

MEDICATION MANAGEMENT OF MOTOR SYMPTOMS IN PARKINSON DISEASE (PD)

PD is a progressive movement disorder characterized by a loss of dopamine in the brain. Dopamine is a chemical in the brain that helps initiate smooth movements, so a loss of dopamine over time results in difficulty executing movements.

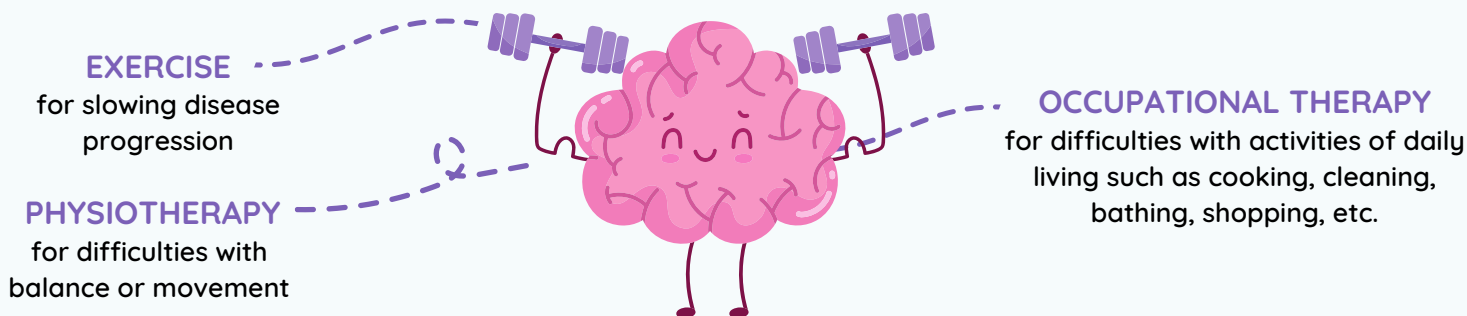
 The Cardinal Signs of PD are:

1 Tremor
uncontrollable shaking

2 Rigidity
stiff movements

3 Bradykinesia
slow movements

WHAT ARE SOME NON-DRUG STRATEGIES FOR MANAGING THE MOTOR SYMPTOMS OF PD?



COMMON MEDICATIONS USED IN PD

MAO-B Inhibitors
(rasagiline, selegiline, safinamide)

How it works

Stops dopamine from being broken down in the brain

Safety

Dyskinesias (lower risk), nausea/vomiting, low blood pressure, confusion, hallucinations

Efficacy

Least effective for motor symptoms



Less Effective

Dopamine Agonists
(ropinirole, pramipexole, rotigotine)

How it works

Mimics the effect of dopamine in the brain

Safety

Impulse control disorder (e.g. pathological gambling, hypersexual behaviour), daytime drowsiness, dyskinesias (lower risk), nausea/vomiting, low blood pressure, confusion, hallucinations

Efficacy

Moderately effective for motor symptoms



Levodopa/Carbidopa

How it works

Increases the amount of dopamine in the brain

Safety

Dyskinesias (higher risk), nausea/vomiting, low blood pressure, confusion, hallucinations

Efficacy

Most effective for motor symptoms



More Effective