

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
MEDICAL SCHOOL
DEPARTMENT OF NEUROLOGY

Vikas Kotagal, M.D., M.S., assistant professor of neurology, Department of Neurology, Medical School, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of neurology, with tenure, Department of Neurology, Medical School.

Academic Record:

M.S.	2013	University of Michigan
M.D.	2007	University of Minnesota
B.A.	2003	Washington University

Professional Record:

2014- present	Assistant Professor of Neurology, University of Michigan
2011-2014	Clinical Lecturer of Neurology, University of Michigan

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Dr. Kotagal is a clinically-focused educator. He teaches residents and medical students in the Veterans Affairs Health System clinic weekly. He lectures in a fall semester undergraduate seminar, Neurology 455, and ongoing lecture series in the Department of Neurology. He has mentored research trainees at the undergraduate, medical student, resident, fellow, and faculty levels. He successfully directed a supplementary learning plan for a neurology house officer in 2014-2015 that helped lead to their completion of Neurology residency and subsequent successful fellowship and career. Dr. Kotagal is also an active educator on a national/international level where he drafts monthly continuing medical education self-assessments for the journal *Movement Disorders*.

Research: Dr. Kotagal conducts neuroimaging research on the biological basis of neurodegeneration and clinical disease progression in Parkinson's disease (PD). He studies two related concepts within this field: 1) the role of cardiovascular risk factors and microvascular brain injury on PD progression, and 2) the role of the serotonergic nervous system in mediating neurodegeneration and disease progression in PD. His work has been supported at a principal investigator level by extramural funding from the American Academy of Neurology, a career development award from the VA Healthcare system, an NIH R56 grant, and an NIH R01 grant. Dr. Kotagal has authored 49 peer-reviewed publications, of which 30 have occurred in his current rank. He is a member of the Neurology department's health services research (HSR) group and has published first-authored papers on access to care and safety issues in neurological disorders affecting older adults. His research contributions address a unique need in the field of Parkinson's Disease.

Recent and Significant Publications:

Kotagal V, Szpara A, Albin RL, Bohnen NI: Fatigue in Parkinson's Disease Associates with Lower Ambulatory Diastolic Blood Pressure. *Journal of Parkinson's Disease* 9(3): 575-581, 2019.

Kotagal V, Spino C, Bohnen NI, Koeppe R, Albin RL: Serotonin, β -amyloid, and cognition in Parkinson disease. *Ann Neurol* 83(5): 994-1002, 2018.

Wyant KJ, Yasuda E, Kotagal V: The 10-year Landscape of United States-Registered Parkinson Disease Clinical Trials: 2007-2016. *Movement Disorders Clinical Practice* 5(5): 512-518, 2018.

Kotagal V: Is PIGD a legitimate motor subtype in Parkinson disease? *Ann Clin Transl Neurol* 3(6): 473-7, 2016.

Kotagal V, Lineback C, Bohnen NI, Albin RL: CALM-PD Parkinson Study Group Investigators. Orthostatic hypotension predicts motor decline in early Parkinson disease. *Parkinsonism Relat Disord* 32: 127-129, 2016.

Service: Dr. Kotagal is an active member of several professional societies including the American Academy of Neurology (AAN) and the Movement Disorders Society. He is an associate editor for *Movement Disorders*, and has served as an ad hoc member for the Center for Scientific Research/NIH panels and for a fellowship study section for the AAN. Dr. Kotagal has served for five years on the Ann Arbor board of the University of Michigan Institutional Review Board for the Medical School, and also serves as a co-chair of the Ann Arbor Veteran's Affairs Institutional Review Board. He plays a leadership role in the Department of Neurology residency program where he directed the Clinical Competency Committee from 2014-2019, and also plays a leadership role on the resident recruitment and selection committee.

Professional Work: Dr. Kotagal directs the Parkinson's disease consortium center at the Ann Arbor Veteran's Affairs Health System and co-directs the University of Michigan Normal Pressure Hydrocephalus clinic along with Dr. Jason Heth in the Department of Neurosurgery. From 2013-2016, Dr. Kotagal also served as an inpatient neurohospitalist, where he directed patient care without house officers and oversaw three medical students. This service was created after an unexpected attrition of several house officers in the 2012-2013 year which led to a staffing shortage for two inpatient neurology teams. Dr. Kotagal is well-respected for his clinical care as is exemplified by the fact that much of his outpatient practice is made up by referrals from other

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: "...Dr. Kotagal's commitment to clinical responsibility, teaching or research appears strong. Numerous invited lectures outside of the home institution are markers of his reputation. His leadership in securing an R01, co-directing a clinic focused on NPH, contributing to the important work of a local IRB, and undoubtedly caring for hundreds of patients with PD, NPH and other syndromes and disorders emphasize his progress in this domain."

Reviewer B: "Vikas is making a name for himself in examining cholinergic denervation in Parkinson's disease, its implications, and potential means to treat it. He has now published ~50 papers in the field, five of which already have over 100 citations, and has a large R01 investigating an SSRI as a potential protective therapy for Parkinson's disease."

Reviewer C: "His work reflects the skills of a creative clinical neuroscientist who has major substantial contributions to better understanding the clinical phenomenology of Parkinson's

diseases and to the field of experimental neurotherapeutics...I note that Dr. Kotagal has recently secured a 5 year RO-1 grant from the NIH and that he also has VA and substantial grant support from work with his collaborators.”

Reviewer D: “I have been extremely impressed with his breadth of knowledge, his critical thinking, ability to synthesize, and his passion for neurology. This was apparent to me when he joined our CNN study section for his first time as a reviewer. His reviews were superb. They were scholarly, rigorous, and polished. I could not believe that this was his first time reviewing...Among movement disorders neurologists in his generation, he is a standout. There are only a handful of clinical translational researchers who have been as prolific as he has been in terms of publications and grants.”

Reviewer E: “I frequently cite Vikas’s working looking at relationship between serotonergic system, SSRI antidepressant, amyloid and cognitive decline in Parkinson’s disease, it’s an important, outstanding piece of research...he’s an outstanding junior clinical researcher.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Dr. Kotagal is a well-respected clinician and researcher, a motivated mentor and educator, and an emerging leader within his field. I am pleased to recommend Vikas Kotagal, M.D., M.S. for promotion to associate professor of neurology, with tenure, Department of Neurology, Medical School.



Marschall S. Runge, M.D., Ph.D.
Executive Vice President for Medical Affairs
Dean, Medical School

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