

Observational Studies:

Parkinson's Progression Markers Initiative (Alzheimer's Disease Research Center, UCSD)

The Michael J. Fox Foundation's flagship biomarkers study seeking to learn more about the genetics of Parkinson's Disease.

Eligibility: those with PD who are of Eastern European (Ashkenazi) Jewish, North African Berber, or Basque ancestry; individuals without PD who are related to someone with PD AND who are of European (Ashkenazi) Jewish, North African Berber, or Basque ancestry.

<https://www.michaeljfox.org/get-involved/genetics-survey-screen.php>

Memory Research Study in Parkinson's Disease and Dementia (Alzheimer's Disease Research Center, UCSD)

Examines how PD and Dementia affects the ability to learn new information.

Eligibility: age 55-80, have a diagnosis of PD, have not had a diagnosis of memory problems, have no other neurological syndrome, not taking anticholinergic drugs for PD, have not had deep brain stimulating surgery, must be an English native speaker.

http://adrc.ucsd.edu/PDgr_Research_enrolling.html#Filoteo

Memory Impaired Longitudinal Study (Alzheimer's Disease Research Center, UCSD)

Investigates the clinical development and pathology of Dementia. Data from the study has been used to learn to discriminate among various kinds of Dementia such as: Parkinson's Disease, Lewy Body Disease, and Pick's Disease (Frontotemporal Dementia).

Eligibility: must have a diagnosis of MCI or mild to moderate dementia, a reliable study partner, stable health status, and must not have any history of major strokes.

<http://adrc.ucsd.edu/AD.html>

Cognition in PD and related Disorders (Parkinson and Other Movement Disorders Center, UCSD)

The goal of this study is to better characterize the nature of neuropsychological and psychological changes in individuals with PD as well as identify novel predictors of future cognitive decline.

Eligibility: Contact Dr. Filoteo's research coordinator at (858) 552-8585 Ext. 5593 for more information.

<https://neurosciences.ucsd.edu/centers/movement-disorders/research/Pages/pd-studies.aspx>

Creation of Stem Cells from Patients with Familial PD (Parkinson and Other Movement Disorders Center, UCSD)

The goal of this study is to learn more about the Genetics of familial Parkinson disease by using skin cells from affected individuals to be transformed into pluripotent stem cells and ultimately into neurons genetically identical to patients.

Eligibility: must have a known genetic mutation of PD and/or have a known family history of PD.

<https://neurosciences.ucsd.edu/centers/movement-disorders/research/Pages/pd-studies.aspx>

Handwriting Movements (Parkinson and Other Movement Disorders Center, UCSD)

Dr. Michael P. Caligiuri kinematic research studies of handwriting movements to identify writer-based sources of variability in signature authentication in movement disorders and dementia for forensic applications.

Eligibility: Contact Christina Gigliotti, PhD, at (858) 246-1243 for more information about these exciting opportunities.

<https://neurosciences.ucsd.edu/centers/movement-disorders/research/Pages/pd-studies.aspx>

Hispanic Parkinson's Disease Community Outreach Study (Also Available in Spanish) (Parkinson and Other Movement Disorders Center, UCSD)

The purpose of this study is to find out more about why most Hispanic individuals are not accessing care and not involved in clinical research for Parkinson's disease. Researchers hope that discovering barriers related to participating in Parkinson's disease research among the Hispanic community can help in the development of guides and educational tools that provide education and awareness about the routine care for PD, participating in PD clinical research, and addressing issues related to PD within the Hispanic community.

Eligibility: Hispanics over the age of 40 who have been diagnosed with PD, or caregiver of Hispanic PD individuals (spouses/partners of PD patients or someone that spends at least 3 hours/day for 3-4 days a week with Hispanic PD patient).

