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PRESS RELEASE

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**CLEVELAND CLINIC LOU RUVO CENTER FOR BRAIN HEALTH EXPANDS
CLINICAL SERVICES TO INCLUDE MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS AND MOVEMENT
DISORDERS**

Two New Physicians Bring Expertise and Research in Complex Neurological Conditions to Las Vegas, Nevada and Southwest Region

Monday, July 11, 2011, Las Vegas – [Cleveland Clinic Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health](http://ClevelandClinicLouRuvoCenterforBrainHealth) is expanding its clinical services to meet the healthcare needs of Las Vegas and Nevada with the addition of movement disorders programs and multiple sclerosis. Two distinguished experts join the Center for Brain Health team to lead and develop these new programs, Ryan Walsh, M.D., Ph.D., and Timothy West, M.D.

“Dr. West and Dr. Walsh are invaluable additions to our staff and Las Vegas as a whole,” says Jeffrey L. Cummings, M.D., and Director of Cleveland Clinic Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health. “Patients with MS and movement disorders need and deserve expert care from doctors who have extensive experience, training and research in their conditions. These new programs will bring highly specialized care, the latest treatment options and new research opportunities to patients in the region.”

Beginning on July 18, Dr. Walsh will start seeing patients as Director of the Parkinson’s Disease and Movement Disorders Program. An expert in the field of applied and experimental Neurotherapeutics, Dr. Walsh will provide the latest diagnostic tests, treatments and [clinical trials](#) to patients with conditions such as Parkinson’s disease, [Huntington’s disease](#), tremor and dystonia. Dr. Walsh will work closely with the movement disorders team in Cleveland to bring cutting edge therapies and research to Las Vegas.

“Persistent research is one of the most important strategies for providing comprehensive patient care,” Walsh said. “I am proud to be a part of the creation of this new program that will catapult Las Vegas into a leading position in the treatment of Parkinson’s disease and movement disorders.”

Patients with Parkinson's disease and other disorders who may benefit from surgery will be evaluated in Las Vegas and, if necessary, referred to the renowned team of movement disorder neurosurgeons at Cleveland Clinic's main campus in Ohio. This group has implanted hundreds of deep brain stimulation devices to improve function and quality of life in patients with disabling movement disorders.

The Multiple Sclerosis Program at Cleveland Clinic Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health kicks off on August 1, with neurologist Dr. West as its director. Dr. West is creating a comprehensive multiple sclerosis (MS) program that includes individualized clinical care, research into new treatments and support for physical and emotional symptoms. The Las Vegas-based team will collaborate extensively with staff at the [Mellen Center](#) at Cleveland Clinic's main campus, one of the world's pre-eminent programs for MS treatment and research.

"Patients can experience technologically advanced on-site services in Las Vegas while having the support and trusted expertise of the Mellen Center," says West. "Cleveland Clinic resources and collaboration ensure all patients receive the best possible care."

Dr. West will bring clinical trials that will specifically address the needs of the patients in Las Vegas, including new medications and treatment techniques now under development. He will also participate in active clinical research to see how MS affects cognition, find better ways to predict which patients will progress more rapidly, and discern whether vitamin D deficiency contributes to the disease development or progression.

The Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health's MS program will offer a full continuum of treatment options. On-site capabilities include infusion therapy and advanced (3-T) MR imaging. Scans performed in Las Vegas are securely sent to expert neuroradiologists in Cleveland for interpretation.

Patients in both programs will also have access to Cleveland Clinic Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health's new physical, occupational and cognitive therapy program to help them manage their conditions. The services will be seamlessly integrated in a comprehensive, patient-centered approach.

For more information on the new programs at Cleveland Clinic Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health, visit ClevelandClinic.org/BrainHealth or call 877-247-7800.

About Cleveland Clinic Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health:

Cleveland Clinic Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health provides state-of-the-art care for cognitive disorders and for the family members of those who suffer from them. The physicians and staff at the Center for Brain Health continuously work towards the development of early diagnosis and the advancement of knowledge concerning treatment of cognitive disorders, which could one day delay or prevent their onset. Patients receive expert diagnosis and treatment at the Center for Brain Health, which offers a multidisciplinary patient-focused approach to diagnosis and treatment, promoting collaboration across all care providers, offering patients a complete continuum of care and infusing education and research into all that it does. The facility, designed by Frank Gehry, houses clinical space, a diagnostic center, neuroimaging rooms, physician offices, laboratories devoted to clinical research and the Keep Memory Alive Event Center. For more information, visit <http://www.clevelandclinic.org/brainhealth>.