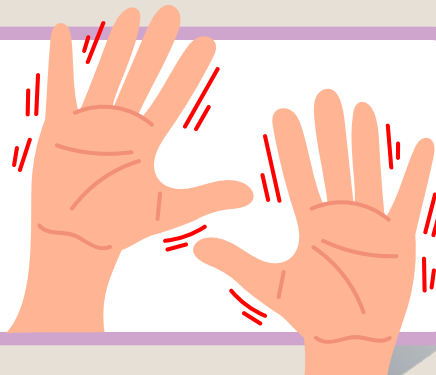


# Understanding Parkinson's Disease

Parkinson's disease (PD) is a progressive, degenerative neurological condition that affects the control of body movements.



The condition is named after James Parkinson, who described the condition in 1817.

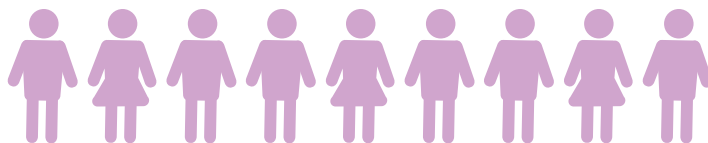
## Treatment

There is currently no cure for Parkinson's disease. The disease generally has a slow progression and there are a variety of medications and treatments that can control or reduce symptoms.



## Prevalence

Parkinson's disease is highly common in the U.S., affecting over 1 million people as the second most common neurodegenerative disorder after Alzheimer's. Roughly 90,000 new cases are diagnosed annually, with incidence rising with age, typically affecting 1.6% of the elderly population.



## Causes

Parkinson's disease develops when dopamine-producing neurons in the brain gradually die, disrupting communication to movement centers in the brain. While the exact 'cause' is unknown, it's likely a complex interplay of genetics, environmental factors, and other factors such as head trauma.

