

Parkinson's in the time of COVID19

Tom Foltynie
National Hospital for Neurology & Neurosurgery
Queen Square
London

Commentary

The Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Parkinson's Disease: Hidden Sorrows and Emerging Opportunities

Rick C. Helmich* and Bastiaan R. Bloem*

*Radboud University Medical Centre, Donders Institute for Brain, Cognition and Behavior,
Department of Neurology, Centre of Expertise for Parkinson and Movement Disorders, Nijmegen,
The Netherlands*

The Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Parkinson's Disease: Hidden Sorrows and Emerging Opportunities


Rick C. Helmich* and Bastiaan R. Bloem*
*Radboud University Medical Centre, Donders Institute for Brain, Cognition and Behavior,
Department of Neurology, Centre of Expertise for Parkinson and Movement Disorders, Nijmegen,
The Netherlands*

- Stress- transient motor worsening
- Stress- accelerating disease progression
- Stress- unmasking PD
- Reduced exercise, swimming, fitness classes
 - disease progression, well being, insomnia, constipation.

- Mindfulness (online)
- Home exercise
- Online exercise substitutes- pilates

VIEWPOINT

Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Parkinson's Disease and Movement Disorders

Stella M. Papa, MD,^{1*} Patrik Brundin, MD, PhD,² Victor S.C. Fung, PhD, FRACP,³ Un Jung Kang, MD,⁴  David J. Burn, MD, FMedSci,⁵ Carlo Colosimo, MD, FEAN,⁶ Han-Lin Chiang, MD,⁷ Roy N. Alcalay, MD, MS,⁸ Claudia Trenkwalder, MD,⁹ and the MDS-Scientific Issues Committee

Is the PD Population Particularly Vulnerable During the COVID-19 Pandemic?

- Patients with parkinsonism hospitalized for pneumonia had a lower rate of in-hospital mortality, but a longer duration of hospitalization.
- Patients with PD possess a higher risk of in-hospital complications, such as delirium, adverse drug reactions, fainting, aspiration pneumonia, falls, and fractures
- There is no evidence that patients with PD or any form of parkinsonism or other movement disorders have less chance of survival from COVID-19 infection than patients with similar age and comorbidities

A Special Role of Telemedicine During the COVID-19 Pandemic

- Computing equipment
- Wifi- bandwidth
- Electronic hospital records
- Convenience & cost
- Limitations
 - Rigidity, Balance
- Zoom, MS Teams, Facetime, Google Meet, Webex, Clinic.co

- NHNN- Attend Anywhere



National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery Waiting Area

University College Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

[Back to Waiting Areas](#)

Status



Caller

Telephone



No calls to this Waiting Area



New caller alerts **off**

Calls begin with my microphone



Calls begin with my camera



Waiting Area hours

03:00 AM to 11:45 PM
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday,
Friday, Saturday, Sunday

London (Europe) (UTC 0)

Test my equipment



Test My Equipment

Entry Point URL to give to people

<https://nhs.vc/uclh/nhnn>



Share Entry Point URL



Potential Medication Supply Issues for PD Patients During the Pandemic

- None
- ?Entacapone

Navigating Masks and Parkinson's disease – keeping yourself heard!


For a person with Parkinson's disease, communicating while wearing a mask can provide extra challenges. Here are a few tips that may improve communication.



Navigating Masks and Parkinson's disease – keeping yourself heard!

For a person with Parkinson's disease, communicating while wearing a mask can provide extra challenges. Here are a few tips that may improve communication.



- Increase vocal loudness (but not yelling or shouting)
- Speak slower and in shorter phrases
- Look directly at your communication partner to optimize hearing and intelligibility
- Tell your listener what topic you are going to be talking about
- Ask yes/no clarifying questions as needed
- Reduce background noise
- Use personal amplification devices
- Use a clear mask where the mouth is visible
- Gesture to convey your message 
- Consider alternative ways to communicate (written, text, text to speech)

Disruption to Advanced therapy provision

- Major
 - Cancelled DBS surgery
 - Cancelled PEG-J placement
 - Cancelled L-dopa challenges
 - Cancelled Apomorphine challenges
 - Cancelled “routine” DBS Adjustments
 - Cancelled Botox treatments
- Emergency provision continued throughout the first lockdown

