



PADRECC

May 2004

Insider

Presentations

given at the
56th Annual Meeting of the
American Academy of Neurology
San Francisco, CA
April 24 - May 1, 2004

Matt Brodsky provided data from the OHSU/PADRECC DBS program for "The North American Survey of Placement and Adjustment Techniques for Deep Brain Stimulation"

Respondents to the survey have implanted DBS into 3,657 patients. The survey examined the timing for bilaterally implanted patients, types of stereotactic frames used, imaging studies performed, clinical assessments, adjustment techniques and outcomes, and medication management.*

*Details of this survey will be covered in the June Insider.

Chung KA, Nutt JG (2004). [P04.140] The Effects of Paroxetine on Clinical Response to Levodopa in Parkinson's Disease.

Objective: To quantify the clinical effect of blockade of the serotonergic transporter (SERT) on levodopa response in subjects with Parkinson's disease.

Nutt JG, Carter JH, Sexton GJ (2004). [S38.003] Inhibition of the Dopamine Transporter Augments the Effects of Levodopa in Parkinson's Disease.

Objective: To examine the effects of methamphetamine (MPD), an inhibitor of the dopamine transporter (DAT) on the response to levodopa in Parkinson's disease (PD).

Swarztrauber K, Anau J, Graf E (2004). [P03.068] VA Provider Preferences for Involvement of Specialists in the Care of Patients with Parkinson's Disease.

Objective: To obtain a greater understanding of the factors influencing provider preferences for specialty involvement in Parkinson's disease and to compare VA healthcare provider preferences for specialty involvement to national physician preferences.

VA ADDRESSES PARKINSON'S DISEASE

On March 25th, **Ruth Ann Tsukuda**, John Booss, and Bill Marks spent the afternoon on Capitol Hill addressing members of the House Subcommittee for Veterans Affairs' Workgroup on Parkinson's disease. The event was organized by The Honorable Lane Evans, and attended by a variety of Congressional staff, representatives from the VA including Drs. Kussman and Roswell, and a large contingency of advocates from the Parkinson's Action Network.

We provided a review of the contributions made by the combined efforts of the six PADRECCs in addressing their clinical, research, and education missions. **Bill** offered a succinct yet comprehensive review of the variety of clinical services provided by PADRECC, including Cooperative Study #468. He also highlighted the diverse research endeavors of each individual PADRECC.

Another major topic of interest was the PADRECCs' efforts to reach out to other members of the VA community to create a consortium of individuals throughout the VA system who have an interest in Parkinson's disease and other movement disorders. The emphasis was on increasing collaboration among providers in the VA and PADRECC staff to enhance clinical services for veterans, to conduct innovative research, and address the diverse educational needs of health providers, veterans, and their families.

Drs. Kussman and Roswell offered remarks supporting PADRECC efforts, as did Congressman Evans, and the audience offered their support as well. This was a very quick, 2.5 hour interaction, but certainly offered PADRECC an opportunity to share our centers' progress.

PADRECC & MIRECC WORKING TOGETHER

The PADRECCs and MIRECCs are collaborating with each other on several activities at the local and national level. In March, **Jay Nutt** was the speaker for the Northwest Network's MIRECC Presents on "Cognitive and Behavioral Aspects of Parkinson's Disease." This video conference was broadcasted to all VA sites within VISON 20. We look forward to working together in future education activities.

VIDEO TELECONFERENCES SCHEDULED

Please mark your calendars for the next PADRECC Vtel Series:

May 12th - Jay Nutt, MD

May 26th - Matt Brodsky, MD

June 23rd - Jim Leverenz, MD

July 14th - Steve Johnson, MD PhD

July 28th - Penny Hogarth, MD

August 11th - Kathy Chung, MD

August 25th - Ali Samii, MD

Autonomic Dysfunction in Parkinson's Disease

Dystonia: Classification and Treatment

Neuropsychiatric Complications in Parkinson's Disease

Levodopa Induced Dyskinesia

Huntington's Disease

Tics and Myoclonus

Tremor: Classification, Differential Diagnosis, and Treatment

Tempo and CEU credits will be available for attendees.

HD SYMPOSIUM SLATED FOR JUNE 6, 2004

The Portland VA Medical Center and OHSU Parkinson's Center of Oregon will jointly present the Second Annual Huntington's Disease Symposium on Sunday, June 6th. The Symposium is intended for those who have HD, family members, and caretakers. Speakers include **Penny Hogarth, MD** and Leslie Ruminski, MSW as well as several presenters for breakout groups which will include topics such as Community Resources, Emotional Coping, Legal Issues, and Genetics. The symposium is intended to provide practical information to those affected by HD, give an understanding of current HD research, and to provide a message of hope. If you would like to receive a brochure for the symposium, ask Betsy Repasky at ext. 51091.

Please send comments and contributions to Betsy at elizabeth.repasky@med.va.gov