

Parkinson's Factsheet

Specialist care provision

Agincare

Caring in Your Community

Domiciliary Care



Our Approach

Agincare's excellent reputation for providing high quality and person centred services is achieved through not having a 'one size fits all' approach to our service provision. Our ethos is to provide a holistic service, which enables you to maintain full control and choice with your care so it fits around your chosen lifestyle and preferences.

Our experience in this sector has meant that we are continually developing and adding to our already wide range of services and information sources available. Additionally, we ensure that each plan of care is bespoke and tailored to your unique requirements. We understand that your symptoms and the way they affect you physically, socially and emotionally will be particular to you. We will ensure that your care and support needs are continually reviewed with you by both by your care worker and our trained assessors. This will ensure that your care and support is always provided the way you wish it to be.

This whole process establishes from the very start what you require with regard to not only your care and support, but also what is important to you including hobbies, cultural and religious preferences and your social and family commitments. We will encourage you to be as independent as possible and provide you and your family and friends with information of local groups and other resources to aid this.

Further Information

Parkinson's UK
www.parkinsons.org.uk

NHS Choices
www.nhs.uk

Carers UK
www.carersuk.org

Training

All of our care and support workers complete the nationally recognised 'Common Induction Standards'. Specific client needs-led training is taught by internal and external trainers and/or healthcare professionals. In addition to this, Agincare has an internal 'Understanding Parkinson's' training programme in place. Included are the following topics:

- Awareness of Parkinson's
- Person centred care and support
- Communication
- Medication management

Our Training Department works closely with our Group Quality Manager, as well as local and national organisations, to continually appraise and enhance our training portfolio.

“The client assessment of need carried out by your assessor was the best we have ever seen”

Continuing Health Care (CHC) Team



Case Study

“My immediate impression of Heidi on her arrival was of a competent, organised and cheerful person. During her time with my wife she introduced many initiatives including encouraging her to sing, even with her speech difficulties.” Husband and informal carer

What is Parkinson’s?

Parkinson’s is a progressive neurological condition.

One person in every 500 has Parkinson’s. That’s about 120,000 people in the UK. Most people who get Parkinson’s are aged 50 or over but younger people can get it too. One in 20 is under the age of 40.

People with Parkinson’s don’t have enough of a chemical called dopamine because some nerve cells in their brain have died. Without dopamine people can find that their movements become slower so it takes longer to do things. The loss of nerve cells in the brain causes the symptoms of Parkinson’s to appear.

Types of Parkinson’s

Idiopathic Parkinson’s disease - or Parkinson’s - is the most common type of parkinsonism. Unlike some other forms which have specific causes it is not known why idiopathic Parkinson’s occurs.

Vascular parkinsonism - the most likely causes of vascular parkinsonism are hypertension and diabetes. A stroke, cardiac disease or carotid artery pathology (another form of stroke) may also be involved.

Dementia with Lewy bodies - people who have dementia with Lewy bodies commonly experience visual hallucinations and some Parkinson’s-type symptoms, such as slowness of movement, stiffness and tremor.

Symptoms

The different types of Parkinson’s symptoms are often divided into 2 categories:

Motor symptoms – related to movement and include:

- Tremors (shaking)
- Slowness of movement
- Rigidity

Non-motor symptoms – related to problems such as pain, depression, constipation and sweating.

In addition to these there are the following symptoms:

- Bladder and bowel control
- Swallowing and saliva control
- Falls and dizziness
- Freezing
- Speech and communication problems
- Mild memory problems
- Dementia
- Anxiety and depression
- Hallucinations
- Excessive day time sleepiness

The actual symptoms experienced by each person will vary depending on the form of Parkinson’s they have been diagnosed with.

Accreditations

