

# Beyond efficacy and safety, what else influences prescription decisions for neurodegenerative diseases?

## Our research focus

There is a wide range of medication available for the treatment and management of neurodegenerative diseases and choosing the drug that is best for your patient can be challenging. At Aston University\* we would like to give you the opportunity to participate in, and contribute to, evidence-based, practitioner-driven research that aims to optimise treatment choice for patients with neurodegenerative diseases. Our research will focus on identifying factors that influence decisions made by healthcare professionals (HCPs) to prescribe or not prescribe certain medications for neurodegenerative diseases.

## Prescribing clinician? Take part in our research

We are interested in hearing from HCPs based across the UK and Europe who can converse in English and who currently prescribe medication for any neurodegenerative disease, particularly Parkinson's disease.

For more information, or to register an interest in taking part, please email **Dr Emma Begley** ([e.begley@aston.ac.uk](mailto:e.begley@aston.ac.uk)), click this link or scan the QR code:

<https://tinyurl.com/KTPNGTResearch2023>



## What is involved?

You will be invited to take part in a participant-led focus group that will enable us to establish consensus among participants. During the session, you will be asked to share your views of the most influential factors (beyond the efficacy and safety of a drug) that underpin your decision to prescribe certain medication. The focus group will be completely anonymous, last a maximum of 60 minutes, take place online and include five or six HCPs.

## What do you gain?

A working paper of our results, offering insight into your prescribing practices, will be made available, should you wish to receive it. There will also be scope to take part in a large-scale survey that will investigate the improvement of prescribing behaviour. Finally, on behalf of Knowledge Transfer Partnerships (KTPs)\*, we would like to recompense you for your time with a £20 Amazon voucher.

## Study outcomes

The factors determined in the focus groups will help inform the development of a large-scale survey that will be disseminated to HCPs across the UK and Europe. The results from this survey will be used to identify the strongest beliefs or barriers influencing HCP prescribing behaviour in this therapeutic area, and hopefully enable better treatments to reach patients faster.

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\*Knowledge Transfer Partnerships (KTPs) aim to help businesses to improve their competitiveness and productivity through the better use of knowledge, technology and skills that reside within the UK knowledge base

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