

Gene mutation increases link between pesticide exposure and Parkinson's

A mutation in a brain protein makes people exposed to pesticides and a herbicide more likely to develop Parkinson's disease, according to a study led by San Diego scientists.

Researchers identified the mechanism by which the chemicals induce Parkinson's in those with the mutation. Pesticide exposure has long been known as an increased risk factor for Parkinson's, which gradually reduces the ability to move. However, the reasons for this vulnerability are unknown.

The researchers found that the mutation predisposes certain brain cells to injury from "free radicals," ionized molecules that cause oxidative damage. Antioxidants work by blocking these molecules.

Read the full, original story here: [Parkinson's Tied to Pesticide](#)