



Parkinson's Disease

Pre-Referral Considerations:

1. Assess for other causes of Parkinsonism; carbon monoxide poisoning, antipsychotics, anti-nausea medications, mercury poisoning, narcotic overdoses, MPTP (street drug contaminant), brain injury, infectious causes, etc.

Red Flags:

1. Consider imaging, alternate referral or emergent referral
2. HIV infection, IV drug use, history of brain injury such as anesthesia complication
3. Resting tremors, gait disturbances, bradykinesia are all potential signs of Parkinson's. Since the diagnosis of Parkinson's disease is a clinical one early referral is recommended. No "levodopa challenge" should be undertaken.

Labs: None

Imaging: No imaging is necessary

Comments: Unnecessary testing should be avoided, however, if a primary care provider has a high index of suspicion appropriate pre-referral testing could be ordered.