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**Subject:** Research roundup October 2014

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**From:** Research Support Network (RSN@parkinsons.org.uk)

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**To:**

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**Date:** Friday, 3 October 2014, 15:56

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Hello research supporter

At the beginning of each month we put together a roundup of all the latest research developments, events, opportunities and other news that we hope will be of interest to our research supporters.

## Research news

- **GDNF Parkinson's trial given major boost by Pfizer**

Pharmaceutical company, Pfizer, has committed to investigating the possibility of a larger study into the protein GDNF. Read more - <http://bit.ly/1mZ6RbB>

- **Smartphone apps to spot early signs of Parkinson's**

New research could allow smartphones to be used as 'pocket doctors' to spot early signs of Parkinson's. Read more - <http://bit.ly/1E8Vfbu>

## Get involved

### Good Brain, Bad Brain, Parkinson's – online course

(Running as of Friday 17 November)

This free online course produced by the University of Birmingham is aimed at anyone with an interest in finding out the fundamentals of Parkinson's; how it affects people, what causes it, what we can do to try and tackle the symptoms and what we don't yet know about it.

Find out more about the course here - <http://bit.ly/1vjuyvK>

## Other research highlights

- International researchers shed new light on how Parkinson's spreads from cell to cell in the human brain - <http://bit.ly/1pwuZ0U>
- We are helping bring new wearable technology to people with Parkinson's in the UK Kinetigraph - <http://bit.ly/1mZ7qCn>
- Advanced computer models shed light on what causes Parkinson's. Find out more - <http://bit.ly/1rjlJU>
- Research on spinal cord injury may help researchers understand dyskinesia in people with Parkinson's. Read more here - <http://bit.ly/1yC7GfE>
- Great blog from Parkure about how they're using fruit flies to hunt for new drugs for Parkinson's - <http://bit.ly/1rljO8l>

## Next steps

Please circulate this roundup to members of your Parkinson's UK local group, Parkinson's nurse, family and friends.

### Not a member of our Research Support Network? Join us!

Keep up to date with all the latest research news, events and opportunities to take part and help shape research. **Sign up here** – <http://bit.ly/rsnsignup>

Very best wishes,

Hannah

**Hannah Churchill**

**Research Communications Officer, London**

Parkinson's UK, 215 Vauxhall Bridge Rd, London SW1V 1EJ

Tel: 020 7963 9313 Email: [hchurchill@parkinsons.org.uk](mailto:hchurchill@parkinsons.org.uk)

Help us find a cure and improve life for everyone affected by Parkinson's.

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