



PSG eNEWS/FALL 2012

Dear PSG members and other colleagues,

We're pleased to provide you with a new e-newsletter format giving you brief highlights of PSG activity with links to more information via the PSG website. You will receive this on a quarterly basis and please feel free to send in your contributions!

PSG ANNUAL MEETING and NEW LEADERSHIP

The PSG Annual Meeting and 26th Annual PSG Symposium were held on May 11th at the Four Seasons in Irving, Texas. Members and special guests enjoyed a welcome reception on Thursday night sponsored by TEVA. The batons were passed (in exchange for beach balls) to the new PSG leadership...[read more...](#)

WHAT'S NEW~

SAVE THE DATE! PSG ANNUAL MEETING will be held on **Monday, September 30, 2013** in Montreal, Canada. Plan on arriving on Sunday, a full day on Monday and the Symposium on Tuesday.

PSG SYMPOSIUM will be held on **Tuesday, October 1, 2013**, 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. coordinated with the start of the [World Parkinson Congress](#) in Montreal, Canada.

AAN FUTURES IN CLINICAL RESEARCH LUNCHEON/PSG Mentoring Session will be held on **Monday, March 18, 2013 and Tuesday, March 19, 2013**, 12:00-1:30 p.m. in San Diego, CA.

BRING CLINICAL TRIALS to the PSG!

Over the past several months, the PSG Executive Committee has laid out a strategy to revitalize the long-standing PSG tradition of industry involvement and partnerships in clinical trials addressing the most important unmet needs for PD therapeutics. We have developed a slide kit that:

- highlights "[The PSG Advantage](#)" in the planning and execution of any Parkinson clinical trial;
- clarifies the PSG principles in conflicts of interest, data sharing and publication in a manner that emphasizes our legacy of scientific integrity and high-quality publications, while remaining sensitive to the needs and concerns of our industry partners.

Presentations have been given to several industry sponsors seeking to develop promising compounds. All members are encouraged to be pro-active in encouraging industry-sponsors to partner with the PSG, and to lead member-initiated studies. Please contact [Hubert Fernandez](#) to arrange a PSG presentation (or to receive an updated.ppt slide set) for potential partnerships in the development of promising compounds for PD.

In addition, we hope members will continue to pursue investigator-initiated trials with support of foundations and government programs (e.g., see [NeuroNEXT opportunities](#)) that take advantage of the PSG's network of experienced sites and our fellow coordinators' and investigators' unmatched skills and dedication. Please advance your ideas and proposals through our Working Group 'incubators' or directly to the Scientific Review Committee, as warranted.

PSG ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM, May 2012

The Fifth Clifford W. Shults Symposium was on "Other Non-Motor Features of PD". A variety of platform presentations and 33 poster presentations were also featured on a variety of movement disorders topics. [Read the 2012 abstracts and more...](#)

PDF GRANT APPROVAL

The [Parkinson's Disease Foundation](#) granted approval for continued support of the PSG in the amount of \$200,000 for another year. Their generosity funds research, committee and working group activity, infrastructure and the annual meeting.

PSG COMMITTEES

PSG members serving on committees are vital to make it possible to achieve our mission. We thank those members rotating off for their service and welcome new members invited to serve...[read more...](#)

PSG WORKING GROUPS

Some working group leaders have finished their terms and new leaders have come on board. Please visit the Working Group home page for an updated list of leaders and information on how to join a working group...[read more...](#)

New ODWG!

Under the leadership of Allison Willis, MD, the PSG is proud to announce a new working group called Health/Care Outcomes and Disparities Working Group (ODWG). Dr. Willis recognized the need for this type of working group to advance clinical research and understanding of the patient, provider, and system level contributors to clinical, societal, and economic outcomes in those affected by PD. [Read more and learn how to become a member of this group...](#)

PSG CREDENTIALING INITIATIVE

The PSG is in discussions with [The Michael J. Fox Foundation](#) over a supplemental credentialing program to bolster and certify PD clinical trial skills of our clinical site staff. In 2013, if approved and funded, a series of voluntary, web-based training modules would be developed. ...[read more...](#)

2012 PSG PUBLICATIONS...*are listed on the website at: [PSG Publications](#)*

TEVA EXTENSION ON DATA SHARING AGREEMENT APPROVED FOR 2 MORE YEARS...until June 2014.

PDF PARKINSON'S ADVOCATES IN RESEARCH...Since the Parkinson's Disease Foundation (PDF) began its Parkinson's Advocates in Research (PAIR) program in 2008, we have prepared 180 people with Parkinson's and care partners from 38 states to play advocacy roles in research. [Read more...](#)

NeuroNEXT opportunities

PSG members who are interested to lead the development of a Phase II clinical trial are encouraged to consider NeuroNEXT as a mechanism. NeuroNEXT is an NINDS initiative to conduct Phase II trials in neurological conditions. It is intended to facilitate the testing of novel or repurposed drugs, biologics or devices. Biomarker validation studies are also considered. [Read more...](#)

We hope you've enjoyed the new e-newsletter and welcome your feedback!

PSG EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Michael Schwarzschild, MD, PhD, *Chair*
Hubert Fernandez, MD, *Co-Chair*

The Parkinson Study Group (PSG) is a non-profit, cooperative group of Parkinson's disease experts from medical centers in the United States, Canada, and Puerto Rico who are dedicated to improving treatment for persons affected by Parkinson's disease.