
Subject: Research roundup April 2015

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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

- **Early stage trial of Parkinson's vaccine shows promise**

Results from the first clinical trial of a new vaccine for Parkinson's suggest the treatment is safe and should go forward to be tested in larger, longer studies. Read more – <http://bit.ly/1DyqGgi>



- **Apple announces ResearchKit - a new medical research software**

Apple have announced a new software product for medical research called ResearchKit - available to researchers next month. Read more – <http://bit.ly/1GOp2rZ>

- **New insights into the link between statins and Parkinson's**

New research published in the scientific journal Movement Disorders suggests that statins may not reduce the risk of developing Parkinson's as previously thought. Read more – <http://bit.ly/1y1DJ9m>

Research events

- **The many shapes of alpha-synuclein: Professor Chris Dobson** - 15 April 2015 (2 - 4pm), University of Cambridge

Professor Dobson's project will use cutting-edge techniques to 'see' the different shapes that the key protein alpha-synuclein folds into. Book your place: <http://bit.ly/1BsUnte>

- **Better drug screening – finding new uses for old drugs: Dr Heather Mortiboys** - 29 April 2015 (2 - 4pm), University of Sheffield

Dr Mortiboys plans to use new techniques to efficiently and accurately screen drugs that are already clinically licensed and used in other conditions to find those that show potential for treating Parkinson's. Book your place:

<http://bit.ly/1DFinQU>

For other research events visit – www.parkinsons.org.uk/researchevents

Tell politicians that more investment in research is what you want this election

We want every MP elected to parliament in May to understand and prioritise the needs of people affected by Parkinson's. We need your help to remind candidates that people affected by Parkinson's vote and that they need to tackle the issues that you care about!



Get involved in our election campaign today

There are lots of ways your candidates can understand what's important to you this election.

Why don't you:

- [email the spokespeople of the main parties](#) asking them to commit to support research if they are elected
- download posters and door hangers that you can display and use at home when your candidates knock on your door
- choose an issue you'd like your local candidate to improve – such as disabled parking, better respite care services or more Parkinson's aware public services. Write this into the bottom of this [poster](#) and send us photo of you and your poster to – campaigns@parkinsons.org.uk

The more people affected by Parkinson's who get involved in our election campaign the greater number of candidates we can reach. **Make your voice heard this election -** www.parkinsons.org.uk/generalelection

Tell us what you think

Parkinson's UK works hard to ensure the views of people affected by Parkinson's are at the centre of everything we do. When people affected offer their opinions or get involved in jointly creating a campaign, initiative or another piece of work with us, we call this **user-involvement**.

In order to evaluate how effective people think we are in this area, we'd really appreciate it if you could take a few moments to complete a short survey as you work alongside the research team. Complete the survey here: www.parkinsons.org.uk/invovesurvey

Next steps

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

and friends who might be interested.

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>

Best wishes

Hannah

Hannah Churchill

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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

We achieved so much in 2014 thanks to our supporters and everyone involved with the charity. Here are [some of the highlights](#).

We're the Parkinson's support and research charity. Help us find a cure and improve life for everyone affected by Parkinson's. Parkinson's UK is the operating name of the Parkinson's Disease Society of the United Kingdom. A company limited by guarantee. Registered in England and Wales (948776). Registered office: 215 Vauxhall Bridge Road, Victoria, London, SW1V 1EJ. A charity registered in England and Wales (258197) and in Scotland (SC037554).