

Understanding Parkinson's Disease



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A neurologist whose father suffers from Parkinson's provides a straightforward explanation of the disease, its history, development, treatment and modern advances that may ultimately lead to a cure. The author's professional view is as a clinical neurologist who regularly cares for patients with the progressive neurological deterioration caused by Parkinson's Disease. His personal experience with his father, a retired surgeon who has the disease, further powers his quest to provide patients, family members and caregivers with the information they need. Topics covered include challenges of correct diagnosis, variations in prognosis, investigations of causes including exciting progress in identifying possible toxins and genetic factors that play a role, and different treatment options including natural remedies as well as new drugs for symptom treatment. The author also explains research efforts to find a preventative drug, modern surgical options and hopes for stem cell or gene therapy. In this work, the author blends historical and medical research with illustrations from the patients in his professional life, and from his father on the homefront, to give us a clear and comprehensive understanding of Parkinson's. He also includes comments and writings from famous people and celebrities the world has seen affected by this disorder in recent years - among them Pope John Paul II, former US Attorney General Janet Reno, and actor Michael J. Fox.

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