



# Learn About Parkinson's Research

## Understanding **Disease-Modifying Therapies**

Parkinson's disease (PD) is a progressive brain disorder, which means it slowly gets worse over time. Current treatments help manage symptoms but do not slow the disease itself.

**Researchers are studying disease-modifying therapies that aim to slow or stop Parkinson's.**

### How Disease-Modifying Therapy Research Works

In Parkinson's, changes in the brain affect how some brain cells work and survive. These cells play key roles in movement and other functions. Researchers are exploring new approaches to target these changes, including ways to:

#### Support Brain Cells

In our brains, some cells use a messenger called dopamine to talk to each other. In Parkinson's, these cells die over time.

#### Remove Toxic Proteins

In Parkinson's, a protein called alpha-synuclein can clump together. These clumps are linked to damage in brain cells.

#### Reduce inflammation

Immune cells help protect and support brain health. In Parkinson's, they can become overactive and harm brain cells.

### Why Disease-Modifying Therapy Research Matters

- Looks beyond treating symptoms
- Aims to slow or stop how Parkinson's progresses
- Could lead to treatments that reduce symptoms and lessen Parkinson's impact on daily life

### How You Can Help

Clinical trials test new treatments to see if they are safe and effective. Your participation helps advance Parkinson's research. To learn more, email [PDNavigator@Parkinson.org](mailto:PDNavigator@Parkinson.org).