

# Parkinson Disease & Movement Disorder Resource Center

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It is our experience that an educated patient is a healthier patient. As a NPF COE, we believe that well-rounded patient care must include a strong educational component. In addition to offering our monthly Ask the Experts series and our annual PD symposium for patients and care partners, we determined that inclusion of a Resource Center would offer an additional opportunity to help our patients learn more about PD.

Our goal was to create an attractive, quiet and serene room where patients together with family and friends can come to find informative literature, watch DVD's and use a computer and printer to look at recommended web sites. The center is staffed by a concierge who is knowledgeable about PD and other movement disorders and can assist the guest in navigating the information we have to offer.

We currently offer over 140 different pieces of literature (books, DVD's and pamphlets) primarily focused on PD, essential tremor, and dystonia. All of our literature is free and we encourage our patients to take as much home with them as they like. To be able to track the patients coming through our resource center, we have created a survey that we will use to better understand the needs of our patients and their demographics. Thus far, 90% of the visitors to the Resource Center have come together with a family member or care partner. It has been our experience that at least 50% of the literature from the center is taken by care partners.

Additionally, since our patient population travels to Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston from all of New England, we have implemented follow-up phone calls to assure that the information we supplied was helpful and to see if they require any additional assistance in the educational process. Our vision for the resource center is that, to the extent that our patients become better informed, they will be empowered to become better partners with their care providers.

Data from patient questionnaires currently being collected will be presented.