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April 30, 2026

In April, we celebrated Parkinson's Disease Awareness Month. The Movement Disorders Center is committed to excellence in care, research, education, and outreach. This is reflected in our continued recognition as a Parkinson's Foundation Center of Excellence. Initially, the center was designated in 2019 and continues to grow in the commitment to our patients every year. In his April 14 newsletter, Chancellor Don Elliman recognized all the ways our center is excelling at caring for people living with Parkinson's disease and their loved ones. You can read his letter [here](#), which links to articles from our faculty in movement disorders, neurology, neurosurgery, and neuro-palliative care.

We look forward to hosting our 13th Annual Parkinson's Disease Symposium on Saturday, August 29, 2026. [You can find more details here.](#)

Please be aware that construction will impact the Neurology clinic from May 4, 2026, through June 12, 2026. Our clinic leadership expects this to have a significant impact on our clinic flow. Please allow extra time before appointments during this time.



In addition to providing robust training for movement disorders fellows, the University of Colorado Movement Disorders Fellowship program plays an active role in the education of neurology residents within the department. Movement faculty and fellows work together to educate these residents through a collaborative learning environment that supports skill development across all levels of training.

At the start of April, residents received hands-on training from Movement faculty and fellows using anatomical models to practice injection techniques. This training is a highlight of the residency experience. Having multiple trainers allows residents to benefit from diverse clinical perspectives, varied technical approaches, and a wide breadth of expertise.

The Movement Disorders Fellowship also offers fellows early supervised clinical responsibility. Once fellows demonstrate proficiency, they begin administering botulinum toxin injections under the direct supervision of experienced attending faculty. This autonomy ensures patient safety while allowing fellows to develop independence, refine their own technique,

and gain meaningful experience in their fellowship training. This early hands-on training is a unique experience in movement disorders training programs across the country.



'Shrinking' Highlights Lesser-Known Symptoms of Parkinson's Disease John Thompson, PhD, is part of a research team exploring new ways to manage sleep dysfunction, a common symptom of Parkinson's disease, using deep brain stimulation. April 24, 2026

[Read the story here.](#)

Reducing Essential Tremor: CU Anschutz Doctors Perform 100th High-Intensity Focused Ultrasound Steven Ojemann, MD, Daniel Kramer, MD, and Drew Kern, MD, MS closely collaborate to perform high-intensity focused ultrasounds - a procedure that creates a lesion in a specific part of the brain - to reduce tremors in patients. April 15, 2026

[Read the story here.](#)

Surgery in Colorado is first in the world to implant brain-computer interface in higher levels of the brain CBS News Story April 13, 2026

[Read the story here.](#)

Colorado's First Implanted Brain Computer Interface Surgery Marks a New Era in Neurological Research CU Anschutz and UHealth are leading the way in advanced care and research for people with neurological diseases and injuries. April 9, 2026

[Read the story here.](#)

How to Adapt Your Home and Lifestyle for Parkinson's Disease Palliative care specialist offers tips to make life easier, safer, more vibrant, *featuring Christina Vaughan*

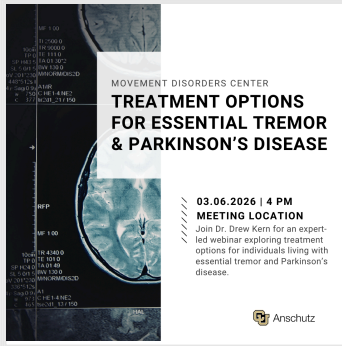
April 7, 2026

[Read the story here.](#)

Parkinson's Disease Psychosis: Symptoms, Causes, and Treatment Options Hallucinations, delusions from the condition presents challenges for patients and caregivers but can be treated. April 7, 2026

[Read the story here.](#)





Treatment Options for Essential Tremor and Parkinson's Disease

June 5, 2026 | Virtual

From dependent to independent - Join Dr. Drew Kern for this webinar that will explore treatment options for individuals living with essential tremor or Parkinson's disease.

Topics will include: an overview of both diseases, treatment options, candidacy, what to expect on treatment day and a live Q&A session with Dr. Kern.

