder of Parkinson's research, The Michael J. Fox Foundation is dedicated to accelerating a cure for Parkinson's disease and improved therapies for those living with the condition today. The Foundation pursues its goals through an aggressively funded, highly targeted research program coupled with active global engagement of scientists, Parkinson's patients, business leaders, clinical trial participants, donors and volunteers. In addition to funding \$1.5 billion in research to date, the Foundation has fundamentally altered the trajectory of progress toward a cure. Operating at the hub of worldwide Parkinson's research, the Foundation forges groundbreaking collaborations with industry leaders, academic scientists and government research funders; creates a robust open-access data set and biosample library to speed scientific breakthroughs and treatment with its landmark clinical study, PPMI; increases the flow of participants into Parkinson's disease clinical trials with its online tool, Fox Trial Finder; promotes Parkinson's awareness through high-profile advocacy, events and outreach; and coordinates the grassroots involvement of thousands of Team Fox members around the world. For more information, visit us at www.michaeljfox.org, [Facebook \[facebook.com/michaeljfoxfoundation\]](https://www.facebook.com/michaeljfoxfoundation), [Twitter \[twitter.com/michaeljfoxorg\]](https://twitter.com/michaeljfoxorg), [LinkedIn \[http://bit.ly/MJFFlnk\]](https://www.linkedin.com/company/michaeljfoxorg).

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