

Expanding Access to Ataxia Care: Synapticure's Virtual Neurology Model as a Complement to In- Person Care

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In April 2026, virtual specialty neurology practice Synapticure opened its practice to ataxia patients. Synapticure's clinical leader for Movement Disorders, Liz Ferluga MD, oversees the newly-established ataxia practice, working with several other Synapticure providers and APPs. The purpose of this article is to give a high-level overview of the Synapticure practice, and describe how Synapticure providers and staff collaborate with in-person providers, staff, and auxiliary services to provide ataxia patients with excellent care.

About Synapticure

Synapticure is a specialty virtual neurology practice dedicated to the care of individuals living with complex neurological conditions—including Ataxias, Parkinson's disease, Huntington disease, ALS, Alzheimer's, FTD and other dementias. Born out of one co-founder's ALS diagnosis and the insight that US neurology provider capacity and/or locations are not sufficient to meet growing demand for excellent care, Synapticure brings together board-certified subspecialty neurologists, advanced practice providers (APPs), genetic counselors, speech language pathologists, mental health practitioners, and dedicated care coordinators within a single, integrated virtual care model.

Our team brings the same precision medicine approach to ataxia that has guided our work in other rare neurological conditions—combining expert clinical evaluation, genetic counseling, and longitudinal care management in an accessible, virtual format.

A Collaborative Model: Working With, Not Against, In-Person Providers

Synapticure does not position itself as a replacement for the academic centers of excellence or community neurologists who serve as primary providers for most ataxia patients. Rather, we see our role as an extension of that care team—one that can add capacity, coordination, and convenience without disrupting the patient's established clinical relationships.

Our neurologists and APPs approach every patient encounter with the understanding that a specialist at an ataxia center of excellence, or other community-based ataxia specialist, is often the most important physician in that patient's life. We actively communicate with referring and co-managing providers,

share visit notes and clinical updates, and align our recommendations with the care plans established by primary neurology teams. Synapticure's care coordinators play a key role in this collaboration—facilitating referrals, closing communication loops, and ensuring that patients and families don't fall through the cracks between appointments.

Addressing Capacity Gaps and Reaching Rural Patients

In a couple of key ways, access to expert ataxia care remains a significant challenge. Demand for specialized neurology services continues to outpace the capacity of in-person clinics, and patients in rural or underserved areas may face long travel distances and extended wait times for appointments. Synapticure was built to help address both of these realities.

By offering virtual visits, we can supplement in-person care without competing for limited clinic slots. For patients already established at an ataxia center, Synapticure can provide interim visits between scheduled in-person appointments—offering an additional touchpoint for symptom monitoring, medication management, and care coordination. For patients in rural communities who may not live near a center of excellence, virtual care with Synapticure can mean the difference between receiving specialized neurology input and going without. These patients are often able to complete at least a portion of their neurological care from the comfort of their own homes, reducing the physical and logistical burden of travel without sacrificing clinical quality.

We welcome the opportunity to connect with Ataxia Centers of Excellence about how Synapticure may be able to support your patients and your team. For more information, please visit synapticure.com or reach out directly to our provider partnerships team at Support@synapticure.com.