

thrive

BE YOUR BEST SELF

Thriving With Parkinson's Disease

Learn more about Parkinson's:
What to expect and how you can
advocate for your best treatment
options



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We'd like you to know...

This educational program will feature information about Parkinson's disease from a healthcare provider

This program is not intended to provide medical advice or care

We encourage you to talk with your own healthcare providers for questions about your personal medical condition or management

Out of consideration for their time, the speakers have been compensated by Amneal

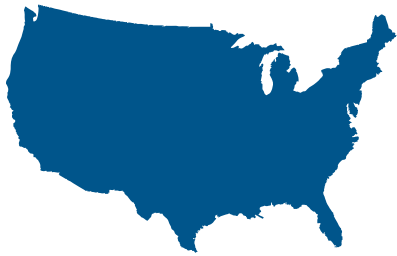


Introduction

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What is Parkinson's disease?

Parkinson's disease is the fastest growing neurological disorder and impacts millions^{1,2}



By 2037, **1.64 million people** in the United States will have the disease²



The disease is characterized by **loss of dopamine-producing cells** in certain areas of the brain^{3,4}



The primary symptoms are **motor**, but the disease includes **non-motor** symptoms as well⁴



Parkinson's disease: the who, what, and why

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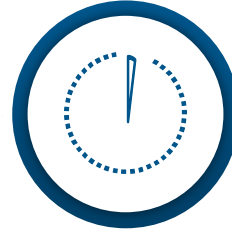
Who gets PD—and why?



More men are diagnosed with PD than women, by a ratio of almost 3:2¹



Age of onset for PD can vary, with majority of patients being >60 years old²



About 1% of the population over 60 years of age will have PD³



By 2037, 1.64 million people in the United States will have the disease⁴



Genetics may play a factor by predisposing some to PD⁵



Exposure to environmental toxins may be a risk factor⁵



People who have experienced head injuries may be at higher risk⁵

What's happening in PD?

PD is caused by a loss of dopamine that is normally produced in the brain¹⁻³

- Dopamine is a neurotransmitter and carries chemical signals or messages from one neuron (nerve cell) to the next cell⁴
- Sufficient dopamine stimulation helps the next cell function normally, which facilitates normal motor function in the body⁴
- However, in PD, the brain produces insufficient dopamine, causing body movements to become abnormal^{2,4}



Motor symptoms^{1,2}

Motor symptoms (those affecting your movements) include:

- Tremors; the classic symptom is a slow tremor of the hand at rest
- Rigidity, or stiffness
- Bradykinesia, freezing up, having trouble moving, hunching and shuffling while walking
- Stability and balance problems when standing or walking
- Difficulty speaking

Non-motor symptoms^{1,2}

Non-motor symptoms (those to do with your body and thinking in general) include:

- Depression
- Constipation, trouble with urination
- Pain
- Sleep disorders, including acting out violently while dreaming
- Loss of sense of smell
- Fatigue
- Slowness in thinking
- Feelings of anxiety and agitation

The progression of PD^{1,2}

Symptoms may begin in small ways. Everyone stumbles or stubs their toe once in a while. Trouble sleeping, aches, pains, and constipation can occur normally from time to time for all sorts of reasons. But a few key characteristics set PD motor symptoms apart. They are:

Unilateral onset:
weakness or tremor that begins on one side of your body



Tremor at rest:
shaking that happens when you are not using your hand or arm



Asymmetry of motor symptoms:
one limb is affected more than the other



Progression with time:
symptoms become more noticeable as time progresses



The progression of PD

Every person with PD experiences the disease differently. Your symptoms may be different from those of others with PD.¹⁻⁴

However, over time, symptoms will become more noticeable, and new ones will develop, so it's very important to take an active role in optimizing your treatment.¹⁻⁴

You can work with your doctor to choose treatment options that require fewer medication doses per day, which may make it easier for you to follow your treatment regimen.⁵

One of the best things you can do to manage PD is to work with your doctors and care partners to find a suitable treatment plan, and to take your medications as prescribed^{4,5}



Daily life with Parkinson's: the “On”/“Off” cycle

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What is “Good On” time?

