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Introducing *npj Parkinson's Disease*, an open access journal dedicated to Parkinson's research

17 November 2014

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Today marks the launch of *npj Parkinson's Disease*, an open access journal entirely dedicated to research which will help the scientific community to understand, mitigate, and eventually cure Parkinson's disease. The journal is the result of a partnership between Nature Publishing Group (NPG) and the Parkinson's Disease Foundation (PDF).

npj Parkinson's Disease will publish high quality research that is online-only, and free to access, enabling academics, clinicians and patients to stay up to date with the latest research.

"The Parkinson's Disease Foundation is thrilled to collaborate with the Nature Publishing Group on the creation of this new journal. Now is the time to encourage scientific research and to ensure that it is shared openly with the patient and scientific communities," said Robin Anthony Elliott, President of PDF.

Paul Zimmet, D.D.S., a Research Advocate with the Parkinson's Disease Foundation, added, "I applaud NPG and PDF for bringing together high quality science and a commitment to both patient engagement and transparency. For the seven to 10 million of us living with Parkinson's disease worldwide, *npj Parkinson's Disease* will provide the information needed to demystify scientific research. This, hopefully, will help encourage involvement by people with Parkinson's in all stages of the research continuum."

Charitable organisations such as the PDF are an important part of the fight to cure Parkinson's. In the US, National Institutes for Health funding for Parkinson's disease research has decreased in the last two years. The decrease in government funding has been met by an increase in funding from not-for-profit foundations such as the Parkinson's Disease Foundation. From 2007-2011, nonprofits groups alone contributed to the 92% increase in funds allocated toward research and grants.

Martin Delahunty, Global Head of Partnership Journals at Nature Publishing Group said: "The PDF is the first foundation that we have worked with, and one which has a strong patient advocacy mission, as well as funding scientific research. These objectives align perfectly with the aims of open science. Open access publishing will enable us to build the journal as a knowledge resource for scientists, medical practitioners, policymakers and people living with Parkinson's disease. To extend the impact and reach of the published research we will make freely available lay summaries which sit alongside the original high-quality research."

Yesterday, representatives from NPG, PDF and *npj Aging Mechanisms and Disease* met in Washington DC to discuss the benefits of open science for neuroscience research. You can watch their discussion on Youtube [here](#).

This is the latest launch in the series of [Nature Partner Journals](#) (npj), a new series of online, open access journals published in collaboration with world-renowned international partners. As with all titles within the series, *npj Parkinson's Disease* will adhere to high editorial standards and will publish high-quality open research.

The journal's joint Editor in Chiefs will be Dr. David Sulzer, PhD of Columbia University, Professor K Ray Chaudhuri, Dsc MD, King's College London. Stanley Fahn, MD, Scientific Director of PDF and Emeritus Director of the Center for Parkinson's Disease and Other Movement Disorders at Columbia University Medical Center will serve as the journal's Advisory Editor.

npj Parkinson's Disease will cover all research related to Parkinson's disease, including anatomy, etiology, genetics, cellular and molecular physiology, neurophysiology, epidemiology, and therapeutic development and treatments.

The [journal](#) will be open for submissions in early December.

You can visit the journal website at: <http://www.nature.com/npjparkd>

The Article Processing Charge will be \$4,000.

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About PDF

The Parkinson's Disease Foundation® (PDF®) is a leading national presence in Parkinson's disease research, education and public advocacy. We are working for the nearly one million people in the US who live with Parkinson's by funding promising scientific research while supporting people living with Parkinson's through educational programs and services. Since its founding in 1957, PDF has dedicated over \$105 million to fund the work of leading scientists throughout the world and over \$44 million to support national education and advocacy initiatives.

About Nature Publishing Group (NPG)

Nature Publishing Group (NPG) is a publisher of high impact scientific information in print and online. NPG publishes journals, online databases and services across the life, physical, chemical and applied sciences.

Focusing on the needs of scientists, *Nature* (founded in 1869) is the leading weekly, international scientific journal. NPG publishes a range of Nature research journals and *Nature Reviews* journals, and a range of prestigious academic and partner journals including society-owned publications. Online, nature.com provides over 8 million visitors per month with access to NPG publications and services, including news and comment from *Nature*, and the leading scientific jobs board *Naturejobs*.

Scientific American is at the heart of NPG's consumer media division, meeting the needs of the general public. Founded in 1845, *Scientific American* is the oldest continuously published magazine in the US and the leading authoritative publication for science in the general media. Together with scientificamerican.com and 14 local language editions around the world it reaches over 5 million consumers and scientists. Other titles include *Scientific American Mind* and *Spektrum der Wissenschaft* in Germany.

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