CONSORTIUM CENTERS
SOUTHEAST/Richmond PADRECC Service Area

**Augusta, GA**
Augusta VAMC
Director: John Morgan, MD
Phone: 706-733-0188 x3260
The Movement Disorders Clinic at the Augusta VAMC has been operational since ~1985. Dr. Kapil Sethi headed the clinic until 2005 when Dr. John Morgan took over duties. Dr. Morgan provides subspecialty consults, botulinum toxin injections for patients with blepharospasm, hemifacial spasm and craniocervical dystonia. He also serves as the PI or Sub-I on various clinical trials in Parkinson's disease and Huntington's disease.

**Birmingham, AL** (updated 11/1/13)
Birmingham VAMC
Director: Anthony P. Nicholas, MD, PhD
Phone: 205-933-8101 x 4734
The Movement Disorders Clinic at the Birmingham VAMC, operational since 2004, provides subspecialty consults for the diagnosis, treatment and referral of all movement disorder cases. Patient selection for Deep Brain Stimulation (DBS) surgery, as well as maintenance of stimulator devices, are now being performed in our DBS clinic headed by Dr. Victor Sung. In concert with that effort, DBS surgeries for Parkinson disease, dystonia, tremor and other "off-label" indications are presently being performed at the Birmingham VAMC in collaboration with University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) and BVAMC neurosurgeon Dr. Barton Guthrie. In addition, Dr. Amy Willis Amara is also available for consultation of movement disorders patients with concomitant sleep disorders, including evaluations for REM sleep behavior disorder. Starting in January 2014, a new cervical dystonia clinic will be available, run by Dr. Nicholas, with botulinum toxin injection services. As part of their clinical research commitment, Drs. Nicholas and Sung have recently published a review article entitled "Non-motor symptoms in Parkinson's disease: Expanding the view of Parkinson’s disease beyond a pure motor, pure dopaminergic problem." (Neurologic Clinics, 2013, Volume 31: pages 1-16.)

**Decatur, GA** (updated 3/20/12)
Atlanta VAMC
Director: Marian L. Evatt, MD MS
Phone: 404-235-3077
Established in 2005, The Movement Disorders Clinic at the Atlanta VAMC is staffed by Dr. Evatt, staff nurse Maria Dorger, and Pamela Brown, a nurse practitioner. It provides subspecialty consultations for movement disorders, patient selection and management services for DBS surgery, and botulinum toxin injections. Dr. Evatt affiliated with the Emory University and the Emory Parkinson’s Disease Research Center, is the PI clinical/translational studies that recruit subjects through the Atlanta VAMC Movement Disorders Clinic. The Atlanta Consortium Center also works with Emory APDA Information and referral center and the NWGA Parkinson Disease Association to provide patient education and support activities. Due to high demand, Neurology Clinic is currently advising providers to refer patients from other VA Centers to local non-VA fee basis providers. However, providers may contact Dr. Evatt for general advice on management of movement disorders.
Durham, NC  
Durham VAMC  
Director: Burton Scott, MD  
Phone: 919-286-0411 x15611 or x15612

Gainesville, FL (updated 11/13/13)  
North Florida/South Georgia VAMC  
Director: Christopher Hess, MD  
Phone: 352-374-6058  
The North Florida/South Georgia (NF/SG) Consortium Center has been reactivated thanks to the arrival of Dr. Christopher Hess, Movement Disorder Specialist in July 2013. The center provides care to veterans with Parkinson’s disease as well as a variety of other movement disorders, including atypical parkinsonisms, essential tremor, genetic ataxias, and dystonia. They also will be providing EMG-guided botulinum toxin injections for movement disorders, as well as patient selection, programming, and follow-up care for patients requiring deep brain stimulation.

Consortium member and speech pathologist Nan Musson, MA CCC-SLP, BC-ANCDS, has been overseeing the speech and swallowing evaluations for our patients. She serves on the planning committee for the PADRECC/EES Movement Disorder Series of audio conferences. She is the representative for ASHA (American Speech and Hearing Association) and provides guidance for continuing education for speech and language pathologists. Paula Sullivan, MS, CCC-SLP, BRS-S will be presenting “Parkinson’s Disease, Swallowing and Best Practices” on Dec 12, 2013 for the PADRECC/EES Movement Disorder Series.

