

Meet the Speakers

Danny Bega, MD, MSCI

Associate Professor of Neurology
Director, Neurology Residency Program
Northwestern University Parkinson's Disease & Movement Disorders Center



Danny Bega, MD, MSCI is a fellowship trained, board-certified, movement disorders neurologist and Associate Professor of Neurology at the Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine. He has completed medical school at Rush University and clinical training in neurology at Harvard's Massachusetts General Hospital and Brigham & Women's Hospital. Dr. Bega has expertise in the care and management of patients with a variety of movement disorders including Parkinson's disease, and is the director of the Northwestern Huntington's disease and Wilson's disease clinics. He is also the Program Director for the neurology residency at Northwestern. He has completed master's level training in clinical investigations through the Northwestern Graduate School and is the principal investigator for several industry-sponsored clinical trials. His primary area of interest is the study of alternative and non-pharmacologic interventions in movement disorders and their impact on quality of life, and he has received several grants to carry out this research.

Disclosures: Danny Bega, MD is on the speaker's bureau for Teva Pharmaceuticals, Neurocrine Biosciences, Adamas Pharmaceuticals, Acorda Therapeutics, US WorldMeds, Sunovion, and Kyowa Kirin. He has served as a consultant for Guidepoint, GE Healthcare, LEK Consulting, Acadia Pharmaceuticals, Genentech Inc, Amneal Pharmaceuticals, Biogen Pharmaceuticals, Ultragenyx Pharmaceuticals, Acel Health, and Clearview Consulting. He is on the editorial board of Annals of Clinical and Translational Neurology.

Ray Dorsey, MD

David M. Levy Professor of Neurology
Director, Center for Health + Technology
University of Rochester in Rochester, NY



Dr. Ray Dorsey is the David M. Levy Professor of Neurology and Director of the Center for Health + Technology at the University of Rochester. The Center seeks to provide care and research opportunities to anyone anywhere. Ray and his colleagues have written *Ending Parkinson's Disease*, a book that provides a prescription for ending this debilitating condition. Ray previously directed the movement disorders division and neurology telemedicine at Johns Hopkins and worked as a consultant for McKinsey & Company. His research has been published in leading medical, neurology, and economic journals and has been featured on National Public Radio, in *The New York Times*, and in *The Wall Street Journal*. In 2015, the White House recognized him as a "Champion for Change" for Parkinson's disease.

Disclosures: Ray Dorsey has received honoraria for speaking at American Academy of Neurology courses, American Neurological Association, and University of Michigan; received compensation for consulting services from 23andMe, Abbott, Abbvie, American Well, Biogen, BrainNeuroBio, Clintrex, Curasen Therapeutics, DeciBio, Denali Therapeutics, GlaxoSmithKline, Grand Rounds, Karger, Lundbeck, MC10, MedAvante, Medical-legal services, Mednick Associates, National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, Olson Research Group, Optio, Orient Data Sciences, Inc., Otsuka, Prilenia, Putnam Associates, Roche, Sanofi, Shire, Spark, Sunovion Pharma, Teva, Theravance, UCB and Voyager Therapeutics; research support from Abbvie, Acadia Pharmaceuticals, AMC Health, Biosensics, Burroughs Wellcome Fund, Davis Phinney Foundation, Duke University, Food and Drug Administration, GlaxoSmithKline, Greater Rochester Health Foundation, Huntington Study Group, Michael J. Fox Foundation, National Institutes of Health/National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, National Science Foundation, Nuredis Pharmaceuticals, Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute, Pfizer, Prana Biotechnology, Raptor Pharmaceuticals, Roche, Safra Foundation, Teva Pharmaceuticals, University of California Irvine; editorial services for Karger Publications; and ownership interests with Grand Rounds (second opinion service).