“Good On” times are periods during your day when your symptoms are well controlled and side effects from medications, like movements you can’t control, are not affecting your daily activities.^{1,2}

- **During “Good On” time**, you may feel almost like you did before your symptoms began. You may be able to participate in your usual daily activities^{1,2}
- **Tracking exercise and physical activity** with the help of care partner(s) can support symptom management³
- **You and your doctor can work together to develop a treatment plan with the goal of maximizing your “Good On” time²**



Tracking your symptoms will help you identify patterns in your day⁴

What is “Off” time?^{1,2}

“Off” time happens when your medication is wearing off or hasn’t fully kicked in yet. It can happen unpredictably or at predictable timepoints during the day.

- **Partial “On”** happens when there is a partial effect of your medication, and you may feel like you are between “Off” and “On”
- **Dose failure** happens when your dose of medication does not help you feel “On”
- **Early morning “Off”** happens when you feel poor control of symptoms when you wake up
- **Wearing “Off”** happens when the benefits of your medicine lessen before you take your next dose
- **Unpredictable “Off”** happens unexpectedly, even if you’ve taken your medicine exactly as you are supposed to



Talk to your doctor about the different types of “Off” time you experience

What does “Off” time feel like?¹⁻³

“Off” time can include both motor and non-motor symptoms and is experienced differently by each person living with Parkinson’s.

Motor symptoms may include

Tremor

Stiffness

Slowness

Difficulty speaking

Trouble with balance

Non-motor symptoms may include

Feelings of anxiety or agitation

Fatigue

Pain

Sweating

Slowness of thinking

You may experience “Off” time differently from day to day

How common is “Off” time?

“Off” time does not happen all at once but can occur during periods spread throughout the day.

>90%

experience **at least 1** “Off” episode per day

~65%

experience **at least 2 hours** of “Off” time per day

>20%

experience **more than 4 hours** of “Off” time per day

Talk to your doctor about how often you experience “Off” time

Why do you need to openly communicate with your healthcare provider about “Off” time?

The signs of “Off” time can vary greatly among people living with Parkinson’s disease, so your doctor may not see the full picture without your insight.^{1,2}

While “Off” time **can be addressed**, effective treatment depends on **open communication** with your doctor about your symptoms.^{1,2}

More than half of people living with Parkinson’s **failed to discuss** their wearing “Off” symptoms at every appointment.²