From the research perspective, there are a number of outstanding research groups at the Malcom Randall VA Medical Center and plans to collaborate with. Dr. Kenneth Heilman, M.D., a world-renowned behavioral neurologist who has published on a broad range of topics in Parkinson’s disease, including perception, attention and action intention, motor skills, emotion, and cognition. Susan Leon, Ph.D., CCC-SLP, is currently working with Dr. Heilman in the study of emotional prosodic disorders in individuals with Parkinson’s disease. The VA Brain Rehabilitation Research Center (BRRC), directed by Janis Daly, Ph.D., is a VA Center of Excellence in the study of neurorehabilitation, and has a shared interest in the treatment of gait disorders. The center will also be expanding their research collaborations with the University of Florida Center for Movement Disorders and Neurorestoration, directed by Dr. Michael Okun, where Dr. Hess also has an appointment. 2013 publications on Parkinson’s disease in which MRVAMC researchers are authors:


Hess CW, Vaillancourt DE, Okun MS. The temporal pattern of stimulation may be important to the mechanism of deep brain stimulation. Exp Neurol. 2013 Sep;247:296-302. PMID: 23399890


Lexington, KY (updated 11/22/11)
Lexington VAMC
Director: John T. Slevin, MD
Phone: 859-281-4920
Established in 2000, The Movement Disorders Clinic at the Lexington VAMC is staffed by Dr. Slevin, a nurse practitioner, and Pharm. D. It provides subspecialty consultations, patient selection and management services for DBS surgery, and botulinum toxin injections. Dr. Slevin, affiliated with the University of Kentucky Medical Center and Director of Clinical Research for the UKMC Morris K. Udall Parkinson’s Disease Research Center of Excellence, is the PI or Co-PI on 3 industry and 1 NIH-sponsored clinical/translational studies that are currently recruiting subjects.

Recent Publications from this Consortium Site:
Nashville, TN (updated 11/4/13)
Tennessee Valley VA Healthcare System – Nashville Campus
Director: John Fang, MD
Phone: 615-873-7510 (please note: new phone number)
Operational since 2002, the Movement Disorders clinic at the Nashville Campus of the VA Tennessee Valley Healthcare System treats patients with Parkinson’s Disease and other movement disorders. The focus is on optimizing medications and working with primary care providers and other specialists. Botulinum toxin therapy and deep brain stimulation programming are supported. Sheryl Hobden, neurology department secretary provides administrative support for the clinic. In 2011, Clinical Video Telehealth (CVT) was added linking select Community-Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOCs).

San Juan, PR (updated 4/18/13)
VA Caribbean Healthcare System
Currently an inactive Consortium Center.

Tampa, FL (updated 12/7/12)
James A. Haley (JAH) Tampa VAMC
Parkinson's Disease and Movement Disorders Center
Director: Theresa A. Zesiewicz, MD FAAN
Phone: 813-972-7633
The Parkinson's Disease and Movement Disorders Center at the JAH in Tampa, Florida specializes in Parkinson's Disease, Essential Tremor, Dystonia, Ataxia, and Huntington's Disease. Under the guidance of Dr. Donald A. Smith, we specialize in evaluations for surgical treatment of movement disorders. Dr. Juan Sanchez-Ramos provides expert care in movement disorders at JAH, including Parkinson's Disease and Huntington's disease. At the University of South Florida (USF) in Tampa, Dr. Zesiewicz is the Director, The Frances J. Zesiewicz Center and Foundation for Parkinson's Disease as well as Director, USF Ataxia Research Center. Drs. Zesiewicz, Sanchez-Ramos and Smith are professors at USF and all are involved with clinical trials in movement disorders. Please contact Melinda Annello at the number provided for appointments at the JAH Tampa VAMC.

Tuscaloosa, AL (updated 1/15/14)
Tuscaloosa VAMC
Currently an inactive Consortium Center.