Tanya Simuni, MD

Arthur C. Nielsen Jr. Professor of Neurology
Director, Parkinson's Disease and Movement Disorders Center
Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine in Chicago, IL



Dr. Simuni graduated with her medical degree from Leningrad Medical School and completed an internship in medicine in Leningrad, Russia. She subsequently completed an internship in internal medicine at Albert Einstein Medical Center and a neurology residency and a clinical neurophysiology fellowship at Temple University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She then pursued a movement disorders fellowship at the University of Pennsylvania, where she served on the clinical faculty of the Department of Neurology for three years and held the position of Medical Co-Director of the Parkinson's disease (PD) and Movement Disorders surgical program prior to her current positions.

Disclosures: Tanya Simuni, MD has served as a consultant for Acadia, Abbvie, Accordia, Adamas, Allergan, Amneal, Aptinyx, Denali, General Electric (GE), Kyowa, Neuroderm, Neurocrine, Sanofi, Sinopia, Sunovion, Roche, Takeda, Voyager, US World Meds, Parkinson's Foundation, and the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research; Dr. Simuni has served as a speaker and received an honorarium from Acadia and Adamas; Dr Simuni is on the Scientific advisory board for Neuroderm and Sanofi. Dr. Simuni has received research funding from the NINDS, Parkinson's Foundation, MJFF, Biogen, Roche, Neuroderm, Sanofi, Sun Pharma, Abbvie, IMPAX and Prevail.

Kathryn Meador, SLP

Speech Language Pathologist
Shirley Ryan AbilityLab



Kathryn is a certified Speech Language Pathologist with over 20 years' experience working with both the Pediatric and Adult populations in Outpatient settings in various states over the years. The last 15 years have been with Shirley Ryan Ability Labs [formally known as Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago] working with patients who develop Neurological deficits [Strokes, PD, MS, etc.]; with results in aiding people and kids to improve their communication, swallowing, speaking, and thinking skills. Hiking, kayaking, and biking remain ongoing pursuits along with gardening and traveling to places she has never seen.

Disclosures: Nothing to disclose.

Laura Lee Landmeier, MSOT, OTR/L, CLT

Occupational Therapist
Shirley Ryan AbilityLab



Laura is an Occupational Therapist at the Shirley Ryan Abilitylab Northbrook Out Patient Center and is a graduate of Washington University in St Louis. Laura is an active clinician whose clinical expertise over the past 30 years has been in Neurologic Disorders and Rehabilitation. Laura combines both remediation and adaptive treatment approaches in her practice to maximize her clients' safety and function in their chosen activities from eating and basic hygiene to work and community related tasks.

Disclosures: Nothing to disclose.

Akilah Townsend, PT, DPT

Physical Therapist
Shirley Ryan AbilityLab

Akilah received her doctorate in Physical Therapy from Midwestern University in Glendale, Arizona. She has been practicing physical therapy since 2013. Though she primarily treats in an outpatient setting, she has experience in acute care, skilled nursing, and home health. Akilah treats a variety of patients including, pediatric, geriatric, orthopedic, and those with neurologic conditions. She enjoys treating a range of disorders, but she takes a special interest in Parkinson's Disease. Akilah is LSVT BIG certified and recently completed a poster presentation at a national conference regarding implementing a Parkinson's Disease program for those recently diagnosed.



Disclosures: Nothing to disclose.

Charlinda Turner Brashear, MSW, LCSW, ACM-SW

Licensed Clinical Social Worker
Neurology, Parkinson's Disease and Movement Disorders Center
Northwestern Medical Group

As a Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW), Charlinda Brashear has spent her professional life working with adult and geriatric populations in a medical setting. Charlinda earned a Master of Social Work (MSW) degree from the University of Kentucky, with a concentration in mental health. Charlinda subsequently worked at University of Kentucky Chandler Hospital in Lexington, KY, for nearly seven years, prior to relocating to Chicago and starting at Northwestern Medicine. She then worked as a hospital social worker at Northwestern Memorial for over four years, before joining the Parkinson's disease and Movement Disorders team in January 2020. Charlinda also has a background in vocational rehabilitation, and she is a nationally accredited case manager (ACM-SW).



Disclosures: Nothing to disclose.