

Stefan M. Pulst, MD, Dr med, FAAN



Stefan M. Pulst, MD, Dr med, FAAN, is professor and chair of the department of neurology at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City. He received his neurological training at the Medizinische Hochschule Hannover in Germany and the Longwood Program at Harvard Medical School, Boston. Prior to moving to the University of Utah in 2007, he was professor of medicine, neurology, and neurobiology at the UCLA School of Medicine.

Research in the Pulst laboratory focuses on inherited diseases of the nervous system with an emphasis on spinocerebellar ataxias, ALS, and Parkinson disease. His group identified the genes for SCA2 and SCA13, and as part of collaborative groups, the genes for SCA10, Neurofibromatosis 2 and TBK1 for ALS. His group is using genomic and molecular genetic tools to understand cell-type specific neurodegeneration. This is aided by modeling of the disease process in transgenic and knockout mouse models with the ultimate goal of developing novel therapies.

Recently, his research has branched out into understanding the genetic epidemiology of Parkinson disease. He worked with the Utah legislature and the Department of Health to make Parkinson disease a reportable disease in the state of Utah and designed the first statewide web-based registry for Parkinson disease.

Pulst has served on peer-review groups for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and various international research agencies and was chair of the NIH Genetics of Health and Disease study section. He currently serves on the scientific advisory committee for the Hertie Foundation in Germany. He has received numerous awards, most recently the George C. Cotzias Award from the AAN and a Senator Jacob Javits Award for Neuroscience from NINDS. Pulst was the founding chair of the AAN Section on Neurogenetics and the Basic Science Subcommittee. He was a member of the AAN Science Committee and served as chair from 2006 to 2011. He is now a member of the AAN Board of Directors and chair of the Meeting Management Committee. Pulst served on the editorial board of *Continuum*® and is the founding editor of *Neurology*® *Genetics*.

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