Dear friends,

With just over 13 months to go before we can finally see each other in Barcelona at the 6th World Parkinson Congress it’s starting to feel very real, and very realistic, that we WILL be able to come together.

We have a lot going on in the coming weeks and months.

The **WPC 2023 Exhibit & Sponsor prospectus** is now available. View the sponsorship options and secure your preferred items before they are gone!

We are excited to host Drs. Parmar and Kirkeby next week to hear their take on the state of science around stem cells and Parkinson's. We hope you will join us for the Research Spotlight. Sign up for the session below.

The Parkinson’s Tulip Project is expanding to include poetry. Thanks to our sponsor, Supernus, both projects have PRIZES!! The photos and poems we collect for this project will come to life in the Parkinson’s Tulip Garden at the WPC 2023. Each time you submit a photo and poem (up to five each) your name goes in the raffle.
Raffle prizes given out to multiple people:
• Parky Raccoons
• Free registration to WPC 2023 (a $650 value)
• Travel grants to attend WPC 2023 (travel, hotel, registration) (a $2,000 value)

ENTER the Parkinson Tulip Project RAFFLE today!
ENTER the I AM Poem RAFFLE today!

Promote the WPC
If you have an event coming up and would like WPC promotional materials to give out, email info@worldpdcoalition.org and we'll send you materials.

IMPORTANT Dates in 2022:
• Renewal Room Applications open NOW
• Book Nook Application is open NOW
• Video Competition open - August 1
• Volunteer Application open – August 1
• Abstracts open – August 15
• Registration & Housing open – October 3

_____________________________________________________
Virtual Program Coming up at the WPC
_____________________________________________________

WPC Research Spotlight
Wednesday, May 25
11 AM – 12PM ET/ 4PM – 5PM GMT

Prof. Malin Parmar and Prof. Agnete Kirkeby will discuss Stem Cells and share their thoughts on the hope they see for the future of research on stem cells and Parkinson’s. Read their blog on the topic.

REGISTER today

Made possible with support from Supernus and Kyowa Kirin

_____________________________________________________
WPC Care Partner Virtual Lounge
Thursday, June 9
3 – 4PM ET/ 8 - 9PM GMT

Panel TOPIC: Caring for Someone with PD from a Distance
Join this webinar to hear from family members about their experiences caring for their loved ones from afar. Guided in their discussion by Julie Carter, panelists will share their experiences and tips. Panelists: Jill McClure, Maggie Rowland Wortendyke, and Jennifer Irving
REGISTER today

Made possible with support from Supernus and Kyowa Kirin

We appreciate your support of our work and look forward to "seeing" you on our virtual programs.

The WPC team

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**SING-A-LONG**

Time: TBD
Wednesday, June 8
Join us for an hour of singing and fun!

REGISTER for updates

**RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT**

11AM ET / 4 PM GMT
Thursday, May 25
Discussion with Dr. Marlin Parmar & Dr. Agnete Kirkeby

REGISTER to attend

**COME MEET the WPC TEAM**

WPC will be hosting a table at the MDS-PAS Conference in
Miami, Florida
May 26 - 28, 2022

Come and visit our booth!

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**CARE PARTNER VIRTUAL PANEL**

3 PM ET / 8 PM GMT
Thursday, June 9
Caring for Someone with PD from a Distance

REGISTER
Stem Cells for Parkinson’s: Hype or Hope?
by Malin Parmar, PhD and Agnete Kirkeby, PhD

You might have heard about stem cells for PD for many years now, and perhaps you’re wondering: Where are these stem cells - will they ever reach the clinic, or have they ended up in a dead-end? And is there even any evidence that they’re any good? Here, we’ll try to give you an overview of what’s been going on behind the scenes for the past 20 years, and what the current status is on stem cells and their use in the clinic.

As you might already know, a core feature of PD is the loss of dopamine neurons deep in the brain, in an area called the Substantia Nigra. Although other brain areas may also be affected in PD, it’s the loss of these dopamine neurons which is the cause of the motor symptoms in the disease. The use of stem cells for treatment of PD builds on the concept that one can replace the lost dopamine neurons through transplantation of new, functional dopamine neurons generated from stem cells in the lab. The aim is that the new transplanted neurons will integrate with the host neurons in the patient’s brain tissue and start release dopamine.

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