Sandrine Stauner-Facques

Jean-Alain Jachiet: his life with Parkinson's inspires a major innovation

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At 57, Jean-Alain Jachiet learns he has Parkinson's disease. Rather than surrendering to the illness, this former IT specialist puts his experience to work for innovation: he is developing an application capable of tracking the daily evolution of the disease and providing patients and neurologists with reliable data to better adapt care.

Jean-Alain Jachiet is no ordinary patient. A trained IT engineer and former head of technical teams in the media industry, he is 57 years old when he learns he has Parkinson's disease.

Rather than simply enduring the illness, he decides to transform his experience into a driving force and contribute to both research and patient care.

Today, he puts his expertise and vision to work on a project: an application capable of tracking the daily evolution of the disease at home, and of providing patients — and above all neurologists — with reliable, accurate data to better understand, measure and adapt care.

A committed IT professional caught by illness

A trained IT engineer, Jean-Alain Jachiet spent most of his career in the media sector: radio, press and production companies. He led technical teams, managed international IT projects.

Jean-Alain wants to understand, anticipate, contribute — not be a passive patient but an active one in his own future.

When he begins experiencing persistent pain, he initially thinks of a musculoskeletal disorder common among IT professionals, often attributed to long hours at a keyboard. But the diagnosis is immediate: Parkinson's disease.

The announcement hits like an electric shock. Determined not to remain passive in the face of an uncertain future, he quickly joins Parkinson Luxembourg, then connects with Parkinson Europe, where he becomes a patient representative in the 'Data & Innovation' group. There he discovers the importance of being an active, informed, and engaged patient in scientific advances.

His family history — equally heavy: a mother severely affected by Parkinson's and a father who had Alzheimer's — strengthens his determination to act, especially for his children and grandchildren. Jean-Alain wants to understand, anticipate, contribute; to be not a passive patient but an active one in his own future.

The founding idea: making the invisible visible between consultations

Today, a Parkinson's patient sees their neurologist on average every four months, during a consultation lasting around thirty minutes. Despite the specialists' skill, this brief observation window remains insufficient to precisely measure the disease's progression, all the more so since certain tests remain subjective.

By participating in several studies, including the PADOVA clinical trial, Jean-Alain grasped the scale of the problem: on one hand, measurement technologies exist; on the other, they are not used in day-to-day patient monitoring.

He then envisioned a system capable of analysing gait, posture, speech and gestures at home. Not to provide a diagnosis, but to produce objective, regular and detailed findings. Without replacing medical consultations or issuing a diagnosis, the goal is to give everyone — patient and doctor alike — a fuller picture of the situation as it is lived day after day.

Creating his company

To bring his idea to life, Jean-Alain founded his company in April 2025: Lihoury Technology, surrounded by a committed and highly qualified team: a physiotherapist specialised in Parkinson's, an expert in IT and biology — herself affected by the disease — a speech therapist who wrote her thesis on Parkinson's, a salesperson, a financial officer, and soon two developers specialised in artificial intelligence.

The young company quickly attracted attention: Lihoury Technology was selected among the start-ups chosen by Fit 4 Start,

Luxembourg's flagship acceleration programme designed to help technology start-ups.

The team also has scientific and institutional partners: Parkinson Luxembourg, Parkinson Europe, and above all the Luxembourg Institute of Health (LIH), with which a BRIDGES funding application has been submitted to the National Research Fund, a public-private collaboration framework supporting innovation.

Technology at the service of daily life

The core of Jean-Alain's project rests on a simple idea: to offer patients a digital solution usable at home, without prior expertise, integrated into their daily routine. The tool will monitor certain aspects of movement, posture or communication using non-invasive methods. It is not intended to replace a healthcare professional, but to create a useful complement, designed to facilitate the preparation of consultations with all the specialists who support a Parkinson's patient and to improve dialogue with neurologists. The goal is to offer ongoing monitoring, rather than a snapshot every four months.

A project already reaching beyond Parkinson's

The technology envisioned by Jean-Alain is already attracting interest from other fields: long Covid, multiple sclerosis and functional rehabilitation. For him, this approach could improve the monitoring of a large number of patients, whenever a condition affects movement, posture or communication.

The expert patient experience: a precious resource

Jean-Alain fully embodies the expert patient. Informed, trained and engaged, he harnesses his personal experience and analytical capacity to contribute to research, support other patients, and bridge the gap between daily living and the expectations of healthcare professionals.

He participates in several European projects, exchanges with researchers and immerses himself in understanding scientific advances. He encourages patients to become active, to find out, to get involved. Far from resigning himself, he chooses to transform the experience of illness into a constructive force.

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Towards a new era of personalised monitoring

With his team, Jean-Alain Jachiet aims to launch his solution in Luxembourg and neighbouring countries within two and a half years, before targeting the European market and then the American market. His project, at the crossroads of technology, clinical research and patient experience, could transform the monitoring of Parkinson's disease. For patients as for doctors, the stakes are immense: to better understand, better measure, better adapt and better live with the disease.