Dear Friends,

Every day we get a little closer to the 6th World Parkinson Congress. The WPC is just 145 days away!

We have some important reminders to share with you which are listed below, but most importantly Registration is Open and you can view the Provisional Program HERE.

We had a record number of abstracts submitted to the WPC 2023 and are now getting ready for late-breaking abstracts which will be accepted from March 20 to April 2, 2023.

A reminder that Early-Bird Registration ends on March 24. That is the last day to take advantage of the discounted rate. The WPC website is full of information about traveling to Barcelona and resources to help plan your trip.
The World Parkinson Coalition is excited to announce the first ever cycling event to the World Parkinson Congress, designed by Parkinson's Advocates. **Tour de Parkinsons ~ Biking to Barcelona** is an intense event that will include multiple teams of cyclists who will depart from various locations across Europe to begin their journey to Barcelona.

Two different international teams of cyclists (many whom have Parkinson's) representing Norway, Scotland, England, USA, Canada, Germany, and Australia will launch their tours respectively from England and Germany spending 14 - 18 grueling days cycling 60 to 100km a day to ensure their arrival in Barcelona before the start of the WPC 2023. Other smaller teams of cyclists will launch from various cities in Spain to arrive in Barcelona to meet up with the larger teams. Learn more about Biking to Barcelona and how to sponsor the cyclists [here](#). For delegates who arrive in Barcelona by Sunday, July 2, mark your calendars to meet us out front of the convention center to welcome our cyclists at 5PM local time. It'll be a celebration!

**Key Dates & Deadlines**

- **Late Breaking Abstracts** - **Deadline April 2, 2023**
- **The WPC 2023 Film Room** - **Deadline - February 28**

This room will showcase the talent in the PD community and will highlight some incredible stories through short and long film. Learn More [here](#).

**Activities coming up!**

**WPC Sing-a-long with WPC Choir Director, Judi Spencer**

*Date: Thur, February 9th - 5PM PST / 8PM EST, (Friday, February 10th - 10:00AM Japan)*

Learn more and sign up [here](#).

**Interested in childcare at the WPC?**

The WPC is considering offering childcare at WPC 2023. We are currently collecting data to determine need and interest. Please
complete this survey [here](#) to let us know your level of interest.

**IMPORTANT WPC Dates:**

- [Registration and Hotels](#) Now Open
- [Buddies Program](#) Application Now Open (Deadline March 17)
- [Late Breaking Abstracts](#) - Opens March 20 (Deadline April 2, 2023)
- [Book Nook](#) No Open (Deadline February 10, 2023)
- [WPC Choir](#) - Now Open

We hope you can join us this summer at the Barcelona International Convention Center for the 6th World Parkinson Congress.

Thank you for supporting our work.

The WPC team

**WPC BUDDIES PROGRAM**

An initiative to strengthen the global Parkinson’s community by introducing, or matching, WPC registrants (PwPs & Care Partners) who have signed up to attend the WPC 2023 in Barcelona

**Deadline:** March 17, 2023

**WPC 2023 CHOIR**

WPC 2023 Opening Ceremonies will begin with song. Join the WPC Choir!

**First Rehearsal:** February 20, 2023

[LEARN MORE](#)
The Parkinson Tulip Project will accept photos until February 15. All photos will be used in the Tulip Garden at the Congress this summer. Send in your photo, be a part of this visually stunning art exhibit honoring members of our community.

Submit Your Photos

Thank you to Supernus for making the Parkinson Tulip Project possible.
GENETICS HAS REVOLUTIONIZED PARKINSON’S RESEARCH. SO WHAT?

by Mark R Cookson, PhD

I was at a scientific meeting recently talking about neurological diseases in general and it struck me that every single speaker used human genetic data as an example of a cause of disease. This wasn’t true when I started out in research - we simply didn’t have the information at that time. Now we have a lot of information supporting that genetics can play a role in whether you get a given neurological disease during your lifetime.

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