

Editorial

People with Parkinson's as Partners for the Journal of Parkinson's Disease

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The *Journal of Parkinson's Disease* (JPD) is committed to serving the broad Parkinson's disease research community which undoubtedly includes people living with Parkinson's disease (PwP). Taking people with the lived experience seriously as equal partners in both care and science is increasingly coming to the fore, but we strongly feel that this level of participation should also apply to the world of publishing. There is already a strong representation of PwP in the journal, with seven PwP recruited to the editorial board. Furthermore, our journal regularly publishes articles which are written solely by [1] or together with PwP (see e.g. [2–6]), which makes us rather unique in the field of movement disorders. Still, we recognise that we could and should do more.

An important component of serving the PwP community is making the research published in JPD more accessible. JPD is a useful resource with much contemporary and historical content that is currently under-utilised by PwP. As a first step to enhance

PwP readership, JPD has transitioned to a gold open access publication, as we recently announced [7]. This means that all articles published in 2023 and onwards are immediately and permanently freely available online for PwP to view, download, and share. However, not all PwP have a scientific background, let alone the experience and knowledge to read and fully understand manuscripts published in the JPD. To address this, our next initiative is to pilot the addition of summaries in straightforward lay language for each paper, as a special service dedicated specifically to PwP. These summaries will be two to three sentences intended to offer the main message of the article expressed in plain English to describe the findings to a non-scientific audience.

In addition to this new initiative, we plan to refresh the JPD website blogs written by PwP with a new section entitled “The Person with Parkinson Perspective”. We will be looking for articles that are not only interesting to PwP but that may also be useful for researchers by providing insight, inspiration, and ideas. We will encourage those PwP with writing skills to propose topics. Blog articles will be approximately 500–1000 words with a flexible structure to

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give authors the freedom to make points in their own style.

We look forward to welcoming more PwP engagement with JPD, and are open to receiving further suggestions.

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