Management of Advanced Therapies in Parkinson's Disease Patients in Times of Humanitarian Crisis: The COVID-19 Experience

Alfonso Fasano, MD, PhD,^{1,2,3,}  Angelo Antonini, MD,⁴  Regina Katzenschlager, MD,⁵ Paul Krack, MD,⁶ Per Odin, MD,⁷ Andrew H. Evans, MD,⁸ Thomas Foltynie, MD,⁹  Jens Volkmann, MD,¹⁰ and Marcelo Merello, MD, PhD^{11,12}*

Management of Advanced Therapies in Parkinson's Disease Patients in Times of Humanitarian Crisis: The COVID-19 Experience

Alfonso Fasano, MD, PhD,^{1,2,3,*} Angelo Antonini, MD,⁴ Regina Katzenschlager, MD,⁵ Paul Krack, MD,⁶ Per Odin, MD,⁷ Andrew H. Evans, MD,⁸ Thomas Foltynie, MD,⁹ Jens Volkmann, MD,¹⁰ and Marcelo Merello, MD, PhD^{11,12}

- Dealing with Advanced therapy emergencies
- Advice of advanced therapies in ITU settings
- Telemedicine limitations
- Remote programming

Reinstating Advanced therapy provision

- Green vs Blue Pathway
 - COVID19 swabs
 - 2 weeks self isolation
 - Reduced theatre lists
-
- Backlog
 - PD progression

Disruption to Research and Clinical Trials

- Recruitment – pause
- Safety, PPE crisis
- Staff reallocation to COVID19 wards
- Staff reallocation to COVID19 trials

- Follow up visits – remote, home visits
- Continued Dispensing

Disruption to Research and Clinical Trials

- Trial reopening
 - Staff- weekly Covid19 swabs
 - Masks/ Aprons
 - Sanitiser
-
- COVID19 swabs for participants?

Conferences

PARKINSON'S^{UK}
RESEARCH
CONFERENCE
2020



SARS CoV-2 pandemic



Fear

Lack of healthcare resources

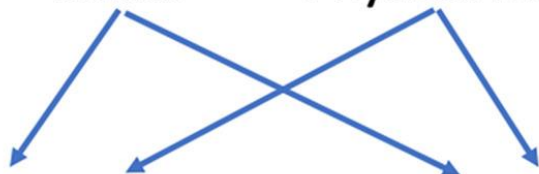
Social isolation



Stress



Physical inactivity



Non-motor issues



Motor issues

(e.g. insomnia, constipation)



Parkinson's disease

- Cancelled outpatient clinics
- Cancelled elective procedure
- Cancelled BoNT injections
- Medication/device supply issues
- Disruption to research and clinical trials

- Cancelled physiotherapy sessions

Rapid development of telemedicine

Innovations e.g. Remote programming

Understanding that COVID19 is not a short term disruption

Awareness that chronic illnesses need to continue to be managed/ researched alongside COVID19 and cannot simply be put on hold.



Acknowledgements

- Iciar Aviles-Olmos
- Zinovia Kefalopoulou
- Josh Kahan
- James Gratwicke
- Dilan Athauda
- Viswas Dayal
- Niro Vijjaratnam
- Christine Girges
- Krista Sibley
- Eoin Mulroy
- Tom Warner
- Kailash Bhatia
- Huw Morris
- Niall Quinn
- Sonia Gandhi
- John Hardy
- Nicholas Wood
- Anthony Schapira
- Maya Bronfeld
- Amit Batla
- Anette Schrag
- Pras Korlipara
- Patricia Limousin
- Andrew Lees
- Ludvic Zrinzo
- Marwan Hariz
- Eileen Joyce
- Marjan Jahanshahi
- Vladimir Litvak
- John Thornton
- Peter Brown
- Vincenzo Libri
- Raj Khengar
- Simon Skene
- Grace Auld
- Marisa Chau
- Michele Hu
- Camille Carroll
- Monty Silverdale
- Gordon Duncan
- Ray Chaudhuri
- Oliver Bandmann
- Roger Barker
- Paola Piccini
- Lynn Rochester
- Nigel Greig
- Dimitrios Kapogiannis



JOHN BLACK CHARITABLE FOUNDATION