

## ELECTION REPORT

# Does former Vice President Joe Biden have Parkinson's Disease?

## Overview

Parkinson's disease is a progressive nervous system disorder that affects movement.<sup>1</sup> Symptoms of Parkinson's disease start modestly and can often go unnoticed early on. The symptoms become progressively worse as the condition progresses over time. Former Vice President Joe Biden appears to be suffering from both the physical and psychological effects of the disease. This research paper will break down the symptoms of the disease and explain how we have arrived at our diagnosis.

While Parkinson's disease affects everyone differently, there are a handful of symptoms that are common, tell-tale signs of the disease. Doctors have defined the physical symptoms most commonly found in people with Parkinson's disease under the TRAP acronym. TRAP stands for Tremors, Rigidity, Akinesia/Bradykinesia, and Postural Instability.<sup>2</sup> The following paragraphs will describe how it appears that former Vice President Joe Biden is suffering from all four of these physical symptoms. It is important to note that while these physical symptoms are separated into four different categories, they can overlap. Bear that in mind as you read through our analysis. Our analysis of TRAP will be presented in the order we feel appropriate in our diagnosis of the former Vice President. It will then be followed by a description of some of the psychological symptoms Joe Biden has displayed in recent years, particularly during his 2020 Presidential bid.

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<sup>1</sup> [Mayo Clinic: Parkinson's Disease - Symptoms and Causes, Aug. 07, 2020](#)

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.ninds.nih.gov/disorders/All-Disorders/Parkinsons-Disease-Information-Page>

# *Biden Resting After Surgery For Second Brain Aneurysm*

AP

May 4, 1988



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Joe Biden isn't being forthcoming about his medical history.

Past neurological treatments have gone unmentioned by the media and Biden. Boston Herald: "Biden had his medical records checked when President Barack Obama had him vetted before choosing him as his vice-presidential running mate in 2008. Biden underwent a microsurgical craniotomy of the right side of his brain at Walter Reed Hospital where he was taken in February 1988 after passing out in a hotel room following a speech he gave at the University of Rochester. A scan revealed an aneurysm at the base of his brain. The operation was successful. However, he was forced to return to the hospital for a second brain aneurysm operation on the other side of his brain three months later. Dr. Kassell has maintained that the two brain aneurysms that Biden suffered in 1988 were fully treated and that Biden showed no mental trouble as a result." <sup>3</sup>

"It's interesting that he had had a ruptured cerebral aneurysm, I had not been aware of that fact. Years after this problem, people can develop something called 'superficial siderosis.' Among other things, dementia and Parkinsonism are two possible late effects of superficial siderosis. So is Normal Pressure Hydrocephalus, which is characterized by Parkinsonian symptoms and dementia that wax and wane, making it very difficult to predict when someone will be normal or symptomatic." - Opinion from Neurologist after viewing our film. <sup>4</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.bostonherald.com/2020/06/28/liberal-media-avoids-quizzing-biden-on-brain-surgery/>

<sup>4</sup> Not a medical diagnosis and should not be considered an endorsement of this report.



## Tremors

A tremor is an involuntary, back and forth shaking that can affect parts of or even the entire body.<sup>5</sup> Tremors characteristically occur at rest and typically start in one hand, foot, or leg and can eventually affect both sides of the body.<sup>6</sup> According to the American Parkinson Disease Association, 80% of people with Parkinson's disease experience tremors. In our forensic video evidence, we show Joe Biden experiencing hand tremors on two separate occasions (04:18-05:35 minutes). In the video and on countless other occasions, Biden is seen gripping pens and microphones with his left-hand. This is worth noting as Biden is right-handed. Tremors tend to affect one side of the body but as we will demonstrate, can also affect the whole body. Parkinson's patients tend to utilize tight grappling displayed by the former Vice President as a method of pain management and a way to make the tremor go away.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.apdaparkinson.org/what-is-parkinsons/symptoms/tremor/>

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.apdaparkinson.org/what-is-parkinsons/symptoms/tremor/>

<sup>7</sup>

<https://www.parkinson.org/Understanding-Parkinsons/Symptoms/Movement-Symptoms/Tremor>



Additionally, the former Vice President experienced a full body tremor during an appearance with Trevor Noah on The Daily Show (5:36-6:05). The full body tremor was particularly striking. After Biden experienced the involuntary shaking, he regained his composure by pulling down his suit jacket. According to the American Parkinson Disease Association, tremors disappear with movement.<sup>8</sup> This was not a typical suit adjustment from the former Vice President. Joe Biden was shaking off a tremor. All three occasions show clear examples of involuntary shakings that people with Parkinson's know all too well. While tremors are not debilitating, they are usually one of the first things doctors look for in assessing whether a patient has Parkinson's disease. Based on our evidence and what medical authorities have described, it is evident that the former Vice President suffers from regular tremors.

