

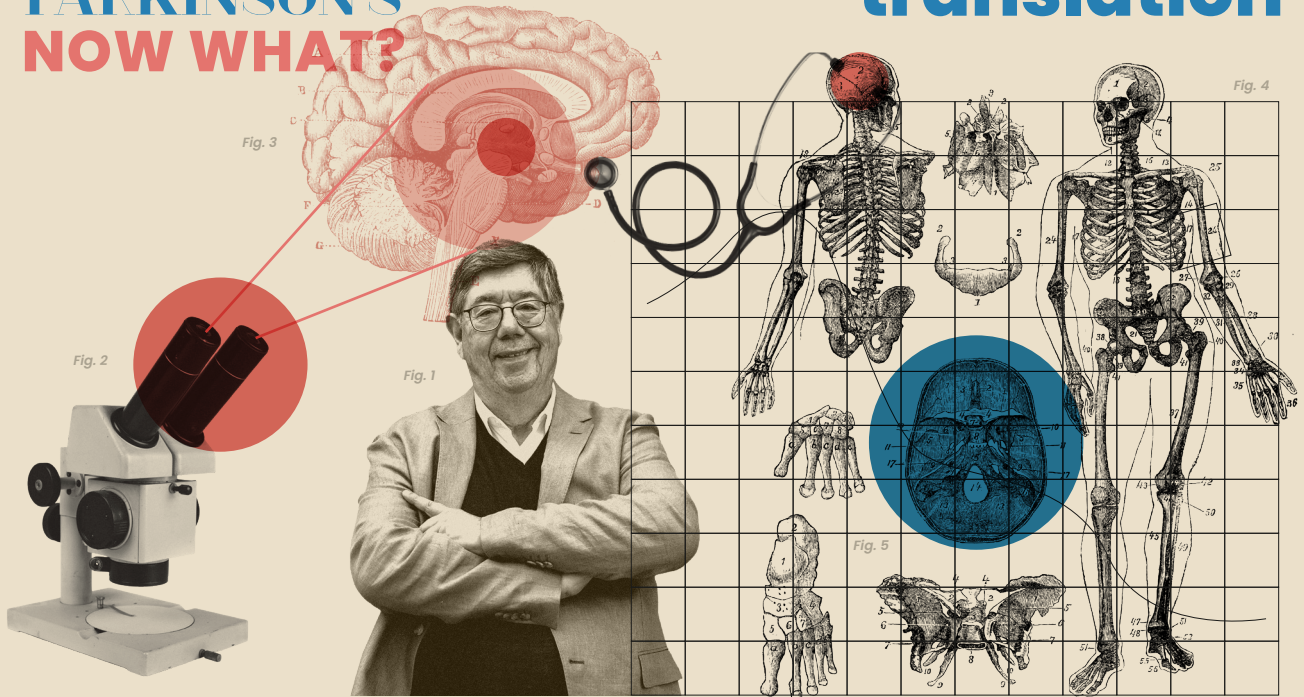
# Bial

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## I HAVE PARKINSON'S NOW WHAT?

## Found in translation



### The importance of translating science — in health and in sickness

Fig. 1 Carlos Fiolhais  
Fig. 2 Binocular microscope, XX century  
Fig. 3 Brain - Basal Ganglia  
Fig. 4 Human skeleton, front and back, Trousset encyclopedia, 1886 - 1891  
Fig. 5 Middle and anterior-posterior section of brain, Usual Medicine Dictionary, Dr Labarthe, 1885

It's not always easy to understand what a doctor tells (us). And a Parkinson's diagnosis is no exception. Even more so for beyond its definition a lot remains to be defined: causes, symptoms, *what nows* and *what thens*. Fortunately, there's a way out — or so says Carlos Fiolhais, physics professor and communicator par excellence, who has been trying to demystify science and its terms for several years now, believing that there must be a universal language between us and doctors: "Doctors must convey truth — and hope. Their commitment is to do the best they can; ours is to trust them.", explains Fiolhais.

A two-way street that underlines the importance of making the best use of an appointment's time: either with a symptom diary or questioning assumptions. "A few days ago, I heard a man talking about a serious illness that he had just been diagnosed with. When he asked 'What now?', the doctor's immediate response was 'Now, let's deal with it.'", he recalls. And concludes: so that almost nothing is lost in translation, and everyone understands what we're saying, "when it comes to science, we must show more method than result; more spirit, than body".

Sources:  
[https://www.uc.pt/iii/romuloccv/presencas\\_no\\_romulo/carlos\\_fiolhais\\_bibliografia/carlos\\_fiolhais](https://www.uc.pt/iii/romuloccv/presencas_no_romulo/carlos_fiolhais_bibliografia/carlos_fiolhais); <https://www.publico.pt/2021/05/22/ciencia/noticia/assim-fala-tiago-outeiro-parkinson-1963365>

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