



Northwest PADRECC Welcomes Congressman David Wu

The Northwest Parkinson's Disease Research, Education, and Clinical Center (NW PADRECC) at the Portland VA Medical Center (VAMC) welcomed Congressman David Wu (D-OR) on Wednesday, July 1, 2009.

Wu discussed issues related to Parkinson's disease and the impact of the care given by the NW PADRECC physicians on the Veteran population. During his visit, several issues were discussed in patient care and patient education. Jay Nutt, M.D., NW PADRECC Co-Director provided the Congressman with a video demonstration of a patient pre and post Deep Brain Stimulation surgery. Steven Johnson, M.D., Associate Director of Research discussed the innovative research currently underway at the VA in the diagnosis and treatment of Parkinson's disease.

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PADRECC In Progress

Social Worker Joins NW PADRECC



Jason Malcom, MSW, joins NW PADRECC as a Social Worker. He provides resources and support to Veterans with Parkinson's disease and other movement disorders. He is also involved in program outreach and development for issues important to patients, families, and health care professionals. Malcom earned his Master of

Social Work from Portland State University located in Portland, Ore. in 2008. Prior to joining NW PADRECC he managed both residential and outpatient mental health programs and worked in child and family mental health for ten years. The NW PADRECC welcomes Jason Malcom to the team!

PADRECC Welcomes Movement Disorder Fellow



Lissa Brod, M.D. joins NW PADRECC as the new Movement Disorder Physician Fellow. She earned her medical degree from Mount Sinai School of Medicine in Los Angeles, Calif. She completed her neurology residency at Oregon Health & Science University in Portland,

Ore. Brod has a focused interest in teaching and will continue to teach medical students and residents during the fellowship. Dr. Brod's enthusiasm and energy is a welcome addition to the NW PADRECC.

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"We were honored by Congressman Wu's interest in the PADRECC and the many challenges facing people with Parkinson's disease," said Nutt. "We were impressed by Congressman Wu's insight into the many unanswered questions about the optimal care for people with Parkinson's disease and the importance of research to find more answers."

Wu is serving his sixth term as a member of the 111th Congress, representing Oregon's 1st Congressional District. In the House of Representatives, He serves on the Education and Labor Committee, the Science Committee, and is Chair of the Science and Technology Subcommittee on Technology and Innovation.

"I greatly appreciate the opportunity to discuss with Congressman Wu the importance research in Parkinson's disease," said Johnson. "The support of Congressman Wu and others in Washington is critical if we are to find a cure for this disease."



Congressman David Wu discusses research with Dr. Kathryn Chung as District Representative Ajah Maloney Capps and Dr. John Nutt look on.

National PADRECC Provider Education Calls

Please join us for the following Audio Conferences. You can participate by going to room 7D153 in building 100 at the Portland VAMC, or by calling (800) 767-1750 ext. 53353. All talks are held from noon to 1 p.m. Pacific Time.

September 10, 2009: Diagnosis and Treatment of Parkinson's Disease - Jeff Bronstein, M.D.

Cognitive Dysfunction in Parkinson's Disease

Presented by

- Joseph Quinn, M.D., Portland VAMC, Portland, Ore.
- James Leverenz, M.D., VA Puget Sound Healthcare System, Seattle, Wash.
- Ergun Uc, M.D., Iowa City VAMC, Iowa City, Iowa

Repeat Broadcasts:

<http://vaww.vakncdn.lrn.va.gov> Channel 1

*8/11, 9 a.m. *8/13, 7 p.m.

*8/15, 1 p.m. *8/19, 3 p.m.

*8/20, 11 p.m. *8/26, 10 a.m.

* 8/27, 7 a.m.

(All broadcast times are EDT.)

For CME credit, please access "Scantron Instructions" at http://vaww.sites.lrn.va.gov/vacatalog/cu_detail.asp?id=25527

Sponsored by the NW PADRECC and VA Employee Education System. Please contact Ryan Rieger, PADRECC Administrative Officer at (503) 220.8262 ext. 55203 with any questions.

Neurologists in the 21st Century: What's New for 2010?

