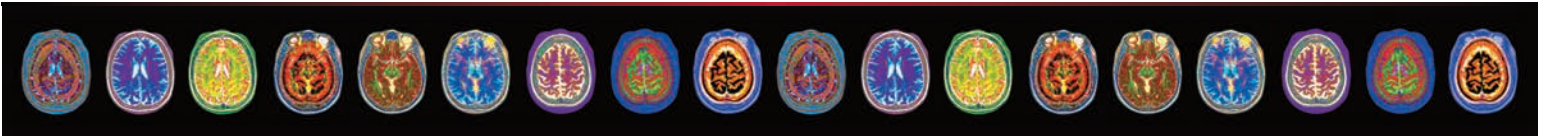


MOVEMENT DISORDERS CENTER AT ABINGTON MEMORIAL HOSPITAL'S NEUROSCIENCES INSTITUTE



WELCOME TO THE MOVEMENT DISORDERS CENTER

The Movement Disorders Center at the Neurosciences Institute combines the expertise of neurologists, neurosurgeons, psychiatrists and urologists with specialists in physical therapy, occupational therapy and speech pathology. Our team works with patients and their family members to manage diseases and conditions to improve overall quality of life.

WHAT ARE MOVEMENT DISORDERS?

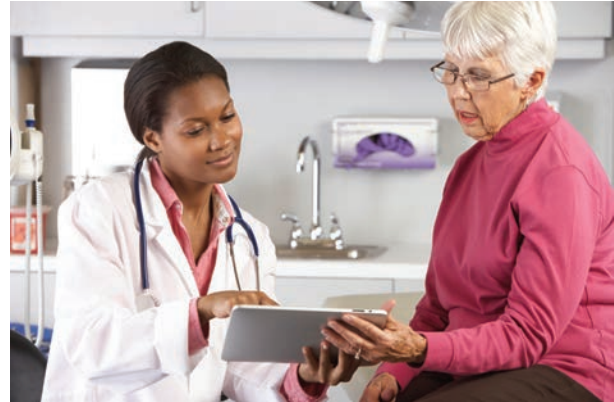
Movement disorders are neurological disorders in which there is either an excess of movement or a deficiency of movement that is not due to weakness or paralysis. Movement disorders are associated with changes in the brain cells that help us move. These brain cell changes can cause extra unwanted involuntary or excessive movements, called hyperkinesias. Other changes in brain cell function can cause a lack of automatic and purposeful movements, not related to weakness or spasticity, called hypokinesia.

The first step is a complete medical history and careful, thorough neurological exam, which helps us make an accurate diagnosis. Movement disorders, once correctly diagnosed, usually respond to treatment.

COMPREHENSIVE CARE FOR MOVEMENT DISORDERS

Experts at the Movement Disorders Center diagnose and treat a full range of movement disorders. These specialists have experience and tools to manage even the most challenging conditions.

- Parkinson's disease is a slowly progressing, degenerative disease which results from the loss of dopamine-producing brain cells. Although there is no cure for Parkinson's disease, proper medical therapy can control the symptoms for many years. Our treatment plan integrates the latest pharmacologic therapies
- Essential Tremor, the most common movement disorder, is a progressive, often inherited disorder that usually begins in later adulthood. Patients with ET typically experience tremors when the arms are held up and when the hands are being used for activities like eating, drinking or writing.



- Dystonia, which is a neurological condition with a very broad range of manifestations. The basic underlying problem involves over-activity of the main muscles needed for a movement, extra activation of other muscles that are not needed for the movement, and simultaneous activation of muscles that work against each other.
- Hemifacial Spasm is a rare, neuromuscular disease characterized by irregular, involuntary muscle contractions or spasms on one side of the face.
- Blepharospasm is a condition in which eyelid muscles contract or twitch involuntarily.
- Huntington's disease is a disorder passed down through families in which nerve cells in certain parts of the brain waste away, or degenerate. This neurodegenerative disorder affects muscle coordination, and leads to cognitive decline and psychiatric problems.
- Tardive Dyskinesia affects a person's ability to perform voluntary muscular movements. Patients with tardive dyskinesia experience uncontrollable movements in certain muscles and are unable to remain still.

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- Tourette's syndrome and other tic disorders are characterized by brief movements (motor tics) or sounds (vocal tics) that occur intermittently. Tourette's syndrome represents the most complex and severe manifestation of tic disorders. Tourette's syndrome is often associated with attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder, obsessive-compulsive disorder, behavior problems and learning disabilities.
- Restless Leg Syndrome is a disorder in which there is an urge or need to move the legs to stop unpleasant sensations.
- Cerebellar Ataxia is distinguished by a failure of muscle control in arms and legs which may result in a lack of balance, coordination, and possibly a disturbance in gait. Ataxia may affect the fingers, hands, arms, legs, body, speech, and even eye movements.

ADVANCED TREATMENT OPTIONS

Movement disorders can be relentlessly progressive and disabling conditions, but in recent years, advancements have been made in understanding the disorders and developing treatments. Specialists at the Movement Disorders Center offer both medical and surgical options, the latest protocols and equipment to diagnose and develop individualized treatment plans.

Our services include botulinum toxin injection, which can relieve muscle spasms. Our physicians also work closely with and can provide referrals for physical and occupational therapy, speech pathology, and urologic specialists. Patients also have the opportunity to participate in the latest investigational clinical trials and research.

NEUROSURGICAL TREATMENT

Neurosurgeons at the Neurosciences Institute may perform pre-operative evaluations for Parkinson's patients at the Movement Disorders Center. If appropriate, neurosurgeons offer a possible treatment option called deep brain stimulation (DBS), a minimally invasive, highly effective procedure. DBS delivers controlled electrical signals to precisely targeted areas of the brain through a tiny, implanted wire with electrodes attached. The electrical stimulation helps control the tremors that are characteristic of Parkinson's disease by shutting off the hyperactivity in the portion of the brain which controls this movement.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

The Movement Disorders Center is conveniently located at Abington Health Center-Warminster, in Suite 204, Stein Medical Office Building, 205 Newtown Road. For more information, visit our website www.amh.org/brain or to make an appointment please call us at 215-441-6741.

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