



June 2017

Our June guests were Dr. Lin Zhang a Neurologist from U.C. Davis Medical Center. Sal Avila from Acadia Pharmaceuticals accompanied him. Nuplazid (Pimavanserin) is the first and only medication approved by the FDA for the treatment of hallucinations and delusions related to Parkinson's Disease. It is said that 40-50% of PD patients will experience hallucinations and delusions over the course of their disease. A patient may not know what is truly real as visions can be so vivid. The dose of Nuplazid is two 17mg. tablets per day. It does not require adjusting doses of Carbidopa/Lelodopa. The hallucinations may be reduced as soon as two weeks or as long as six weeks for the full effect. No motor skill symptoms were affected during clinical trials. It has been reported that Nuplazid may increase the risk of changes to your heart rhythm so make sure your doctor is fully aware of other meds you take. Other side effects include swelling in the legs, nausea, confusion and constipation. There is financial assistance available as Nuplazid is said to be rather costly.

Nancy Chatman our Treasurer recently had stem cell treatment to help with some of her PD's symptoms. At this point she has not noticed a change in her Dystonia but it takes time for the treatment to take its full effect.

Shelly Butler
Secretary RPSG