Saturday, October 17, 2009, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at The Nines, 525 SW Morrison, Portland, OR, 97204

Presented by the OHSU Department of Neurology

Registration Fee: \$75

Approved for 6 CME credits

This Continuing Medical Education (CME) event will focus on clinical and research updates in neurology, and will feature topics such as Neurostimulation for Epilepsy, Neuroradiology: Interesting Neurologic Cases, Neuropathy: Show & Tell, Evaluation of Treatment of the Dizzy Patient, Management of Problem Behaviors in Dementia, and Movement Disorders: Can You Name This Disease.

For more information contact: Karen Hendry, Education Director OHSU Department of Neurology (503) 494-7661 or hendryk@ohsu.edu

PADRECC Website



Check out the PADRECC Website at:
<http://www.visn20.med.va.gov/portland/PADRECC>

The PADRECC website provides information about Parkinson's disease and other movement disorders, as well as services available to Veterans and their caregivers. Here are some things you can find on the website:

- ◆ PADRECC clinic, staff, and contact information.
- ◆ Information about Parkinson's Disease and it's treatments.
- ◆ Information about local support groups, and outside resources.
- ◆ Patient Education events.

Recruiting VA Studies

Memory and Movement Disorders Demonstration Project (VA IRB ID: 1585 VA IRB Grant Number: #02-2202)

Dr. Joseph Quinn, MD is conducting this research study in order to track the frequency and types of changes in mental functioning that occur over time in Parkinson's patients. Participants would be asked to attend one or more study visits. All study visits would take place at the Portland VA Medical Center. The first visit would take less than twenty minutes. If asked to continue in the study there would be a second 90 minute visit and then follow-up examinations once a year for the next 3 years. All patients in the Parkinson's Disease Research, Education and Clinic Center (PADRECC) are invited to participate in this study. You may or may not personally benefit from participating in this study. However, by serving as a subject, you may help us learn how to benefit patients in the future. For more information on how to participate, please contact Susan O'Connor, RN at (503) 721-1091.

Parkinson Associate Risk Study (PARS): Evaluating Potential Screening Tools for Parkinson Disease (VA IRB ID: 2021; VA IRB Grant Number: # 05-0307)

Dr. Penny Hogarth is conducting this research study to estimate the frequency of olfactory loss in first-degree relatives of Parkinson's patients. Participation by a first-degree relative of a Parkinson's patient would require 6 one hour annual visits to the Portland VA Medical Center and completion of 6 annual smell tests by mail. The sub-study would require travel to Connecticut for a brain imaging procedure. All costs for travel to Connecticut will be paid by the study sponsor. All first-degree relatives of PD patients above the age of 50 or within 10 years of the age of diagnosis of PD are invited to participate. This is a research study and not treatment or diagnosis of PD. You may not benefit from participating in this study. However, by serving as a subject, you may help us learn how to benefit patients in the future. For more information on how to participate, please contact Susan O'Connor, RN at (503) 721-1091.

Recruiting OHSU Studies

Fish Oil for Depression in Multiple Sclerosis (MS) and Parkinson's Disease (PD)

The Parkinson's Center of Oregon at Oregon Health & Science University is looking for people with a confirmed diagnosis of PD who are suffering from Depression. The purpose of the study is to determine if taking omega-3 fatty acids along with your current antidepressant helps with symptoms of depression in people with PD. In addition we will determine if omega-3 fatty acids decrease blood levels of substances that are associated with depression.

You may be eligible to participate in the study if you meet all of the following criteria.

- Have a definite diagnosis of PD
- On a stable dose of anti-depressant medication
- Between 18-85 years of age

This is a three-month pilot study in which 60 participants with either PD or MS will be randomly assigned to receive either fish oil capsules (which have high amounts of omega-3 fatty acids) or placebo capsules. The study requires 5 visits to OHSU. The research study will pay for all costs associated with the participation in this study. You will be responsible for any expenses that have to do with other aspects of your participation such as childcare and transportation. If you meet the eligibility requirements described above and are interested in participating in this study please call Dr. Lynne Shinto at (503) 494-5035.