



# PMD Alliance

Parkinson & Movement Disorder Alliance

## **Parkinson & Movement Disorder Alliance Is Pleased to Share This Announcement from our Partner HealthWell Foundation**

### ***New Fund Offers Copayment and Premium Assistance to Medicare Patients***

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October 5, 2021 — Parkinson and Movement Disorder Alliance (PMD Alliance) announces its support of the HealthWell Foundation’s new fund to assist individuals living with neurocognitive disease, including Parkinson’s disease, who have also been diagnosed with psychosis. Through the fund, HealthWell will provide up to \$10,000 in medication copayment or insurance premium assistance for a 12-month grant period to eligible Medicare patients who have annual household incomes up to 500 percent of the federal poverty level.

To receive financial assistance through the new fund, individuals must have a diagnosis of a psychotic disorder with any one of the following underlying neurocognitive diseases:

- Parkinson’s Disease
- Diffuse Lewy Body Disease
- Alzheimer’s/Dementia
- Frontotemporal Lobar Degeneration
- Huntington’s Disease
- Prion/Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease
- Traumatic Brain Injury

### **About Neurocognitive Disease with Psychosis**

Psychosis can be a common co-occurrence in association with cognitive impairments from conditions such as Parkinson’s disease and other neurocognitive diseases, according to the American Academy of Neurology. Symptoms can include hallucinations, delusions, depression, paranoia, or manic behavior, as well as others. The impact of these symptoms extends beyond the patient, to caregivers and family members who often struggle to cope with the impact on their loved ones’ behavior and mood.

“The challenges those living with neurocognitive diseases face are life-altering not only for them, but for their care partners, and their entire family,” said Andrea Merriam, Executive Vice President, Parkinson & Movement Disorder Alliance. “When a person is diagnosed with psychosis as a result of their disease, those challenges stack up to become overwhelming, adding

stress and considerable burden to every aspect of daily life. Providing Medicare patients living with neurocognitive diseases and diagnosed with psychosis the ability to access the treatment they need, without the additional burden of worrying about how they will afford it, will provide tremendous relief to innumerable families. Bravo to HealthWell Foundation for identifying and taking action on this critical, life-changing need. We are proud to be working with the HealthWell Foundation to spread the word about the new fund that will provide assistance and hope to these patients who may otherwise forgo care due to cost.”

To determine eligibility and apply for financial assistance, visit HealthWell’s [Neurocognitive Disease with Psychosis](#) Fund page.

### **About Parkinson & Movement Disorder Alliance (PMD Alliance)**

PMD Alliance is an independent, national nonprofit dedicated to providing opportunities for people to learn, live more fully and spark meaningful connections around them. PMD Alliance serves people across the United States and is not affiliated with any medical practice or institution. PMD Alliance is committed to keeping our community safe and healthy. Visit [www.PMDAlliance.org](http://www.PMDAlliance.org) to learn more.

### **About the HealthWell Foundation**

A nationally recognized, independent non-profit organization founded in 2003, the HealthWell Foundation has served as a safety net across over 80 disease areas for more than 615,000 underinsured patients. Since its inception, HealthWell has provided over \$2.1 billion in grant support to access life-changing medical treatments patients otherwise would not be able to afford. HealthWell provides financial assistance to adults and children facing medical hardship resulting from gaps in their insurance that cause out-of-pocket medical expenses to escalate rapidly; HealthWell assists with the treatment-related cost-sharing obligations of these patients. HealthWell ranked 29th on the 2020 *Forbes* list of [The 100 Largest U.S. Charities](#) and was recognized for its 100 percent fundraising efficiency. For more information, visit [www.HealthWellFoundation.org](http://www.HealthWellFoundation.org).

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