<https://neurosciences.ucsd.edu/centers/movement-disorders/research/Pages/pd-studies.aspx>

Sticker Sensor Study (Parkinson and Other Movement Disorders Center, UCSD)

Dr. Litvan is studying the applicable uses of a sticker sensor called epidermal electronic system (EES) sensor. There are three uses currently being studied: EEG, EMG, and EGG. The EEG sub-study is studying if this sticker sensor can be used to find out more about processing in the brain. The EMG sub-study is determining if this EES sticker sensor and standard transcutaneous EMG electrodes can replicate this study in a non-invasive manner. The EGG sub-study is studying if this sticker sensor can be used to monitor the GI tract non-invasively.

Eligibility: For more information, please call Andreas Lau (858) 822-5873 or by email all119@ucsd.edu

<https://neurosciences.ucsd.edu/centers/movement-disorders/research/Pages/pd-studies.aspx>

Using MRI to study cognitive changes (Parkinson and Other Movement Disorders Center, UCSD)

Dr. Deborah Harrington's lab uses functional and structural magnetic resonance imaging to study the neural bases for cognitive changes in Parkinson's disease. The goal is to identify early signatures of dysfunction in brain networks that support cognition and to explore individual differences in the risk for cognitive decline.

Eligibility: If you are interested in participating or would like to refer a potential volunteer, please contact Dr. Harrington's research coordinator at (858) 642-6392.

<https://neurosciences.ucsd.edu/centers/movement-disorders/research/Pages/pd-studies.aspx>

The Parkinson's Genetic Research Study (PaGeR) (UCSD)

The Parkinson's Genetic Research Study (PaGeR), headed by Dr. Cyrus Zabetian, is searching for genes that increase the risk of developing Parkinson's disease (PD) and related disorders. The study is a joint effort by neurologists and researchers across the United States and is sponsored by the National Institutes of Health.

Eligibility: must be 18 years of age or over, must be a member of a family in which there are two or more living individuals who have been diagnosed with PD.

Contact: Deborah Fontaine at (858) 622-5800 or dfontaine@ucsd.edu for more information.

Clinical Trials:

UCSD Caregiver Study (School of Medicine, Dept. of Psychiatry)

Investigates ways in which counseling may assist in coping with the challenges that arise from caregiving.

Eligibility: those serving as the primary caregiver for a spouse with Dementia.

<https://medschool.ucsd.edu/som/psychiatry/research/Alzcare/Pages/default.aspx>

Contact: Josefina Olvera, (858) 534-9479 or joolvera@ucsd.edu

Cognitive Rehabilitation for PD-MCI (CogSMART-PD) (VA San Diego Healthcare System)

Investigates the effectiveness of a novel compensatory cognitive rehabilitation program for individuals with Parkinson's disease (PD) and mild cognitive impairment (MCI).

Eligibility: at least 40 years of age, diagnosis of PD, must have Mild Cognitive Impairment, fluent English speaker, must not have other neurological conditions besides PD.

Contact: Patricia A. Franklin at (858) 552-8585 Ext. 7441 or patricia.franklin2@va.gov

Clinical Drug Trials:

Study of Urate Elevation in Parkinson's Disease, Phase 3 (SURE-PD3) (Parkinson and Other Movement Disorders Center, UCSD)

Tests whether a treatment that raises levels of the antioxidant urate can slow the rate of PD progression over time.

Eligibility: over 30 years of age, not currently taking dopaminergic medications, have been diagnosed with PD for less than three years.

<https://neurosciences.ucsd.edu/centers/movement-disorders/research/Pages/pd-studies.aspx>

Antibodies Against Alpha-Synuclein (Parkinson and Other Movement Disorders Center, UCSD)

Evaluates whether a single dose of an investigational immunotherapy (antibody) drug given intravenously is safe and well-tolerated in PD patients. The drug is designed to bind to and remove the alpha-synuclein, which is believed to build up abnormally high levels in the brains of subjects with PD.

Eligibility: between 40-80 years of age, have been diagnosed with PD for less than 5 years, have no motor fluctuations or dyskinesias, are not receiving symptomatic PD treatment (no dopamine agonists/selegiline/rasagiline in last 3 months and not levodopa in the last 30 days), and are willing to remain off symptomatic PD medications during study.

