



NATIONAL CAPITAL  
NEUROSURGERY

# Deep Brain Stimulation

Surgical Treatment  
for Parkinson's Disease

Zachary T. Levine MD, FAANS

National Capital Neurosurgery

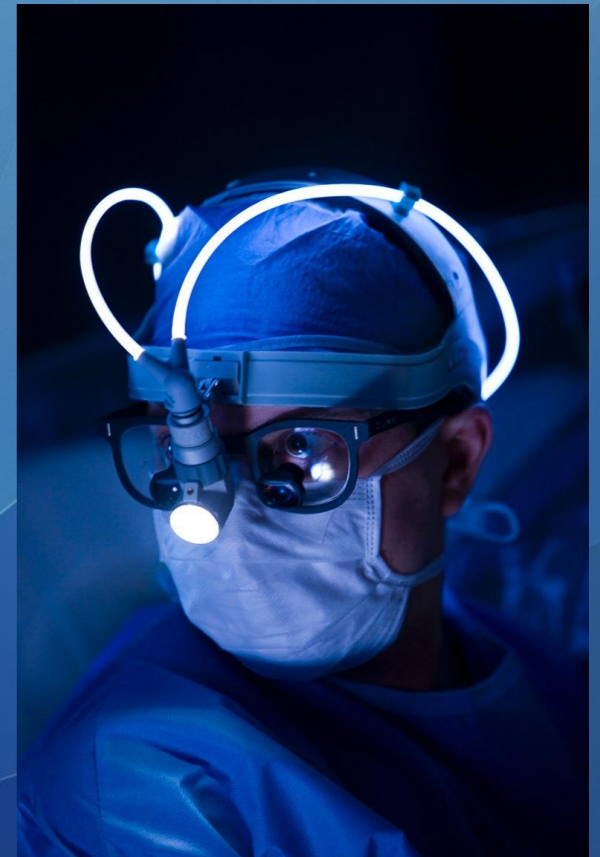
Director of Neurosurgery and Neurosciences, Holy Cross Hospital

Clinical Professor Neurosurgery, GWU



# Background and Disclosures

- Board Certified Neurosurgeon
  - FAANS, in practice >17 years
- Director of Neurosurgery and Neurosciences: Holy Cross Health
- Clinical Professor of Neurosurgery, GWU
- Research in PD, Brain electrophysiology, Patent: Cell transplantation into the brain
- Medical Advisory Board Member: PFNCA
- Previous Board Member: Parkinson's Action Network
  
- Served on the Technical Advisory Board to Medtronic for DBS
- Instructor of Abbott Medical







# History of Movement Disorder Surgery

- 1930-1940 “Tractotomy”
  - Severing connections in the brain
- 1940’ s Stereotactic Pallidotomy and Thalamotomy: Spiegel and Wicis
  - Burning holes in the brain
- 1950’ s Choroidal Artery Ligation: Cooper
  - Surgical strokes: 10-15% complication rate
- 1970’ s - 90’ s Resurgence of Pallidotomy: Laitenen
- 1980’ s to present Neural Transplantation: Madrazo
- Chronic Stimulation
  - 1975- treatment for chronic pain
  - 1987’ s to present for Movement Disorders Benibid





# Neural Prosthetic

- Electrical stimulation to modulate output from target
- Based on “lesioning” studies
- Mimic lesioning with fewer adverse events
- Symptomatic treatment
  - Tremor
  - Bradykinesia
  - Rigidity
  - Freezing
  - Dystonia
  - Dyskinesia







