



THE LBD DIGEST

Norman Fixel Institute for Neurological Diseases at UF Health

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Scam Alert: Helpful tips to avoid being scammed

Scammers do not discriminate and are skilled in exploiting people in any situation. We have compiled some helpful tips to avoid falling victim to consumer fraud. If you do fall victim to a scam and would like professional advice, contact the Florida Attorney General's Office at MyFloriaLegal.com or at 1-866-933-7226.

IRS: These scammers claim they are Internal Revenue Service (IRS) agents. They may even have some personal information, like a partial social security number. The IRS does *not* make initial contact by phone, but rather through U.S. Mail. If the scamming "agent" demands immediate payment through a specific method, like a wire transfer, this is another red flag. You can contact the IRS at 1-800-829-1040.

Price Gouging: With the arrival of hurricane season we advise you to prepare supplies in advance. It is not uncommon for scammers to exploit an emergency by increasing the price of essential items like water, gas, or shelter. If you witness this, obtain as much information as possible and report this fraud at 1-866-966-7226.

Tax Identity Theft: Theft may occur if your social security number is compromised and someone files a fraudulent tax return. If you notice a fraudulent tax return is submitted or a change in your refund or taxes owed then act immediately. Call the IRS and submit Form 14039, Identity Theft Affidavit, at IRS.gov.

Other Unsolicited Calls, Emails or Mail: Scammers oftentimes make contact informing a person they won a contest they never entered, claim they are law enforcement asking for personal information by phone or mail or even claim to be a debt collector. If they use high pressure tactics with phrases like "act now" or are violent, they may be breaking the law. Contact the Florida Attorney General's Office to report this activity.

Communication of Dementia Diagnoses: Patient and Family Experiences and Developing Best

Practices: Telephone interview study recruiting individuals diagnosed with dementia in the past 2 years. Find more information here: <https://m.ufhealth.org/research-study/communication-dementia-diagnoses-patient-family>. Call 352-733-2419 or email Noheli.Gamez@neurology.ufl.edu for more information.

Research Corner

Identifying Factors Predicting Accurately End-of-Life in Dementia with Lewy Bodies and Promoting Quality End-of-Life Experiences: the PACE-DLB Study: Study recruiting people with moderate to severe dementia with Lewy bodies (DLB). The person with DLB and their caregiver must participate together. The study starts with a screening visit to make sure you are eligible. Find more information here: <https://ufhealth.org/research-study/pace-dlb>. Call 352-733-3004 or email PACE-DLB@neurology.ufl.edu for more information.

Meet Our Team:

Noheli Bedenfield



Noheli (No-el-ee) Bedenfield, MHA is a Research Coordinator and LBD Support Group Facilitator with UF Health, Department of Neurology. She primarily supports Dr. Melissa Armstrong and LBD-related initiatives and research. She graduated from the University of Florida with a Masters in Health Administration and a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology.

Noheli, raised in citrus filled central Florida, has been part of the Gainesville community for the past decade and is passionate about supporting people when they need it most. From her time with the Fixel Institute for Neurological Diseases, she has developed her knowledge of LBD through communicating with the people living with LBD, their families and care partners/caregivers and LBD specialists. Her hope is to connect the LBD community with their local resources while contributing to innovative research happening at the Fixel Institute.

In her spare time Noheli loves to express her creativity through art and music. She also enjoys adventuring through nature with her husband and two dogs, Biscuit and Gravy. Noheli is intentional in creating meaningful relationships with people with LBD and their families. If you need guidance in regards to LBD supports and services, feel free to contact her at Noheli.gamez@neurology.ufl.edu.

CONTACT US



To contact your UF Health Lewy Body Dementia Support Team call (352) 733-2419 or email us at DLB-support@neurology.ufl.edu.



Are you a caregiver in need of support?

Join our monthly Virtual Lewy Body Dementia Caregiver Support Group!

- Every 4th Friday of the month from 2-3PM
- Connect by telephone:
 - Call the toll-free number
 - +1 (646) 558-8656
 - Input Meeting ID: 540-200-2903
- Connect online:
 - <https://uflphi.zoom.us/j/5402002903>

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