Talk to your doctor about your “Off” time and when it occurs



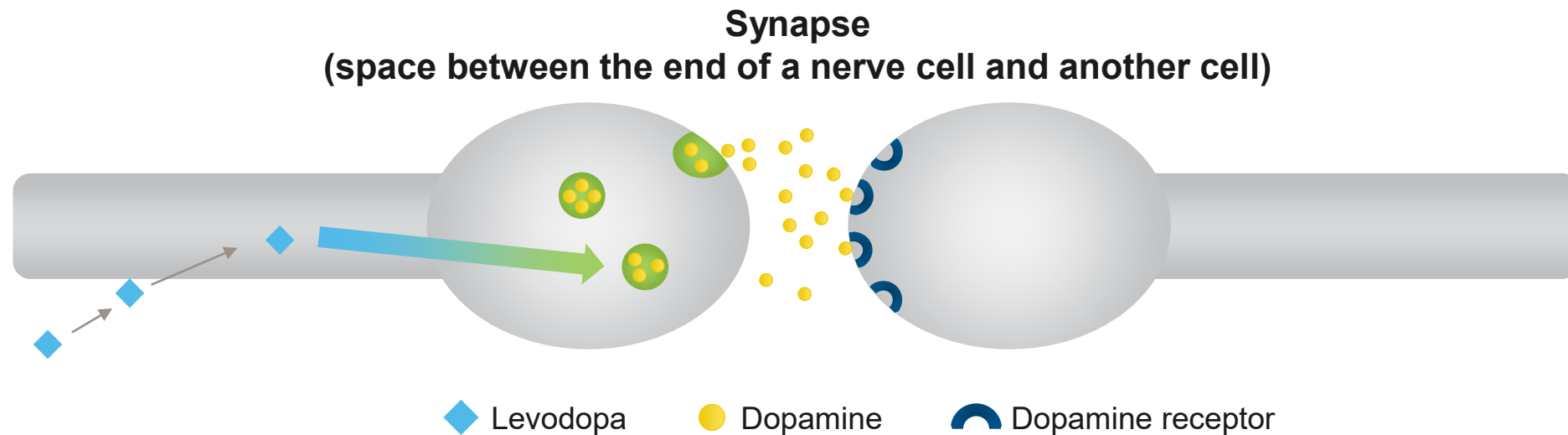
How Parkinson's medications work

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How does levodopa for Parkinson's disease work?

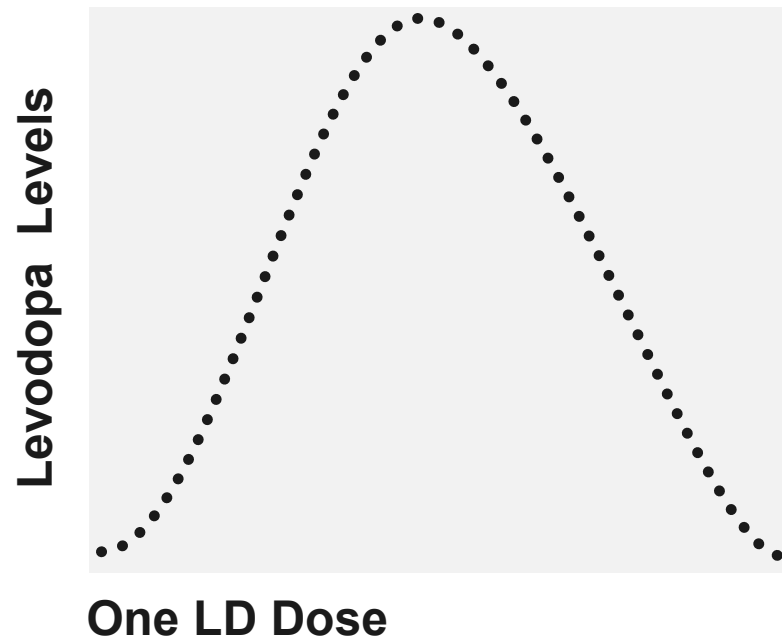
Parkinson's disease medicines work to increase dopamine or act like dopamine in the brain, replacing what your brain isn't making and restoring normal function.^{1,2}

The gold-standard treatment is levodopa (LD), a medicine that the body converts into dopamine once it's in the nervous system. It's paired with carbidopa (CD), a medicine that helps it reach the brain better.¹⁻³



