

The Israel Parkinson Association (IPA) was founded in 1993 by Parkinson's disease patients to support people impacted by Parkinson's disease and their caregivers and to promote research in that field. **We are the only organization caring exclusively for Parkinson patients in Israel, supporting 1,300 members.** The organization operates the following activities and programs:

16 Branches- Through 16 branches spread across the country, the Association provides Parkinson patients with professional consultation; emotional support groups; subsidized physical rehabilitative activities such as physiotherapy and Feldenkrais; lectures by physicians about the most current Parkinson's research; and recreational cultural and social activities such as Chi Kung, speech therapy, occupational therapy, pottery lessons, various lectures and events and more.

Collaboration with a Medical Advisory Committee- The IPA is supported by a medical advisory committee, whose members are professionals in the field of Parkinson. The committee writes recommendation letters for the health basket; provides consultations for formal appeals; conducts lectures for patients and volunteers, and more.

Increasing Public Awareness- The organization endeavors to increase public awareness of Parkinson's disease and engages in lobbying to expand the health basket of services to include new medications and advanced treatments. Thanks to our efforts, the Knesset Lobby on Parkinson's Disease was established in 2013.

Research- IPA cultivates collaboration between researchers and promotes groundbreaking research to help develop new treatments and find a cure for the disease. The organization hosts special brainstorming events where leading researchers are invited to present their work and create new collaborations. Creating a community of experts in the field of Parkinson disease who are committed to find a cure is extremely important and no other organization does so in Israel.

Annual Professional Seminars for Patients and their Families- The seminars take place twice a year and impart practical tools for life quality improvement. Additionally, they cultivate peer support and network and constitute an empowering experience while offering a respite from the daily struggles. The seminar offers rich contents such as lectures by experts in various fields; couples' workshops; art therapy; physical activities and more.

Newly Diagnosed Parkinson Patients and their Families- IPA provides newly diagnosed patients and their family members with ongoing guidance in the first few months following the diagnosis. The organization operates informational events regarding the disease for them where they receive information regarding care and preventative methods, available services, patients' rights, emotional support and more. Patients are also guided by veteran patients who support them and direct them to any relevant services when needed.

The IPA Hotline- Our Hotline is operated by volunteers who were trained by ERAN (Emotional First Aid). They offer the patients comfort and support in a variety of domains, both functional and emotional.

IPA's Web Based Resource Center- The Resource Center was established in order to assist patients to use governmental services and receive the benefits they are entitled to by law. The Center encompasses information concerning which governmental bodies/organizations to apply for aid; guidance on how to apply or how to appeal; samples of completed forms and of ruling and appealing procedures, etc. Consultation with an attorney specializing in legal aid for disabled individuals is also available.

International Parkinson's Day Event- We organize an annual peak event for the patients and their families that involves special excursion and trips; lectures and seminars; leisure activities, and more.

The organization is a member of the European EPDA, as well as other worldly associations (APDA).

For its outstanding services to the Parkinson's disease community, the IPA was awarded the *President's Mark of Distinction for Volunteering*, the *Health Minister's Shield for Outstanding Volunteers*, the *Ministry of Labor's Shield for Volunteers*, and also received the *Midot Seal of Effectiveness*, which is an indication of the organization's ability to generate social value and improve the lives of its beneficiaries.

The Israel Parkinson Association's main funding sources include donations and grants from philanthropic foundations and private donors, membership fees, and income from local authorities.

Every donation makes a difference! For donations press [here](#)

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