## Akinesia/Bradykinesia

Akinesia/Bradykinesia is the third letter of the TRAP acronym and it is defined as the slowing of movement experienced by individuals with Parkinson's disease.<sup>9</sup> This slowed movement can cause difficulties with day to day tasks such as writing, walking, getting up from a chair, and more. This is a particularly frustrating symptom as it is often unpredictable. One moment you can be moving easily, while in the next you may need help.<sup>10</sup> We will discuss Joe Biden's attempts at remedying his issues with Akinesia/Bradykinesia in a later section.

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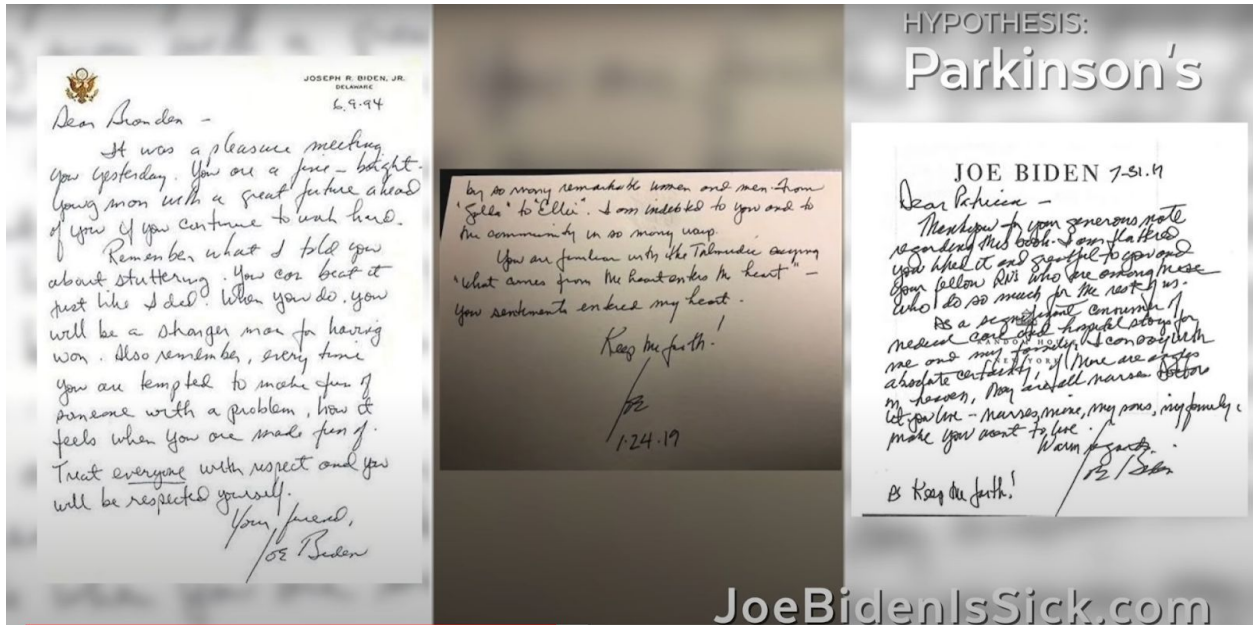
<sup>8</sup> <https://www.apdaparkinson.org/what-is-parkinsons/symptoms/tremor/>

<sup>9</sup>

<https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/parkinsons-disease/symptoms-causes/syc-20376055>

<sup>10</sup>

<https://www.parkinson.org/Understanding-Parkinsons/Symptoms/Movement-Symptoms/Bradykinesia-Slowness-of-Movement>



## Rigidity

Rigidity represents the second letter of the TRAP acronym. Individuals with Parkinson's have also described rigidity as causing them to feel as though their feet are "stuck to the floor."<sup>11</sup>

Rigidity is described as the stiffness and inflexibility of the limbs and is a primary motor (physical) symptom of Parkinson's disease.<sup>12</sup> Particularly, people with Parkinson's disease experience rigidity in the arms and legs. Rigidity is essentially a tightness of the limbs and causes a decreased range of motion. Rigidity can also lead to problems with handwriting. Someone experiencing rigidity will start writing slower, smaller, and tend to cramp their handwriting.<sup>13</sup> This change in handwriting is known as micrographia. In the video evidence presented, we show letters written by the former Vice President which show his writing getting smaller and more cramped over time (6:14-7:12). We believe it is a reasonable assumption that Joe Biden is displaying micrographia.

