

Doctor Questions

Early Symptom Recognition

1. From your experience, what are the most common early symptoms of PD that patients present with? What subtle or less recognized early symptoms do you actively screen for in patients who might be at risk of PD?
2. How often do patients initially present with non-motor symptoms like sleep disturbances, loss of smell, or constipation *before* they experience noticeable motor symptoms?
3. In your experience, how often do patients dismiss their early symptoms, and what are the common reasons for this? How can we improve patient education to address this?

Diagnostic Process and Challenges

1. What is the typical diagnostic process for PD, and how has it evolved in recent years?
2. What are the biggest challenges you face in diagnosing PD in its early stages? Are there any limitations in current diagnostic tools or protocols?
3. "How do you track disease progression in the early stages, and what milestones indicate a shift in treatment approach?"

Patient Communication and Support

1. How do you communicate a PD diagnosis to a patient, especially in the early stages when symptoms might be mild?
2. How do you ensure patients understand the disease, its progression, and the available treatment options?
3. What resources or support systems do you recommend to patients newly diagnosed with PD? How do you address the emotional and psychological impact of the diagnosis?
4. Are there specific lifestyle changes or therapies that you recommend to patients for delaying progression?
5. How important is physical activity in managing early Parkinson's symptoms?