

How to find out more information

We are keen to offer all of our patients (and their relatives) the chance to be involved in our research studies. If there is anything in this leaflet that you have found interesting or would like to know more about please feel free to contact us on the details below:

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Telephone: 0114 271 3339

Email: sth.PDresearch@nhs.net

- Are you interested to hear more about the projects that are going on?
- Are you interested in helping us to develop new research ideas?

If so, let your doctor or nurse know.



National Institute for Health Research

For more information about research going on within the Academic Directorate of Neurosciences go to the website:

www.sheffieldclinicalresearch.org/about/our-directorates/neuroscience/

SITraN

To find out more about SITraN, the Sheffield Institute for Translational Neuroscience visit the website:

www.sitran.dept.shef.ac.uk



Clinical Research Facility

To find out more about the Clinical Research Facility visit the website:

www.sheffield.crf.nihr.ac.uk



Alternative formats can be available on request. Email: sth.alternativeformats@nhs.net

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Sheffield Teaching Hospitals 
NHS Foundation Trust

Are you interested in participating in our research?

Research into Parkinson's

 **Information for patients**
Neurology



The University Of Sheffield.

Research into Parkinson's

Sheffield is home to the Sheffield Institute for Translational Neuroscience (SITraN), a leading centre delivering world-class research into neurodegenerative disorders.

Sheffield also hosts two Clinical Research Facilities with a dedicated team of research nurses on hand to assist with new and existing research projects.

Parkinson's research team



Professor Oliver Bandmann

Principal investigator

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Rosie Clegg, Research Sister

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Current research projects

Mitochondrial biomarkers

A research study looking for evidence of abnormal function of mitochondria (cell batteries) in blood and skin cells. We are currently recruiting participants with Parkinson's, Huntington's and Wilson's disease, as well as healthy volunteers. This study involves a one off blood sample taken by a research nurse. Sometimes we are also interested in taking a small skin biopsy.

Using genetics to understand Parkinson's

This study also involves a one off blood sample taken by a research nurse. The aim of this study is to understand more about genetic factors that influence Parkinson's. It looks at genes that we have already identified as linked to Parkinson's and also aims to try and identify new ones.

Parkinson's families project

This is a study that is focusing on patients who also have a family member with Parkinson's or had symptoms onset at 45 years old or before. The aim of this is to look more closely at DNA and genes in Parkinson's. There are some medical history questionnaires to fill in as well as some blood samples. Ideally with this study we would also like to recruit relatives (affected and non-affected) who would also be asked for a blood sample and life/medical history

questionnaires. The questionnaires can be filled in at home and returned in a freepost envelope.

Parkinson's disease statins

This research study aims to find out if simvastatin helps to protect nerve cells in Parkinson's. Simvastatin belongs to a group of medicines called statins which are primarily used to lower cholesterol. This is a 'randomised-control' study, which means if you are eligible to take part, you will be randomly allocated to a study arm. You will either receive Simvastatin (study drug) or a placebo. During the study, you will visit the Clinical Research Facility for study follow-up at 8 different time points, where we would carry out Parkinson's assessments and cognitive tests, an initial blood sample would also be collected.

Investigating skin metabolites as a new way to diagnose Parkinson's

This study looks at chemicals that are found on our skin called metabolites. The skin glands produce an oily substance called sebum. We want to establish if there are any changes on the skin in patients with Parkinson's. To do this we are collecting swab samples from patients with Parkinson's and also from healthy volunteers (usually someone who is with the patient for appointments). The swabs are taken from the back of the neck and upper back. This only takes around 5 minutes.