

## **SOUTHEAST CONSORTIUM CENTERS AT A GLANCE**

### **Augusta, GA**

#### **Augusta VAMC**

**Director: John Morgan, MD**

**Phone: 706-733-0188 x3260**

The Movement Disorders Clinic at the Augusta VAMC has been operational since ~1985. Dr. Kapil Sethi headed the clinic until 2005 when Dr. John Morgan took over duties. Dr. Morgan provides subspecialty consults, botulinum toxin injections for patients with blepharospasm, hemifacial spasm and craniocervical dystonia. He also serves as the PI or Sub-I on various clinical trials in Parkinson's disease and Huntington's disease.

### **Birmingham, AL** (updated 11/18/11)

#### **Birmingham VAMC**

**Director: Anthony P. Nicholas, MD, PhD**

**Phone: 205-933-8101 x 4734 (referral number to VAMC clinic)**

The Movement Disorders Clinic at the Birmingham VAMC, operational since 2004, provides subspecialty consults for the diagnosis, treatment and referral of all movement disorder cases. Patient selection for Deep Brain Stimulation (DBS) surgery, as well as maintenance of stimulator devices, are now being performed in a new DBS clinic headed by Professor Erwin Montgomery. In concert with that effort, DBS surgeries for Parkinson disease, dystonia and tremor are presently being performed at the Birmingham VAMC in collaboration with University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) neurosurgeon Dr. Barton Guthrie. In addition, Dr. Victor Sung, a previous VA quality control fellow who also runs the Huntington's disease clinic at UAB Kirklin Clinic, is currently accepting movement disorder consultations. As part of their basic science research commitment, Dr. Nicholas' most recent publication is entitled, "Dual immunofluorescence study of citrullinated proteins in Parkinson diseased substantia nigra."

### **Decatur, GA** (updated 3/20/12)

#### **Atlanta VAMC**

**Director: Marian L. Evatt, MD MS**

**Phone: 404-235-3077 (referral number to VAMC Movement Disorders Clinic)**

Established in 2005, The Movement Disorders Clinic at the Atlanta VAMC is staffed by Dr. Evatt, a nurse (Erin Booker), and a nurse practitioner (Pamela Brown). It provides subspecialty consultations for movement disorders, patient selection and management services for DBS surgery, and botulinum toxin injections. Dr. Evatt affiliated with the Emory University and the Emory Parkinson's Disease Research Center, is the PI clinical/translational studies that recruit subjects through the Atlanta VAMC Movement Disorders Clinic. The Atlanta Consortium Center also works with Emory APDA Information and referral center and the NWGA Parkinson Disease Association to provide patient education and support activities. Due to high demand, Neurology Clinic is currently advising providers to refer patients from other VA Centers to local non-VA fee basis providers. However, providers may contact Dr. Evatt for general advice on management of movement disorders.

**Durham, NC**

**Durham VAMC**

**Director: Burton Scott, MD**

**Phone: 919-286-0411 x15611 or x15612**

**Gainesville, FL** (updated 11/18/11)

**North Florida/South Georgia VAMC**

Currently inactive as a Consortium Center. Frank Skidmore, MD (previous Director and Movement Disorder Specialist) moved to the University of Alabama (UAB) in September 2011 and a replacement is not available.

**Lexington, KY** (updated 11/22/11)

**Lexington VAMC**

**Director: John T. Slevin, MD**

**Phone: 859-281-4920 (referral number to VAMC Movement Disorders Clinic)**

Established in 2000, The Movement Disorders Clinic at the Lexington VAMC is staffed by Dr. Slevin, a nurse practitioner, and Pharm. D. It provides subspecialty consultations, patient selection and management services for DBS surgery, and botulinum toxin injections. Dr. Slevin, affiliated with the University of Kentucky Medical Center and Director of Clinical Research for the UKMC Morris K. Udall Parkinson's Disease Research Center of Excellence, is the PI or Co-PI on 3 industry and 1 NIH-sponsored clinical/translational studies that are currently recruiting subjects.

Recent Publications from this Consortium Site:

Zaheer, F and **Slevin, J.T.** *Trichloroethylene and Parkinson's disease.* Neurology Clinics 29(3):657-65, 2011.

Blonder, L.X. and **Slevin, J.T.** *Emotional Dysfunction in Parkinson's Disease.* Behavioral Neurology 24(3):201-217, 2011.

Espay, A.J., Dwivedi, A.K., Payne, M., Gaines, L., Vaughan, J.E., Maddux, B.N., **Slevin, J.T.**, Gartner, M., Sahay, A., Revilla, F.J., Duker, A.P., and Shukla, R. *Methylphenidate for gait impairment in Parkinson's disease: a randomized clinical trial.* Neurology 76:1256-62, 2011.

**Nashville, TN** (updated 11/22/11)

**Tennessee Valley VA Healthcare System – Nashville Campus**

**Director: John Fang, MD**

**Phone: 615-327-4751 x5244**

The Movement Disorders clinic at the Nashville Campus of the VA Tennessee Valley Healthcare System treats patients with Parkinson's Disease and other movement disorders. Operational since 2002, this clinic focuses on optimizing medications and working with primary care providers and other specialists. Botulinum toxin therapy and deep brain stimulation programming are also supported.

**San Juan, PR** (updated 11/30/11)  
**VA Caribbean Healthcare System**  
**Director: Ana Vidal-Cardona, MD**  
**Phone: 787-641-7582 x31684**

San Juan VA is located in sunny Puerto Rico. San Juan VAMC has a Department of Neurology, is a MS Center of Excellence, and a Parkinson's Disease Consortium Center. Many patients particularly with Parkinson's disease, plus dystonias, choreas and other movement disorders are seen by Dr. Ana Vidal-Cardona, a general neurologist with a strong interest in movement, sleep disorders, and stroke. Clinical video telehealth (CVT) technology has been used for those patients that are far away in the Island, away from San Juan, on other nearby Islands, and also for Veterans with complex issues in need of consultation with movement disorder specialists.

**Tampa, FL** (updated 2/29/12)  
**James A. Haley (JAH) Veteran's Hospital**  
**Parkinson's Disease and Movement Disorders Center**  
**Director: Theresa A. Zesiewicz, MD FAAN**  
**Phone: 813-972 2000, ext 7633 (referral number to JAH Movement Disorders Clinic)**

The Parkinson's Disease and Movement Disorders Center at the JAH in Tampa, Florida specializes in Parkinson's Disease, Essential Tremor, Dystonia, Ataxia, and Huntington's Disease. We also specialize in evaluations for surgical treatment of movement disorders, under the guidance of Dr. Donald A. Smith. Dr. Juan Sanchez-Ramos, also provides expert care in movement disorders at the JAH, including Parkinson's Disease and Huntington's disease. Drs. Zesiewicz, Sanchez-Ramos and Smith are professors at the University of South Florida in Tampa. We are involved with clinical trials in movement disorders as well. Please contact Melinda Annello at the number provided for appointments.

**Tuscaloosa, AL** (updated 11/22/11)  
**Tuscaloosa VAMC**  
**Director: Fernando Franco, MD**  
**Phone: 205-554-2000 x4136 (specialty clinic)**

The Neurology Clinic is open two days per week on Wednesday and Friday and has moved to a temporary office inside the hospital. The general neurological clinic sees patients with movement disorders representing 20-25% of their population. Tremor disorders represent 40-50%; dystonia 10-15%; ataxia 5-10%; gait abnormalities 10%; drug-induced 5%; psychogenic disorder 5%; tics 2-3%. Tuscaloosa's Neurology department is clinically oriented and sees an average of 20-25 patients per clinic day.