## Postural Instability

Parkinsonian gait (postural instability) is a distinctive and less steady walk that arises from changes in posture, slowness in movement, and shortened stride and is the fourth letter represented in the TRAP acronym. It is a defining feature of Parkinson's disease, especially in

<sup>11</sup>

<https://www.parkinson.org/Understanding-Parkinsons/Symptoms/Movement-Symptoms/Trouble-Moving-or-Walking>

<sup>12</sup> <https://www.apdaparkinson.org/what-is-parkinsons/symptoms/#motor>

<sup>13</sup> <https://www.parkinson.org/understanding-parkinsons/10-early-warning-signs>



later stages.<sup>14</sup> This symptom can lead to people with Parkinson's to "freeze up" and at times, fall down.<sup>15</sup>



## Biden's Difficulties with Walking

The Michael J. Fox Foundation has noted that while the difficulties with walking caused by rigidity and postural instability can occur at any time during the course of Parkinson's, they are more likely as the disease advances.<sup>16</sup> Joe Biden is 77 years old and the video evidence we present is from a recent clip in September 2020 (7:13-8:00). The former Vice President is seen displaying that distinctively slow and less steady walk. He is leaning unnaturally forward with his head dropped forward. His shoulders are down and his knees and hips are bent. Additionally, his feet appear to be dragging along in small and slow strides. These are signs of postural instability.

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<https://www.healthline.com/health/parkinsons/gait#:~:text=Parkinsonian%20gait%20is%20a%20defining,difficulty%20picking%20up%20their%20feet>

<sup>15</sup> <https://www.healthline.com/health/parkinsons/gait#symptoms>

<sup>16</sup> <https://www.michaeljfox.org/symptoms>



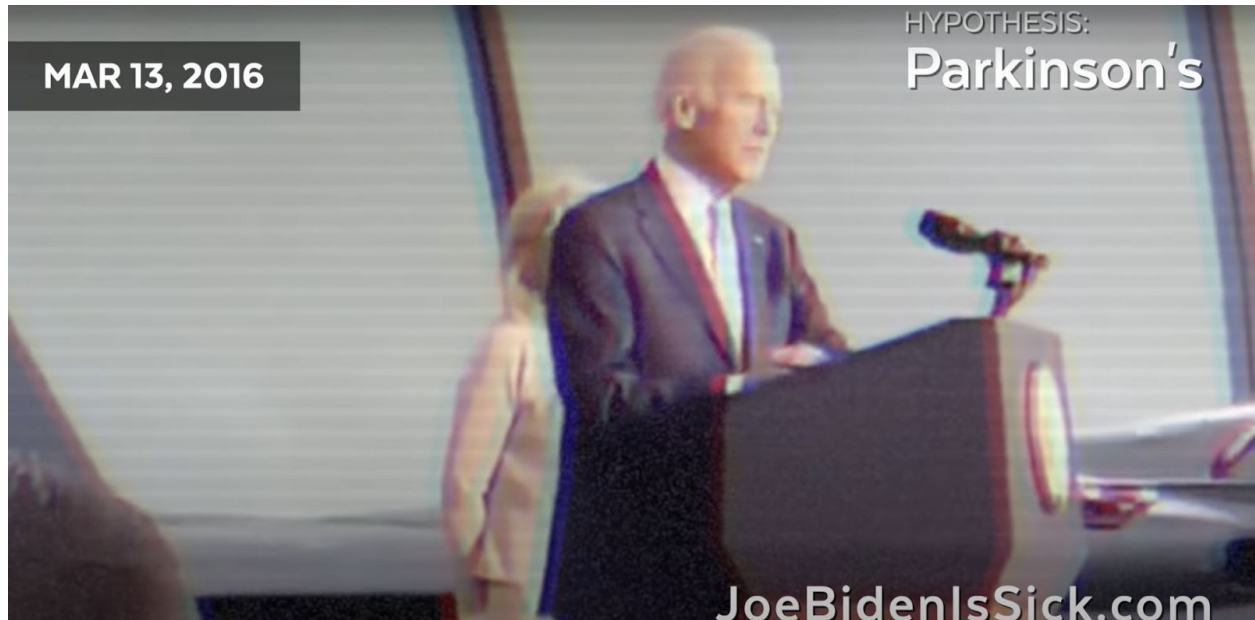
The overall slowness can also be attributed to Akinesia/Bradykinesia. This is where the symptoms seem to overlap. As described in our section on Akinesia/Bradykinesia, the slowness is unpredictable, and individuals suffering from this symptom may need help moving around in order to remedy the unpredictability. Additionally, the postural instability adds to the potential of falls suffered by individuals with Parkinson's disease. We highlight Biden's need for handlers with him in our video (8:01-8:20). These handlers are more than just political aids. They are there to ensure the Vice President has help in case he may experience an unexpected slowness of movement and episode of postural instability that could lead him to fall.

