# Early-Stage Parkinson's Disease (PD)

Parkinson's disease is a nervous system disorder that affects movement, causing slowness, stiffness, walking and balance problems, and in later stages, tremors. Over time, patients diagnosed with PD experience a worsening of symptoms.

In the early stages of Parkinson's, symptoms may be mild and can be easy to miss. These symptoms include:

- Slowed movement, also known as bradykinesia (steps are shorter when you walk, difficulties getting out of a chair, feet drag while walking, etc.)
- Rigid facial expressions
- Muscle stiffness that can be painful and limit your range of motion
- Changes in speech (becomes soft and slurred)
- Changes in writing (hard to write, writing becomes smaller)
- Losing your sense of smell
- Depression and emotional changes (fear, anxiety, loss of motivation)



# Have questions about this research study?

Write them down here, and ask the study team at your local site.

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2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

You Can Make a Difference and Help Accelerate Breakthroughs in Parkinson's Disease (PD) Research

JOIN A RESEARCH STUDY
Enrolling Now for
Early-Stage PD



To see if you prequalify for the PRISM Parkinson's Research Study, please call or email Ray James at 617-638-7745 or rcjames@bu.edu.





### **About the Study**

The **PRISM Parkinson's Research Study** is evaluating an investigational drug to determine if it might slow down the progression of Parkinson's disease (PD). Patients who enroll in this study will receive the study drug weekly over a period of 36 weeks.



#### **Study Criteria**

To participate in this study, patients must:

- Be 30 to 80 years old
- Have early-stage Parkinson's disease
- Not be on any current treatments for PD

Other criteria for eligibility apply. Study participants receive study-related medical exams and study drug at no cost. Compensation for time and travel may be available.



### **Lack of Treatment Options**

There are no current treatments that reverse, stop, or slow down the progressive loss of neuron function in patients with Parkinson's disease. The treatments that do exist treat only the symptoms associated with PD and provide only temporary improvement. These options become less effective over time. If you are eligible and decide to join this study, you could help advance the development of treatment options for this condition and fill a critical need for volunteers in clinical trials.

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#### **Hope Through Research**

There are an estimated 10 million people living with PD worldwide, and an estimated 1 million people living with PD in the US, yet one of the most significant problems facing drug development for Parkinson's disease is low enrollment in research studies. Trial enrollment averages only 1 patient per month for most studies.

Research studies provide insight into better ways to care for us all. These studies are a team effort between the study doctors/nurses and patients who join studies, and are typically monitored by a trained medical professional.

Your own doctor is responsible for your well-being and you may speak with him or her to discuss clinical trial participation before you decide to join. Whenever you agree to enter a clinical trial, you are given the name and telephone number of a contact in your study doctor's office who will answer any questions you may have.

For many people, taking part in a study is important because their participation is helping to make new treatments possible. Research studies are the key to finding new ways to prevent, diagnose, and treat diseases.