

# Parkinson's Fact Sheet



## About Parkinson's Disease (PD)

- ❖ Parkinson's disease is a chronic, degenerative neurological disorder that affects one in 100 people over age 60.
  - An estimated 6 million people worldwide (and 1 million people in the United States) are living with Parkinson's disease.
  - While the average age at onset is 60, some people are diagnosed at 40 or younger.
- ❖ Parkinson's is the second most common neurodegenerative disorder after Alzheimer's.
- ❖ There is no objective test, or biomarker, for Parkinson's disease, so the rate of misdiagnosis can be relatively high.
- ❖ Everyone gets their own version of Parkinson's disease. The cardinal symptoms of Parkinson's disease are resting tremor, slowness of movement and rigidity. Many people also experience balance problems. Non motor symptoms can include depression, cognitive impairment, digestive issues, fatigue and insomnia, among others.
- ❖ Current Parkinson's treatments are limited in their ability to address patients' medical needs and to remain effective over time. And there is no cure.

## About The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research

- ❖ The Michael J. Fox Foundation exists to eliminate Parkinson's disease in our lifetime.
- ❖ **The Foundation is the world's largest nonprofit funder of Parkinson's research.**
- ❖ Since its founding in 2000, the Foundation has funded more than **\$1 billion** in global research.
- ❖ Learn more about the Foundation at [michaelfox.org](http://michaelfox.org).

## About The Parkinson's Unity Walk

- ❖ For the past 30 years, the Parkinson's Unity Walk has been a staple in the Parkinson's community gathering together thousands in NYC's Central Park with a united goal - a cure for Parkinson's disease.
- ❖ **100% of the funds raised for the the Parkinson's Unity Walk go directly to Parkinson's research and public policy priorities to help speed a cure.**
- ❖ Since its inception in 1994, the Parkinson's Unity Walk has raised more than **\$30 million** for critical Parkinson's research and programs.
- ❖ Last year the Parkinson's Unity Walk was adopted by The Michael J. Fox Foundation and raised nearly **\$2 million**, the highest ever amount fundraised in a single year.
- ❖ Learn more about the Unity Walk at [unitywalk.org](http://unitywalk.org).