CD/LD helps replace dopamine in the brain, which is depleted in PD¹

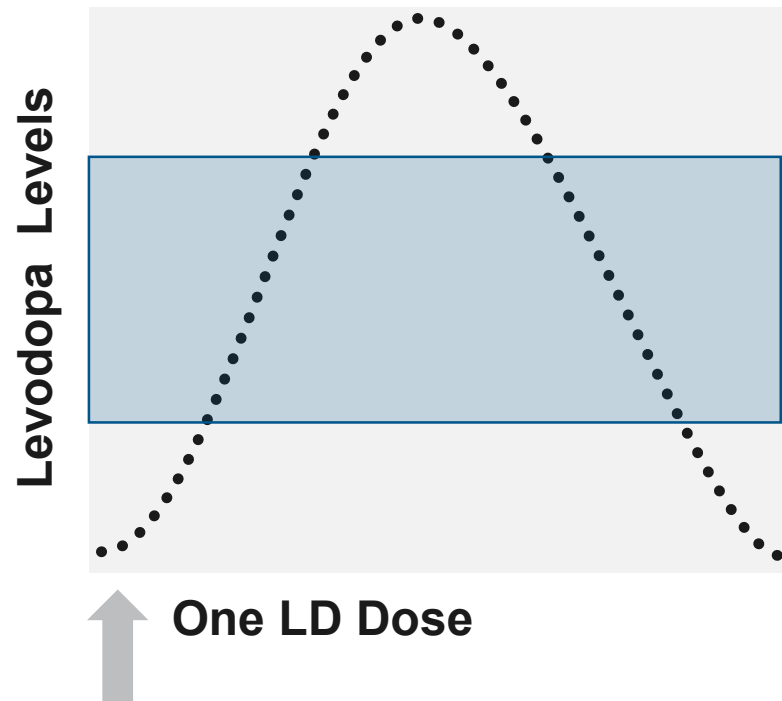
The LD efficacy cycle^{1,2}



When you take a dose of the LD medication, it begins to work to return your dopamine levels to normal. But, like any drug, its effects will wear off as your body uses it up

The LD efficacy cycle^{1,2}

During times when levodopa levels are optimal, you'll have "Good On" time.

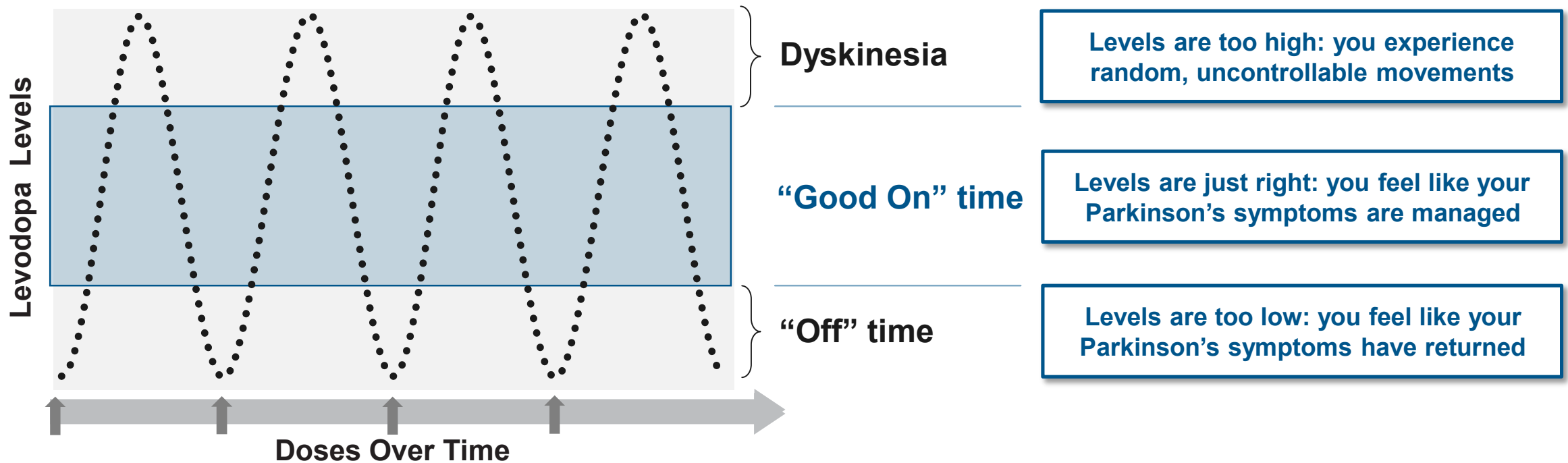


"Good On" time

Levels are just right: you feel like your Parkinson's symptoms are managed

What does the LD “On”/“Off” cycle look like in a day?¹⁻³

Parkinson’s disease medications (which we will discuss in the upcoming slides) need to be at just the right levels in your blood to give you “Good On” time.



