

[Letter to patients in a local clinical service:]

Dear _____

The Tracking Parkinson's study (also known as PRoBaND)

We are writing to you as a person with Parkinson's attending one of the local hospital clinics. We wanted to let you know about a research study in Parkinson's disease that is underway in several centres in the UK. We are one of the study centres and wonder if you would be willing to take part. We want to include people currently aged between 18 and 90 years who

a. have had Parkinson's diagnosed in the past 3 years

or

b. had Parkinson's diagnosed at age under 50 years

The study involves patient-completed questionnaires, and nurse/doctor scoring of your Parkinson symptoms. For patients diagnosed within the past 3 years, assessments are every 6 months for 3 years. For patients diagnosed under age 50 years, assessments are over a 6 month period. The assessments are generally done when you attend the out-patient clinic for your usual appointments, but there may be extra visits depending when you have your clinic appointments. The extra questionnaires and examination would make your visits longer than usual. In addition we would like to take a blood sample – every 18 months for patients diagnosed within the past 3 years, and once for patients diagnosed aged under 50 years.

We would like to invite you to attend the [insert *out-patient department* or other description] to discuss the study in more detail. Please complete the attached reply sheet and return it to us in the enclosed stamped addressed envelope, to indicate if you are willing to attend for this.
[enter local staff details]

Tracking Parkinson's is funded by Parkinson's UK

PARKINSON'S^{UK} CHANGE ATTITUDES. FIND A CURE. JOIN US.

Reply sheet: Tracking Parkinson's

Name _____

Address _____

I would like to know more about the Tracking Parkinson's study - please arrange an out-patient appointment for me

Circle YES or NO

I would be happy to be contacted by phone about the study
Circle YES or NO

If YES, please enter your number _____

Please return this page in the stamped addressed envelope enclosed

Thank you

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