



**Joseph M. Savitt, MD, PhD** is an Assistant Professor of Neurology at the Movement Disorders Center and the Institute for Cell Engineering at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine.

He graduated summa cum laude from the University of Maryland MD PhD program, and completed a neurology residency and neurodegenerative disease fellowship at Johns Hopkins. He has received an NIH career development award and a Cotzias fellowship from the American Parkinson Disease Association.

Dr. Savitt's basic research interests involve the development and use of new mouse models of Parkinson disease generated largely by the targeted disruption of genes in dopamine neurons. Genes of interest include those involved in Parkinson disease, cell survival, GDNF receptor function and autophagy. He has participated in a number of industry and NIH- sponsored Parkinson disease clinical trials. Dr. Savitt's clinical interests include Parkinson Disease and related disorders, dystonia and cerebellar ataxia.

Representative Publications:

**Savitt JM**, Jang SS, Mu W, Dawson VL, Dawson TM. Bcl-x is required for the proper development of the mouse substantia nigra. *J Neurosci* 2005; 25: 6721-6728.

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Luo W, Wickramasinghe SR, **Savitt JM**, Griffin JW, Dawson TM, Ginty, DD. A hierarchical NGF signaling cascade controls Ret-dependent and Ret-independent events during development of non-peptidergic DRG neurons. *Neuron* 2007; 54: 739-754.