***Add Department name and contact details***

**Information about Research Results.**

**For siblings (of people with Parkinson’s) who are in the Tracking Parkinson’s Study.**

You are receiving this information because you have been taking part in *Tracking Parkinson’s*, a long-term study of people with Parkinson’s and their brothers and sisters, and you have expressed a wish to know the result of your blood test results done as part of the research which may be significant to you.

As part of this study, testing of your genes was performed in the research laboratory. This result suggests a slight change in one small area of your genetic code (DNA), which could be relevant to your future risk of developing Parkinson’s. Because the testing is only done as part of research, the result is not definite. To have a definite result, we offer the option of seeing a genetic specialist to discuss the issues of genetic testing, and to arrange a NHS gene test if you would like this. Your local research nurse specialist can liaise with the local doctor in charge of the research study and organise this for you.

Even if this finding is confirmed, it will only increase your future risk of Parkinson’s slightly (eg. from a risk of 1 in 200, to a risk of 1 in 100). Also, the most common DNA changes linked to Parkinson’s do not cause the condition in everyone who has them. This means you can easily have this DNA change and never get Parkinson’s at all. However, there are new treatments being developed which target some of the changes that result from this sort of variation in DNA. This means it is possible that in the future that you could either take part in such research, or be given one of the new treatments if you do develop Parkinson’s, and the new treatments are shown to be effective.

You do not need to make a decision straight away. You may want to think things over and talk with your family about the option for you to go to the genetics specialist.

You should not be worried that this is a bad finding. Having a possible variation in your DNA , that helps explain why some people develop Parkinson’s (and others do not) is a main are of current research interest. This opens up the possibility of new and better treatments for Parkinson’s, in the future.

*Thank you for taking part in the Tracking Parkinson’s study. This remains the world’s largest, in-depth study of Parkinson’s. We really appreciate your participation, and we are sure the study will make a huge contribution to better understanding and treatment of Parkinson’s.*