



EMORY
UNIVERSITY

Jean and Paul Amos Parkinson's
Disease and Movement
Disorders Program

Lenora Higginbotham Graduates with Inaugural Class of The Michael J. Fox Foundation's Edmond J. Safra Fellowship in Movement Disorders

As part of the first class of The Edmond J. Safra Fellowship in Movement Disorders at The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research (MJFF), Lenora Higginbotham, MD, received a two-year training in movement disorders clinical care and research at Emory University. Launched in 2014, The Edmond J. Safra Fellowship in Movement Disorders — a collaboration between MJFF and longtime partner the Edmond J. Safra Foundation — annually awards funding to five academic centers worldwide to each train a new movement disorder specialist. The program is building a global base of movement disorder specialists to provide expert patient care and lead complementary research and drug development.

With their recent graduation, the class of five fellows moves on to prestigious movement disorders careers around the world. Each physician is using the knowledge and skills gained in the fellowship to embark on a unique career path combining patient care and research investigation, while serving as a direct link between their patients and research with the goal of moving towards improved understanding and therapies.

Dr. Lenora Higginbotham is currently a Senior Associate within the movement disorders program at Emory. She acquired her MD at the Emory University School of Medicine before training at Johns Hopkins Hospital for neurology residency. She specializes clinically in movement disorders, while her current research investigations address the discovery and development of electrophysiological and molecular biomarkers in Parkinson's disease and atypical parkinsonism.

"We are honored to be part of the Edmond J. Safra Fellowship and are grateful to see the next generation of movement disorder clinician-researchers moving forward through this program, and to fruitful careers," said Stewart Factor, DO, Movement Disorder Program Director

[Learn more about the 2018 graduating class.](#)

"The Edmond J. Safra Fellowship in Movement Disorders allows young physicians to train with renowned movement disorder specialists and researchers at distinguished institutions across the world," said Lily Safra, chairwoman of the Edmond J. Safra Foundation and member of the MJFF Board of Directors. "We are proud of the inaugural graduating class as well as the other fellows currently in training, and look forward to celebrating their achievements in Parkinson's care and research for many years to come."

The Michael J. Fox Foundation is now accepting applications from academic centers worldwide to train the Class of 2022 Edmond J. Safra Fellows. Deadline is December 19, 2018. [Learn more and apply.](#)

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About the Jean and Paul Amos Parkinson's Disease and Research Program at Emory University

The Emory Movement Disorders Program has a tripartite mission of clinical care, research and education. The Jean and Paul Amos Parkinson's Disease and Movement Disorders Program under the direction of Dr. Stewart Factor cares for over 6000 patients with movement disorders. Emory was designated as the nation's first American Parkinson Disease Association Center of Excellence and the first Huntington's Disease Society of America Center of Excellence. Our clinical program has benefitted from the support of the Parkinson Foundation since 2015. The faculty provide internationally recognized expertise in Parkinson's disease, Huntington's disease, dystonia, tremor, tic disorders and other movement disorders.

Emory University is one of the leading research centers for Parkinson's Disease and Movement Disorders nationally. Its reputation was established by Dr. Mahlon DeLong and his research team whose pioneering work in animal models of parkinsonism led to the development of deep brains stimulation therapy. Emory is a member of the Udall Center of Excellence for Parkinson's Disease Research network. Emory's center focuses on improving understanding of movement problems in Parkinson's disease at the brain network level. Emory is also the Central Coordinating Center of the Dystonia Coalition, an NIH-funded consortium whose purpose is to advance the pace of clinical and translational research in the dystonias to find better treatments and a cure. Emory's movement disorders research efforts span a wide range, from basic science studies to clinical trials. The program is also a leading center for training fellows in movement disorders.

About The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research

As the world's largest nonprofit funder of Parkinson's research, The Michael J. Fox Foundation is dedicated to accelerating a cure for Parkinson's disease and improved therapies for those living with the condition today. The Foundation pursues its goals through an aggressively funded, highly targeted research program coupled with active global engagement of scientists, Parkinson's patients, business leaders, clinical trial participants, donors and volunteers. In addition to funding more than \$800 million in research to date, the Foundation has fundamentally altered the trajectory of progress toward a cure. Operating at the hub of worldwide Parkinson's research, the Foundation forges groundbreaking collaborations with industry leaders, academic scientists and government research funders; increases the flow of participants into Parkinson's disease clinical trials with its online tool, Fox Trial Finder; promotes Parkinson's awareness through high-profile advocacy, events and outreach; and coordinates the grassroots involvement of thousands of Team Fox members around the world. For more information, visit us on the [Web](#), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [Pinterest](#).

About the Edmond J. Safra Foundation

Edmond J. Safra, one of the 20th century's most accomplished bankers and a devoted philanthropist, established a major philanthropic foundation to ensure that individuals and organizations would continue to receive his assistance and encouragement for many years to come. Under the chairmanship of his beloved wife Lily, the Edmond J. Safra Philanthropic

Foundation draws continuing inspiration from its founder's life and values, and supports hundreds of organizations in more than 40 countries around the world. Its work encompasses four areas: Education; Science and Medicine; Religion; and Humanitarian Assistance, Culture and Social Welfare. The Foundation has provided significant funding for Parkinson's disease research and patient care at dozens of hospitals and institutes in places as varied as Natal (Brazil), Toronto, New York, Grenoble, Paris, London and Jerusalem.