

Movement Disorders Journal (MDJ) Symposium:
Neurobiology of Parkinson's Disease
Friday, November 13, 2026

TIME	LECTURE TOPIC
8:00 – 8:10	Welcome from MDJ Editors A. Jon Stoessl, CM, MD University of British Columbia (Canada) David Standaert, MD, PhD, University of Alabama at Birmingham (USA)
SESSION 1: NETWORKS AND CONTROL OF MOVEMENT IN PD	
8:10 – 8:40	Somato-Cognitive Action Network Evan Gordon, PhD, Washington University in St. Louis (USA)
8:40 – 9:10	Role of the Cingulo-Opercular Network in Postural Deficits Roger Albin, MD, University of Michigan (USA)
9:10 – 9:40	Striosomal Direct and Indirect Striatonigral Projections Jill Crittenden, PhD, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (USA)
9:40 – 10:00	Q&A / Discussion
10:00 – 10:15	BREAK
SESSION 2: SELECTIVE NEURODEGENERATION IN PD	
10:20 – 10:50	Selective Vulnerability D. James Surmeier, PhD, Northwestern University (USA)
10:50 – 11:20	Astrocytic Dysfunction in Neurodegeneration Valina Dawson, PhD, Johns Hopkins University (USA)
11:20 – 11:50	Neurodevelopmental Origins of Parkinson's Lorenz Studer, MD, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center (USA)
11:50 – 12:10	Q&A / Discussion
12:15 – 13:00	LUNCH
SESSION 3: LIFESTYLE AND ENVIRONMENTAL INFLUENCES ON PD	
13:00 – 13:30	Interactions Between α-Syn Polymorphisms and the Microbiome Haydeh Payami, PhD, University of Alabama at Birmingham (USA)
13:30 – 14:00	Role of Exercise in Parkinson's Richard Smeyne, PhD, Thomas Jefferson University (USA)
14:00 – 14:30	Environmental Contributors Briana De Miranda, PhD, University of Alabama at Birmingham (USA)
14:30 – 14:50	Q&A / Discussion
14:50 – 15:00	Closing Remarks from MDJ Editors A. Jon Stoessl, CM, MD University of British Columbia (Canada) David Standaert, MD, PhD, University of Alabama at Birmingham (USA)