

PWA are pleased to provide the free brochures listed below. Please contact info@parkinsonswa.org.au

- Parkinson's and Communication
- Parkinson's and Driving
- Parkinson's and Hospitalisation
- Medications to be Given with Caution to People with Parkinson's (for Health Professionals)
- Medications to be Used with Caution for People with Parkinson's
- Medications Used in the Treatment of Parkinson's
- Tips for Caring for People with Parkinson's
- Living Young Living Well with Parkinson's
- Young Onset Parkinson's
- Cortico Basal Degeneration
- Multi System Atrophy
- Progressive Supra Nuclear Palsy

In addition, Information Sheets on many topics associated with Parkinson's are available from our website www.parkinsonswa.org.au

PRIVACY POLICY

PWA is bound by the Australian Privacy Principles (APP) which are contained in Schedule 1 of the Privacy Act 1988. This legislation is designed to protect your rights with respect to personal information held by private organisations.

Any information related to the PNS Service is held securely in locked cabinets when not being accessed for the purpose of a visit. It is accessible only to staff of the PNS Service.

OVERVIEW

- The PNS Service covers the Perth Metropolitan and the Peel Rockingham and Mandurah areas out of the Nedlands base
- The South West Region is covered from the Bunbury base
- The PNS Service is funded by the Department of Health WA and PWA
- The PNS Service is community based providing home and/or aged care facility visits
- There is no charge associated with visits
- The PNS Service endeavours to provide regional visits when resources allow
- The PNS Service operates Monday- Friday during business hours
- The PNS Service is not an emergency service

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IN THIS TOGETHER
parkinson's
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in brief

PARKINSON'S NURSE SPECIALISTS: INFORMATION FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONALS



IN THIS TOGETHER
parkinson's
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Parkinson's is a common progressive neurological condition which has the potential to affect all aspects of life. Parkinson's Western Australia Inc. (PWA) is the peak body for the approximated 8000 West Australians living with the condition and provides community based care to enhance their quality of life and reduce hospital and aged care facility admissions.

In part this is achieved through the Parkinson's Nurse Specialist (PNS) Service which is an initiative of PWA and aims to:

- Provide a timely point of contact for people with Parkinson's, families and care givers
- Provide expert nursing advice and support to people with Parkinson's, their families and carers
- Promote awareness of the condition and symptoms and promote effective management of both
- Prevent or reduce inappropriate hospital admissions
- Play a leading role in education of health professionals

REFERRAL TO PNS SERVICE

The criteria for referral to the service is a medical diagnosis of Idiopathic Parkinson's or an Atypical Parkinsonism for example, Multiple System Atrophy (MSA), Progressive Supranuclear Palsy (PSP) and Cortico -Basal Degeneration (CBD).

The open referral system means that self-referral is accepted. In addition, referral can be made by a general practitioner, medical specialist or a health professional. Referrals can be made by telephone, email, letter or fax. Referral forms are available on request from Parkinson's WA.

Membership of Parkinson's WA is not compulsory in order to access the PNS however is encouraged.

NURSING INTERVENTIONS

- Home visits (home or aged care facility)
- Initial nursing assessment
- Ongoing assessment and monitoring
- Review of the environment
- Education of newly diagnosed person with Parkinson's
- Education and support for family members
- Nursing management of symptoms
- Identification and nursing management of medication side effects
- Monitoring response to medications
- Education around Device Assisted Therapies
- Advocacy
- Assistance with navigating the health, aged care and NDIS systems

LIAISON WITH HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

Following the home visit the PNS will provide a comprehensive nursing report focusing on the Parkinson's related issues to the referring health professional, GP and treating medical specialist. This will also occur in the case of self-referral. In aged care facilities the PNS will liaise with the Registered Nurse and also document the visit in the resident's notes.

Follow up visits are made on a needs basis based on the clinical judgement of the PNS. These may vary in frequency.

EDUCATION FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

PWA strongly promotes the educational aspect of the PNS Service in order to ensure informed care and best nursing practice in both aged care and health settings. Each PNS delivers structured educational sessions aimed at all levels of health professionals and carers. It is recommended that the session be a minimum of 60 minutes in duration. Resources and handouts are provided.

Topics include but are not limited to:

- An overview of Parkinson's
- Parkinson's Medications
- Parkinson's in Aged Care

There is a \$100.00 plus GST charge applicable to 60 minute education sessions. This is invoiced following the presentation. Booking a date well in advance is essential due to the PNS diary commitments.

A certificate for CPD will be provided.

AGED CARE FACILITY VISITS

In order to maximise the benefit of a PNS visit for a resident in an Aged Care facility we suggest the following guidelines:

- If the referral is initiated by the facility for a specific problem this should be documented/ relayed in the referral process
- A request from family to visit a facility is acceptable
- A general review is an appropriate reason for referral
- Access to the Clinical Nurse Manager/ Nurse Practitioner at the time of visit is ideal. We acknowledge this is not always possible
- Access to the Registered Nurse at the time of visit is essential
- Access to electronic documentation is available
- Access to medication charts is available
- Access for PNS to write in electronic notes

Education often overcomes challenges encountered by aged care staff and ensures best outcomes for both residents and staff. For this reason we encourage you to take advantage of our Education Sessions and resources.