

Medical Professionals

This sheet explains how medical professionals can assist you to manage your Parkinson's.

Introduction. A range of medical professionals can help you manage different aspects of Parkinson's. Their roles are listed below. Note: You can search for your nearest medical professional or specialist at www.healthengine.com.au.

Neurologists are specialists in conditions that affect the brain. So your neurologist is best qualified to diagnose and advise you on managing your Parkinson's. Some neurologists also specialise in treating Parkinson's. *You can find a list of [Parkinson's specialists and general neurologists](#) here or by calling Parkinson's Victoria (ph) **1800 644 189***

Based on your symptoms and needs, neurologists can help you make decisions about the type of treatment, help and support that you need. This may include medical assessments, monitoring your symptoms, prescribing your medication and referring you to other health professionals who specialise in Parkinson's.

General Practitioners need to be a regular contact because they are the referral point to your specialist, and, if necessary, need to be consulted for repeats of your medication. They can help monitor your general health, coordinate your multidisciplinary treatment plan, refer you on to other health professionals and link you into [Medicare rebate programs](#).

Psychiatrists are specialists in mental health. Parkinson's is often associated with depression and anxiety and the relationship between these conditions is often complex. Talk to your neurologist if you are experiencing depression; they can refer you to a psychiatrist who understands Parkinson's if you need further help. *Find more information on [depression](#) here.*

Neurosurgeons operate on the brain and spinal cord. In specific circumstances, neurologists may refer a Parkinson's patient for [surgery](#).