
Subject: Research roundup

From: RSN (RSN@parkinsons.org.uk)

To:

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Hello research supporter

As you know each month we compile some of our tweets about research as well as research news updates from our website. I hope you find it interesting.

Research Leadership

After various discussions and planning in relation to the way the charity positions itself in terms of research leadership as we develop the new strategy, Dr Kieran Breen has now left Parkinson's UK as a result of the redundancy of the post of Director of Research & Innovation.

Cutting edge research is still very much at the **heart** of the work that we do as we carry out our mission to improve life for everyone affected by Parkinson's. We are in the midst of developing an **ambitious new research strategy** which will build on the valuable transformations that Kieran has brought to the research programme during his time with the charity.

Kieran has been at Parkinson's UK since 2004 and was the first person to hold the post of Director of Research at the charity. During his time with Parkinson's UK, Kieran has been a great ambassador for the Parkinson's community and transformed the charity's research programme. He developed a strategy that gave focus to the charity's work and led to a number of major initiatives, including:

- establishing the Oxford Parkinson's Disease Centre through the charity's largest ever grant of £5m
- supporting the launch of Tracking Parkinson's, the world's biggest cohort study
- guiding the charity's cutting edge clinical trial of GDNF at Bristol
- developing our biannual research conference for Parkinson's researchers

Kieran is still leading our 'Big Data' research project and will continue to work with us over the next few months.

We will be recruiting to the new research leadership post in due course and will keep you updated. In the meantime, the research team will be **continuing to manage all the charity's research work** as usual. This includes managing Parkinson's UK funded research projects, producing Progress magazine and speaking at local group meetings and regional events.

If you do have any **questions** about research, the team would be very pleased to hear from you.

You can contact them by email: research@parkinsons.org.uk

Or by phone: **020 7963 9326**

Our website

- New 'Guide to Clinical Trials' for people with Parkinson's – <http://bit.ly/1ewcT8Q>
- People with Parkinson's and mild dementia needed for clinical trial - <http://bit.ly/1epkp5f>

Get involved

Cambridge Science Festival (10 - 23 March 2014) - Celebrate the 20th anniversary of the festival with talks and hands-on activities, the festival is a great opportunity to explore science.

- **Professor Roger Barker**, a Parkinson's UK funded researcher will be speaking about 'What can stem cells do for Parkinson's disease?' – <http://bit.ly/Otgorz>
- Read the full programme and find out more about the festival here - <http://bit.ly/1cfXHNg>

Also in the news

- The Guardian: could taking your brain for a walk be the secret to delaying dementia? <http://bit.ly/1mrbDu1>
- Clinical trials always put safety first - Parkinson's human trial suspended as a precautionary measure - <http://bit.ly/1o0pne6>
- The medicines in our minds. Horizon explores the power of the placebo effect tonight at 9pm on BBC2 - <http://bbc.in/1k3vxtx>

Very best wishes,

Hannah

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Help us find a cure and improve life for everyone affected by Parkinson's. Web: parkinsons.org.uk Facebook: [facebook.com/parkinsonsuk](https://www.facebook.com/parkinsonsuk) Twitter: twitter.com/parkinsonsuk

Parkinson's UK and Credit Suisse are delighted to announce their 2014 **Charity Of The Year Partnership** Find out more about it [here](#)

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