Dr. Kern is an Associate professor of Neurology and Neurosurgery at the University of Colorado.

More MDC Events

Save the dates!



Have you considered participating in clinical research?

Clinical research plays a vital role in improving treatments and understanding movement disorders, and you will make a meaningful impact by getting involved.

Did you know...

- **Every therapy today began as a clinical trial?** Research participation is essential for advancing new treatments and improving the quality of life for future patients.
- **People who join clinical research often experience better clinical outcomes?** This may be due to closer monitoring by expert clinicians, the placebo effect, or the sense of hope and empowerment that comes from contributing to science.
- **The Movement Disorders Center offers both interventional and observational studies?**
 - Interventional studies test new medications or therapies.
 - Observational studies follow participants over time without introducing new treatments, helping researchers better understand how symptoms change.
- **You do not need to be a patient at the Anschutz Medical Campus to participate.** Most studies are open to individuals receiving care elsewhere.
- **We also need "healthy controls"?** These volunteers help researchers compare findings and improve scientific accuracy.

If you are interested in learning more or exploring whether a study might be a good fit, please contact our research recruitment team.

Phone: 303-724-4644

Email: NeuroResearch@cuanschutz.edu

Highlighted Studies

For more information, please contact our research team using the email or phone number above.

Ceregate (21-5060)

- *Investigator:* Drew Kern, MD, MS
- *Purpose:* To find out if Ceregate therapy reduces freezing of gait in participants with Parkinson's Disease (PD) with pre-existing Genvia™ implanted deep brain stimulation (DBS) system
- *Treatment:* your existing Gevia DBS system is programmed with an additional stimulation program for you to use when walking. You continue to use your existing DBS program and existing medications. There are no new medications, surgeries, or invasive procedures.
- *Timeline:* 5 in person visits over approximately 100 days.
- *Key Eligibility Criteria:*
 - Age: 21-75 years old
 - Diagnosis: Parkinson's Disease (PD)
 - Currently have implanted Gevia™ DBS System
 - Currently have freezing of gait



Parkinson's disease research opportunity

Learn more about the NEULARK clinical trial

If you are:

- ✓ Aged 40-80 years old
- ✓ Diagnosed with early-stage Parkinson's Disease
- ✓ Not currently on dopamine replacement therapies such as levodopa

Find out how you can fast-forward Parkinson's disease research when you follow the link.



[Learn more](#)

Find a full list of studies on the [Department of Neurology Research site](#).



The University of Colorado Movement Disorders Center is committed to improving the lives of people affected by Parkinson's disease, atypical parkinsonisms, Huntington's disease, ataxia, essential tremor, dystonia, and other movement disorders. Philanthropic support fuels our mission by advancing innovative research, strengthening patient care, and building programs that support our community.

Your generosity directly supports key priorities, including:

Fellowship Training - One of our most critical needs. Philanthrop enables us to train the next generation of movement disorders specialists, expanding access to expert care across Colorado and beyond. Fellowships are not fully covered by clinical revenue and donor support is essential for sustaining and growing these positions. The University of Colorado Movement Disorders Center prioritizes training clinicians who will serve areas that are underserved by movement neurologists or who have a focus on continuing research after graduation.

Research and Clinical Trials - Funding helps accelerate discovery by supporting investigator-initiated studies, expanding clinical trial infrastructure, and fostering breakthroughs in diagnosis, treatment, and quality of life. The University of Colorado Movement Disorders Center works to fund young clinicians and basic scientists through a pilot grant program to give these early researchers the foundation they need to continue in movement disorders research for their career.

Patient and Care Partner Programs - Donations help us offer education symposia and webinars and community outreach that empower individuals and families living with movement disorders. We offer these programs for free so that everyone may have access to the most up-to-date information.

Advanced Clinical Care - Philanthropic contributions strengthen multidisciplinary services, enhance innovative therapies, and support initiative that improve long-term outcomes for our patients.

Every gift - large or small - has a meaningful impact on the patients, families, clinicians, and researchers who make up our community.

[Learn more](#)

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