

The Mission of the National PD Consortium

...to support the provision of optimal care and education for veteran patients diagnosed with Parkinson's disease and related movement disorders through advocacy, scientific inquiry and enhanced clinical expertise.

The Consortium was created as a mechanism to strengthen and consolidate PD care offered by general medicine, neurology, movement disorders and related disciplines. Though the PADRECCs aim to serve the collective PD population, not all veterans have access to direct care due to travel limitations and/or disease progression. The Consortium, therefore, seeks to enhance PD services offered at unique VA facilities. It encourages the delivery of advanced care to all affected veterans, regardless of their locality. This is achieved by offering concentrated training, collaboration and support to nationally dispersed providers.



National PD Consortium Initiatives

Members of the Consortium are encouraged to advance their clinical and research practices through the following initiatives:

- Direct mentorship and collaboration with PADRECC experts
- Invitations to PADRECC education and training events (i.e. conferences, case study discussions, journal clubs)
- Access to the Consortium Member Directory, which provides a nationwide registry of fellow PD providers employed by the VA
- Access to the VA Movement Disorder Specialist Directory, which provides names and contact information of expert members beyond the PADRECC network
- Professional PD Toolkit, which includes videos and other educational handouts
- Patient education resources
- Opportunity to promote individual PD research on the Consortium website
- Regular announcements and updates on international PD news
- CME and other continuing education credits
- Professional contact with clinicians who possess shared interests and career aspirations
- Opportunity to gain national acknowledgement as a PD provider and advocate
- Opportunity to participate in new PD research initiatives
- And much more...

National VA Parkinson's Disease Consortium

Coordinating Center

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Parkinson's Disease Research Education and Clinical Center (PADRECC) Network

www.va.gov/padrecc

Philadelphia PADRECC

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toll-free (888) 959-2323

Richmond PADRECC

(804) 675-5931 or
toll-free (800) 784-8381 X5931

Houston PADRECC

(713) 794-7841

San Francisco PADRECC

(415) 379-5530

Portland/Seattle PADRECC

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Seattle: (206) 277-4560

West LA/Southwest PADRECC

(310) 478-3711 X48001

 Department of
Veterans Affairs

National Parkinson's Disease Consortium



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PADRECCs

*Parkinson's Disease Research,
Education and Clinical Centers*



The VA's Commitment to Veterans with Parkinson's Disease and Related Movement Disorders

It is currently estimated that 1.5 million Americans are afflicted by Parkinson's disease (PD). As the largest healthcare system in the nation, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has as many as fifty-thousand PD patients under its care. In response to this overwhelming demand, the VA launched a campaign to revolutionize available services for veterans with PD and related movement disorders. In 1999, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed with the National Parkinson Foundation, Inc., formalizing an alliance between the VA and the non-profit advocacy group. Shortly after, Congress certified the need for a diversified model of federal healthcare delivery for PD and related movement disorders. On February 7, 2001, six Parkinson's Disease Research, Education and Clinical Centers (PADRECCs) were announced by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs. As suggested by their name, these Centers are charged with conducting clinical and basic science research, administering national outreach and education programs, and providing state-of-the-art clinical care.

The PADRECCs are designed to serve as diagnostic and therapeutic referral sources for veterans dispersed throughout the entire VA healthcare system. In addition, they are intended to promote opportunities for consultation, education and collaboration with fellow providers.

Join Today!
Help us redefine care for veterans with PD and related movement disorders.

As the largest healthcare system in the nation, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has as many as fifty-thousand PD patients under its care.

The VA employs an impressive number of clinicians who serve the Parkinson community outside of the PADRECCs. The National VA Parkinson's Disease Consortium was established in an effort to synergize the effectiveness of these clinicians and fortify the VA's commitment to veterans with PD and related disorders.

The Consortium was first launched in 2003 with approximately 80 charter members. It has since matured into a distinguished society of VA clinicians, gaining national recognition and endorsement from PD advocacy groups. The PADRECCs serve as the foundation of this program by providing expert resources and program oversight.



Membership

All VA clinicians who serve veterans with PD and related movement disorders (regardless of capacity) are invited and encouraged to join the Consortium, this includes:

- General internists
- Geriatricians
- Neurologists
- Neurosurgeons
- Movement Disorder Specialists
- Nurse Practitioners, Registered Nurses and Nursing Assistants
- Physical Therapists
- Occupational Therapists
- Speech Pathologists
- Social Workers
- Pharmacists
- All Allied Health Professionals

Membership is free. Individuals can register for membership by visiting the Consortium website to download an application (www.vapdconsortium.org) or by contacting the Consortium Coordinating Center at 215-823-5934.



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The National VA Parkinson's Disease Consortium is a fundamentally new type of organization to deliver highly complex care on a nationwide basis. It is an innovative model which should be applied to other populations suffering from chronic diseases in the VA and elsewhere.

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John Booss, MD
National Director of Neurology
Department of Veterans Affairs