

# Parkinson Disease

## What You Should Know

Parkinson disease is a **life-threatening brain disease** that causes the degradation of brain cells that produce dopamine. Parkinson disease affects the ability to perform purposeful movement and often results in serious cardiorespiratory, neuropsychiatric, musculoskeletal, and autonomic complications.

**Approximately 1% of older adults**

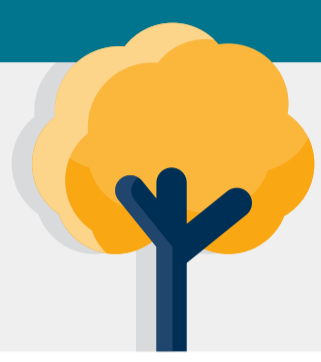
in the developed world have Parkinson Disease

### Risk Factors

Genetic mutations



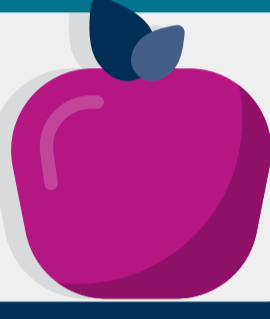
Familial history



Older age



Lifestyle risk factors



Exposure to chemicals and pesticides



### Signs & Symptoms

#### Motor

##### Signs / Symptoms

- + Bradykinesia
- + Rigidity
- + Resting tremor
- + Festinating gait
- + Impaired postural reflexes

#### Non-motor

##### Signs / Symptoms

- + Dementia
- + Mood disorders
- + Fatigue
- + Pain
- + Hyposmia

### Potential Complications

Complications of Parkinson disease, some of which can be fatal, include:

Dysphagia

with aspiration and choking

Falls

resulting in musculoskeletal injuries, such as fractures

Respiratory failure

requiring mechanical ventilation

Dysarthria

which limits communication

Autonomic dysfunction

including orthostatic hypotension and constipation

## Did You Find This Information Helpful?

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