



THE UNIVERSITY  
of NORTH CAROLINA  
at CHAPEL HILL



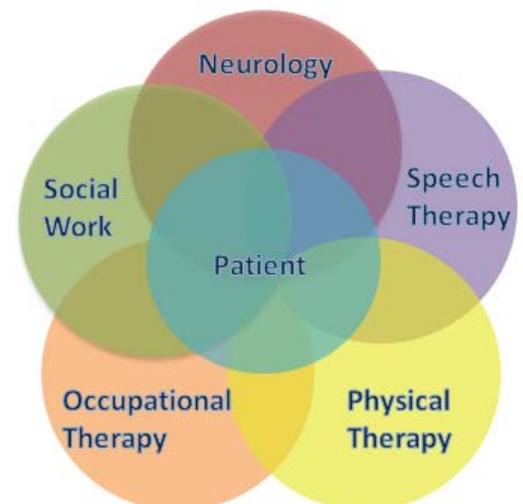
## Introducing Our New Interdisciplinary Parkinson's Clinic

UNC-Chapel Hill Department of Neurology  
Supported by the National Parkinson's Foundation

**WHAT:** The UNC Movement Disorders Clinic has officially launched a new comprehensive clinic for individuals with Parkinson's disease, performed by an interdisciplinary team of healthcare professionals, who specialize in Parkinson's care. The clinic is held regularly on the 4th Tuesday of each month.

### CLINIC LAYOUT:

1. Prior to your appointment, the social worker will complete an evaluation with you over the phone. This evaluation will be shared with the other clinicians involved to prepare them in advance for your appointment.
2. On the evaluation day, you will come to the PT/OT Outpatient Clinic in Memorial Hospital where you will receive...
  - a. A full Physical Therapy evaluation,
  - b. A full Occupational Therapy evaluation,
  - c. A full Speech-Language Pathology evaluation,
  - d. A full neurological evaluation.
3. You will leave at the end of the last evaluation, and the interdisciplinary team will meet to discuss the case and to develop overall recommendations.
4. These recommendations (as well as information on how to pursue various therapies) will be typed up and mailed to you within two weeks of the initial appointment.
5. After receiving our team's recommendations, you will be contacted by the Center Coordinator, Jessica Katz. She will review the clinic recommendations and suggested treatment plan with you and provide you with assistance and referrals in following up with the options that you would like to pursue.





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### **THIS CLINIC IS MOST APPROPRIATE IF:**

- You are functioning well, but you would like some baseline measurements taken and would like to receive information and exercises to help maintain functioning over time.
- Symptoms of your Parkinson's disease are interfering with your work and leisure activities.
- Your current treatment plan is not working or you have complications from medical therapy.
- You or your family need advice and counseling on coping with Parkinson's disease.
- Cognitive and behavioral problems (i.e., depression and anxiety) are interfering with your activities of daily living.

### **MORE INFO:**

- This is a patient-centered clinic. We will provide a thorough list of treatment options and recommendations, but it is up to you and you're your family to decide upon what you would like to pursue and when. We will be available to provide assistance if and when you choose to followup with a treatment recommendation.
- We plan to do an assessment of various aspects of each participant's functioning prior to the evaluation as well as 3 months after the appointment. This will be achieved by participants filling out some questionnaires. In this way, we can assess how effective the multidisciplinary clinic has been.
- Interested individuals should contact Jessica Katz at 919-843-1657 or email [jkatz@neurology.unc.edu](mailto:jkatz@neurology.unc.edu)



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### **CLINIC COSTS:**

This clinic is being offered as a comprehensive service for individuals with Parkinson's disease, and the charges reflect what regular evaluations by each of these clinicians would generally cost. Please see below for clinic charges and coverage options.

### **If you are covered by a third party insurance provider:**

Most insurance policies will cover physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech therapy; however, the amount of coverage and potential limits will be defined by your particular policy. We recommend that you contact your insurance provider in advance to ask about your coverage regarding these therapies, what percentage of costs your co-pay will be, if you have met your deductible, etc.

**IMPORTANT:** Our clinicians are billed as **hospital based**, which means that if you have not met your deductible, you may be responsible for the full charges involved with your visit. Be sure to check with your insurance company ahead of time to learn about what portion of the costs you will be held responsible for.

### **If you are covered by Medicare Part B:**

Medicare helps pay for medically necessary outpatient physical, occupational, and speech-language therapy services when your physician/therapist sets up the plan or treatment and when your physician periodically reviews the plan to see how long you will get therapy.

Medicare limits how much it pays for outpatient therapy services per year. The cap for physical and speech-language services (combined) will be \$1870 for 2011, and the separate yearly benefit limit for outpatient occupational therapy will be \$1870 for 2011. Before these caps, you will pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount after you have met your yearly deductible. After the cap, you will be responsible for 100% of the charge, unless you have other insurance coverage. ***There is no cap if you go to a hospital outpatient therapy department, as will be the case for our interdisciplinary clinic.***

For more information, please call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227).



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**If you are not covered by third party insurance or Medicare:**

Although ideally we would like to provide the interdisciplinary Parkinson's clinic to all patients, regardless of their financial situation, at this time we do not have the funding available to provide complimentary or discounted services. UNC does provide financial assistance for individuals who meet certain income eligibility requirements. The patient must apply for and be approved for these programs *in advance* in order for the clinic evaluations to be covered.

Charity Care Program: Insures that all eligible individuals receive medically necessary care at UNC Health Care regardless of their ability to pay. Patients are eligible if their income falls below 250 percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines. For the interdisciplinary clinic, patients would still be required to pay \$35 per specialist evaluation. With Charity Care, the total costs for the interdisciplinary clinic would equal \$140 (\$35 for the neurology evaluation and \$105 for the comprehensive clinic day).

Community Care Discount Program: Extends discounted health care to those who may not be able to access or afford medical insurance either individually or through their employer. The program provides a 35 percent discount for most self-pay patients' accounts.

For further information about these programs, please contact a UNC Health Care financial services representative at 966-3425.

**For questions about specific costs and your insurance coverage for each clinician, please contact:**

- Diana Browning at 919-966-1423 for questions about physical and occupational therapy costs.
- Stacy Jordan or Leanne Wilkie at 919-843-0017 for questions about speech therapy costs.

\* Your neurology appointment should cost the same as your usual Movement Disorder Specialist visits.