<https://neurosciences.ucsd.edu/centers/movement-disorders/research/Pages/pd-studies.aspx>

Dopamine Agonist for PD Patients with Fluctuations (Parkinson and Other Movement Disorders Center, UCSD)

This Clinical trial is approximately 23 weeks/161 days long study comparing the effectiveness of a new D1/D5 Dopamine Agonist when taken with L-Dopa versus only taking L-Dopa alone for the management of "OFF" episodes.

Eligibility: male or female between the ages of 45-85 with PD, on a daily dose of at least 400mg of L-Dopa, experience motor fluctuations, able to recognize “wearing off” symptoms, willing to take the study drug as directed and participate in study tests and procedures, willing to attend 13 clinic and 4 phone visits over the duration of the study – up to 23 weeks.

<https://neurosciences.ucsd.edu/centers/movement-disorders/research/Pages/pd-studies.aspx>

SYNAPSE Study for PDD Patients (Parkinson and Other Movement Disorders Center, UCSD)

This is a six month long clinical trial to evaluation the safety, efficacy, and tolerability of a 5-HT6R antagonist, called SYN120, when administered orally to patients with Parkinson's Disease Dementia.

Eligibility: PDD patients with noticeable decline in memory and cognitions, on a stable cholinesterase inhibitor regimen, can be tested.

<https://neurosciences.ucsd.edu/centers/movement-disorders/research/Pages/pd-studies.aspx>

Parkinson’s Disease study (The Neurology Center of Southern California)

A clinical study to find out how well the investigational medication LCIG and the investigational delivery system work to treat non-motor symptoms in subjects with advanced Parkinson’s disease.

Eligibility: at least 30 years of age, diagnosed with idiopathic PD, must be able to perform the cognitive battery without assistance.

<http://www.neurocenter.com/the-research-center/current-studies.aspx#parkinsons>

A 4-Week Study of the Safety, Efficacy, and Pharmacokinetics of JZP-110 in Subjects with PD and Excessive Sleepiness (Pacific Research Network)

This study is a 4-week, multicenter, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, ascending dose, 4-period crossover study designed to evaluate the safety, tolerability, efficacy, and PK of JZP-110 (75, 150, and 300 mg) in the treatment of excessive sleepiness in adult subjects with idiopathic PD.

Eligibility: must have diagnosis of idiopathic PD according to the UK PDS Brain Bank Criteria, Hoehn and Yahr stage 1, 2, or 3, have a baseline ESS score > 10, and a baseline mean sleep latency of less than or equal to 20 minutes on the MWT; must not have a diagnosis of other degenerative Parkinsonian syndromes or Dementia with Lewy Bodies, must not have a usual nightly time in bed of <6 hours, including the night before the Baseline visit, must not have prior or documented history of moderate or severe obstructive sleep apnea (OSA), not eligible if evidence and screening of severe cognitive impairment or has cognitive impairment that in the opinion of the investigator would prevent completion of study procedures or the ability to provide informed consent.

Contact the Pacific Research Network for more information <http://www.prnsc.com/contact.html>

Brain/Body Donation:

Brain Donation (Brain Support Network)

Two key reasons to donate your brain or a loved one's brain are: to obtain a confirmed diagnosis (from an autopsy report) and to support research into the causes, treatments, and cures for neurodegenerative disorders.

Eligibility: To learn more, visit <https://www.brainsupportnetwork.org/brain-donation#eligibility>

The Body Donation Program (UCSD)

Your donation will play a critical role in helping medical students to master the complex anatomy of the human body and will provide researchers with the essential tools to help our patients of tomorrow.

Eligibility: For further information, visit

https://meded.ucsd.edu/index.cfm//body_donation_program/bdp_form_packet/

Contact:

Body Donation Program

University of California, San Diego

San Diego, CA 92093-0627

Phone: (858) 534-4536

Fax: (858) 534-6019

Email: bodydonation@ucsd.edu