



Research Subjects Needed

Title: Visual and vestibular control of balance in locomotion: effects of age and Parkinsons' disease

Purpose: The purpose of this experiment is to investigate how the vision and the inner ear (vestibular system) contribute to the control of balance when performing locomotor tasks that have been identified at risk of fall and how they could be modified by Parkinson's Disease.

We are looking for healthy control subjects and patients with Parkinson's disease (**60-85** years old). If you have considerable tremor or uncontrollable movements/postures, or have had any neurosurgical procedures for Parkinson's disease such as deep brain stimulation, bilateral stimulus of the subthalamic nucleus or pallidotomy you should not participate.

You should not participate if you have:

- Other causes of balance/cognitive impairment,
- Inability to walk independently on 10 meters,
- History of neck or back pain,
- Hearing or visual (long-sightedness) deficits,
- Frequent or severe headaches,
- Surgical procedure for Parkinson's disease,
- Considerable tremor,
- History of seizures,
- Pregnant women,
- A prior neuromuscular injury,
- Inability to give informed consent,
- Cannot speak English

Compensation: An honorarium will be given at the completion of the experiment.

Time: Subjects will be required to commit up to 2 hours.

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Location: Robert Osborne Building (6108 Thunderbird Boulevard) or D.H. Copp Building (2146 Health Science Mall) at the University of British Columbia.