The goal is to maximize “Good On” time and minimize motor complications

There are options for increasing “Good On” time

Treatment options can include:

Increasing the dose/frequency of IR CD/LD or current medication

Adding an MAO-B inhibitor

Adding a COMT inhibitor

Adding a dopamine agonist

Adding a rescue medication

Switching to a longer-acting CD/LD

When you begin to experience more “Off” time, talk to your doctor about ways to reduce it

Carbidopa/levodopa (CD/LD) formulations^{1,2}

Every formulation of CD/LD contains the same medication.
The difference is in the way it is released into your body.

Formulation		
Immediate-release CD/LD	The medication takes effect quickly, but it may wear off quickly too.	Because the medication acts quickly, patients may require frequent dosing.
Controlled-release CD/LD	The medication is designed to be released into your body more slowly. It begins to take effect more slowly but lasts longer.	With slower release, patients may require fewer daily doses.
Extended-release CD/LD	The medication is bundled with multiple ingredients designed to release medicine rapidly and over an extended period of time.	Because the medication continues to maintain levels over time, patients may require fewer daily doses.



Selecting and managing your treatment

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Setting a treatment goal

Choosing the best treatment regimen for you will mean sitting down with your doctor, going over the available treatments, and learning to work your PD into your life.

Your care partner(s) will be an important part of your journey, so bring someone with you to each appointment to take notes and remind you of questions you had.

While the disease may seem daunting, it is highly treatable, and the right medication can make your life much easier.

More “Good On” time—time with symptom control and without dyskinesia—in your day increases your quality of life and keeps you more independent for longer. It is an achievable goal.



As PD progresses, you may need to adjust your treatment



Your doctor may start you on a lower dose, then gradually increase it as you become used to the medicine and its side effects.



Keeping track of your symptoms will help you communicate with your doctor and know when an adjustment is needed.



Don't be afraid to advocate for yourself when a part of your regimen is no longer working. Adjustments can be made—more “Good On” time is within your reach.

Lifestyle changes to support your treatment

Being diagnosed with Parkinson's disease is stressful. But there are a lot of things you can do to help achieve stable control of your symptoms and have more "Good On" time.

Diet and nutrition

Although no diet can substitute for comprehensive medical care, early research points to the benefits of the Mediterranean diet in people with PD. The diet, rich in fruit and vegetables, legumes, whole grains, lean proteins, and olive oil, is thought to curb inflammation throughout the body and improve digestive health.¹

Rest

Getting adequate rest is an important key to managing your PD. Your brain needs downtime to refresh itself. Being well-rested will help you focus and give you energy.²

Physical health

Physical therapies have been shown to help mitigate and manage PD symptoms. Maintaining exercise and work-related and household activities may be associated with a slower decline in posture and gait function, cognitive processing speed, and activities of daily living. And you'll feel better and healthier, too.^{3,4}

“Hopamine”: the medicine only you can give yourself¹

“Hopamine” is a concept developed by a team of Parkinson’s disease researchers and doctors—one of whom was living with PD. In their practice and in their lives, they had come to believe that patients who had a strong sense of control—who felt that they were an active partner in their treatment plan, rather than just a patient who sat back and accepted treatment—would fare better and have a better quality of life, despite their diagnosis and the challenges it has brought.

It is unfortunate—even unfair—that you are dealing with this problem. But you have the power in your hands and in your heart to make the most of your treatment and take an active role in your care plan. Be curious, ask questions, read, and talk with other people living with PD and their care partners. Set goals for your treatment, like achieving more “Good On” time. Stay active. And don’t forget to take your “hopamine.”

You are not alone. Your family, your healthcare team, countless researchers, and the worldwide PD community are all in this with you.



**Questions?
Comments?**

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What did we learn today?



“Off” time is different for everyone and can impact your life dramatically, so it’s important to talk about it with your doctor



As the disease progresses, many people with Parkinson’s disease find they need to adjust their medication



The goal of managing Parkinson’s disease is to maximize “Good On” time without motor complications

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