Finally, the rigidity of the limbs can lead to an individual to feel like their feet are stuck to the floor. In the video presented, Biden is seen barely lifting his feet off the ground. While this can also be attributed to postural instability, the stiffness of limbs is also a substantial factor in what is causing Joe Biden to walk this way.

In assessing the clip of Biden walking, it is evident that the former Vice President is suffering from the three symptoms of Parkinson's disease that impact an individual's ability to walk. The slow and awkward movement seen in the video is not a sign of aging. This is a sign of a man who is suffering from Parkinson's disease. In particular, the later stages of Parkinson's disease.

# The Non-Motor Symptoms of Parkinson's Disease

While Parkinson's disease is a type of movement disorder, the associated non-motor disorders can often be overlooked.<sup>17</sup> However, the non-motor effects of Parkinson's disease are very real and Joe Biden has shown us evidence during his 2020 Presidential Campaign that he is experiencing this side of Parkinson's as well.



## Dementia (Cognitive Changes)

In more advanced cases of Parkinson's or in older people with the disease, problems with thinking, word finding, judgement and memory loss are common (<https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/dementia/symptoms-causes/syc-20352013>). In some cases the cognitive changes can lead to dementia. Many individuals report difficulties in multitasking and organizing daily activities. Confusion may also be a side effect of some Parkinson's disease medications.<sup>18</sup> We have seen a handful of verbal gaffes, memory loss, and slurred speech displayed by the former Vice President and this is shown in our video evidence (8:49-9:50).

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<sup>17</sup> <https://www.apdaparkinson.org/what-is-parkinsons/symptoms/#nonmotor>

<sup>18</sup> <https://www.apdaparkinson.org/what-is-parkinsons/symptoms/#nonmotor>





## Psychological Changes

Mood disorders are a type of psychological change that accompanies some cases of Parkinson's disease. Some of these psychological symptoms include paranoia, inappropriate behavior, agitation, anxiety, irritability, and even hallucinations.<sup>19</sup> In our video evidence, Joe Biden is seen getting easily irritated and anxious when put into stressful situations and his behavior at times is inappropriate (9:50-12:49). This is not normal behavior, even for a man of his age. His psychological changes are progressively becoming more apparent as the 2020 Election has intensified.

### Conclusion

It was clear from the beginning of former Vice President Joe Biden's 2020 Presidential bid that there was something wrong with his health. It is apparent after our extensive research and analysis that we can assume that Joe Biden has Parkinson's disease. Both the motor and non-motor symptoms are on full display in our video evidence and it is our hope that our research leads to further investigation by both laymen and doctors into what we believe is a clear case of Parkinson's disease.

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<sup>19</sup> <https://www.parkinson.org/Understanding-Parkinsons/Non-Movement-Symptoms>

## Disclaimer

The content in this report, including its text, images, links to websites, and any other material found within it are strictly an opinion. The content in this report provides general information and discussions related to Parkinson's disease, dementia, and other medically related issues.

This report was not written by medical professionals. The content within this report should not substitute any professional medical advice, diagnosis, or treatment related to Parkinson's disease, dementia, or any of the other medically related content discussed.

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5. The team that produced this report would rather find that none of this information is true and have their hypothesis disproved by a doctor, or other medical professional.

5.1 The team that produced this report will keep Joe Biden and his family in their prayers with his wellbeing in mind.