

# Young Onset Parkinson's Disease

Support for Patients and Families



Approximately 10 percent of all Parkinson's patients have "young onset" of the disease, meaning it is diagnosed before the age of 50. While similar symptoms arise in patients of all ages, there are several distinct differences.

Young onset Parkinson's disease (PD) tends to progress much slower and have fewer issues with cognition and memory, yet tend to have more problems with involuntary movements (dyskinesia) related to the medication levodopa. They also tend to have more problems with dystonia, or muscle cramping that causes abnormal posture.

**The Parkinson Outreach Center offers support services to those affected by young onset Parkinson's.**  
**Call 407-303-5295 for more information.**

# Managing Young Onset PD

Patients with young onset PD can face unique challenges as they are often parents to young children and/or actively engaged in a career. This can have significant financial, social and psychological impacts. Likewise, getting a diagnosis can be challenging as Parkinson's disease is not typically the first thing people think of when someone is young. Finding the right doctor is key to optimal disease management, and the Parkinson Outreach Center can help.

## You Are Not Alone

The Parkinson Outreach Center offers monthly evening support group meetings for those diagnosed with young onset Parkinson's and their loved ones. Groups provide education geared toward the unique needs of the younger patient and an opportunity to share your experience with others.

**For information about support group meetings or to find out how the Parkinson Outreach Center can support you, call 407-303-5295.**

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ATENCIÓN: si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al número siguiente 407-303-3025.

ATANSYON: Si w pale Kreyòl Ayisyen, gen sèvis èd pou lang ki disponib gratis pou ou. Rele nimewo ki anba an 407-303-3025.