



# Capital Area Parkinson's Society

Newsletter/June 2018

P.O. Box 27565, Austin, Texas 78755-2565

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capitalareaparkinsons.org

## Wearable Sensors May Help Predict On, Off States in Parkinson's Disease

*Neurology Advisor, Alicia Ciccone, April 25, 2018*



LOS ANGELES—Wearable sensor technology may be promising for detecting on and off states in patients with Parkinson's disease, according to data presented at the **2018 American Academy of Neurology Annual Meeting**, April 21-27 in Los Angeles.

Investigators evaluated 10-meter Instrumented Stand and Walk (ISAW) tests during on and off periods in 25 patients with Parkinson's disease who were taking levodopa. The patients also wore Ambulatory Parkinson's Disease Monitory (APDM) sensors on their sternum, wrists, lumbar, and lower extremities. Each ISAW was scored by a neurologist based on the

Unified Parkinson's Disease Rating Scale-3 (UPDRS-3). Ultimately, 98 kinematic features were analyzed for significance to the neurologist-evaluated total motor score and patient-reported on/off periods via statistical models and machine learning methods.

The investigators found that 22 kinematic features were significantly different compared with patient-reported on/off periods. The most significant were trunk transverse range of motion, arm range of motion, mid-swing elevation, stride length, turn velocity, steps in turn, and toe out angles. While the results will need to be confirmed in larger studies, the investigators concluded that this technology "could be particularly useful for monitoring response to therapy in an outpatient setting." ■

## New TDI Website Sheds Light on Medical Costs

*Texas Department of Insurance, May 16, 2018*

Need rotator cuff surgery & wondering what it's going to cost you? Texas consumers now have a new tool to help them find out.

The Texas Department of Insurance has a new website—

**[TexasHealthcareCosts.org](http://TexasHealthcareCosts.org)**—that provides cost information on more than 200 of the most common medical procedures, including many tests, surgeries, and office visits. The site provides both the average amount billed for the service and the average insurance payment by ZIP code.

"It is incredibly difficult to get information on what a procedure will cost before you get the bill," said Insurance Commissioner Kent Sullivan. "This website is going to help with that problem."

Consumers can use the site to search for a procedure by ZIP code. For procedures that involve multiple bills, like a surgery, the search results will provide a total cost. The total can be broken down by the costs for the

facility, surgeon, and anesthesia.

Consumers can use the information as a comparison tool when asking doctors and facilities about their charges for a procedure. The site includes in-network and out-of-network cost information.

"Consumers should be able to know the cost of a procedure up front, compare prices, and budget for medical care," Sullivan said. "That's the goal of this website." ■

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**NO Meeting**  
**June 11, 2018**  
**Support Group**  
**Covenant Presbyterian Church**

## Area Outreach Support Groups

**Brookdale, Northwest Hills –  
3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday @ 3pm**  
5715 Mesa Drive  
Austin, TX 78731

**Burnet – 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday @ 2pm**  
Seton Highland Lakes Hospital,  
Conference Room  
309 Industrial Blvd. (Behind Hospital)  
Burnet, TX 78611

**Deep Brain Stimulation (DBS) –  
3<sup>rd</sup> Friday @ 2pm**  
Neurology Solutions Office  
12345 N. Lamar Blvd.  
Austin, TX 78753

**Lakeway – 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday @ 2pm**  
Vibra Rehabilitation Hospital of Lake Travis  
2000 Medical Drive  
Lakeway, TX 78734

**Round Rock – 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday @ 3pm**  
Wyoming Springs Assisted Living  
7230 Wyoming Springs Drive  
Round Rock TX 78681

**Simultaneous Care Partner and Patient –  
2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday @ 10:15am**  
**JUNE MEETING - CANCELLED**  
Covenant Presbyterian Church  
3003 Northland Drive  
Austin TX 78757

**Young Onset Parkinson's Disease (under 55)  
Last Saturday @ 10:00am**  
Austin TX 78756  
Contact: Bob Sahm at 512-914-2132  
or [rsahm99@gmail.com](mailto:rsahm99@gmail.com)

For more information, visit [www.capitalareaparkinsons.org](http://www.capitalareaparkinsons.org).

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## June Membership Meeting



Saturday, June 16 • 2:00-4:00 p.m.  
Medical Office Building, St. David's Medical Center  
3000 N. IH-35, 5th Floor Conference Room

### *Asleep vs. Awake DBS Surgery*

*We will be holding a panel discussion with Dr. Rob Izor (a fellowship-trained Movement Disorder Specialist with Neurology Solutions) and Dr. Anant Patel and Dr. Dhruve Jeevan (neurosurgeons with Central Texas Brain & Spine). They will be discussing the treatment options now available to manage Parkinson's disease.*

**Lunch will be provided by Medtronic.**