# FDA Approved

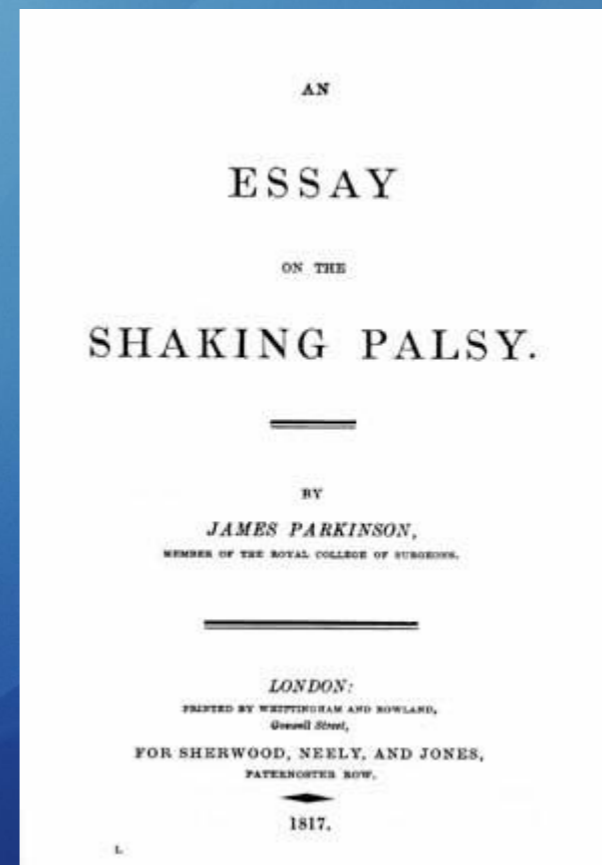


- DBS for Tremor
  - 1997 - FDA approval - thalamic stimulation
- DBS for PD
  - Late 2001 - FDA approval - bilateral
- DBS for Dystonia
  - 2003- FDA approval



# Parkinson's Disease

- Death of Dopaminergic Cells in the brain - not just the SN
- Suicide? - apoptosis
- Murder? - toxic exposure
- Both
  - genetic predisposition
  - toxin exposure



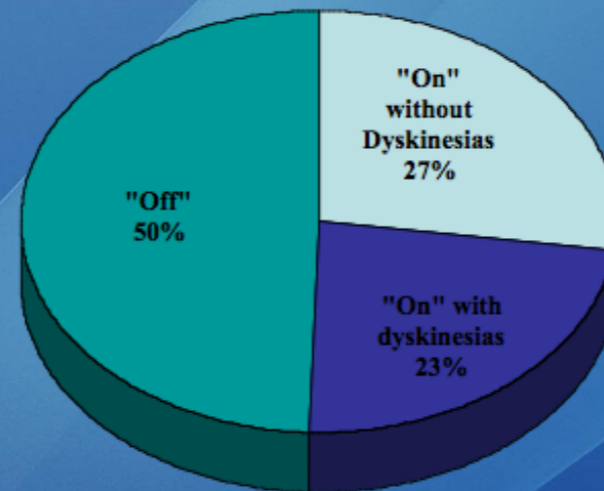




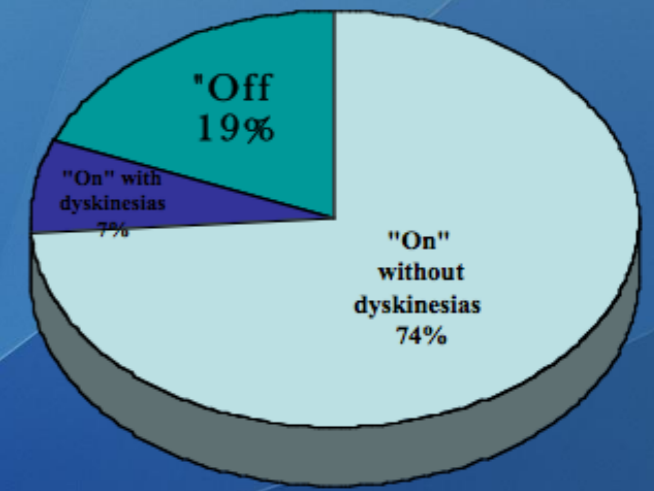
## Deep Brain Stimulation for PD

- Current prosthetic paradigm
  - FDA approved
  - Proven track record
    - NEJM September 2001
- Not experimental

NEJM Vol 345 No 13 9/27/2001



Baseline  
Assessment



6 Months After Bilateral STN  
Stimulation



# DBS v. Best Medical Therapy

## A Randomized Trial of Deep-Brain Stimulation

### for Parkinson's Disease

NEJM 2006; 355 896-908

- 156 patients randomized to DBS and medical therapy vs. Medical therapy alone
- Endpoints: measured at baseline and at 6 months
  - Quality life measurements by questionnaire (PDQ-39)
    - DBS show greater improvement  $p = 0.02$ , mean improvement by 9.5 points
  - Severity of Symptoms by UPDRS- III
    - DBS shows greater improvement  $p < 0.0001$ , mean improvement 19.6 points
- Adverse Events
  - DBS had more serious side effects 13% vs 4%  $P < 0.04$  (including cerebral hemorrhage)
  - Medication group had more frequent adverse events (64% vs. 50%  $p = 0.08$ )
- Improvements were in motor scores, ADLs, well-being, stigma, bodily discomfort
- Conclusion: “...patients under 75 years of age with severe motor complications of Parkinson's disease, neurostimulation of the subthalamic nucleus was more effective than medical management alone.”





## DBS vs. Medical Treatment in PD

### Bilateral Deep Brain Stimulation vs Best Medical Therapy for People with Advanced Parkinson's Disease

JAMA 2009; 301(1) 63-73

- 255 Randomized Patients 121 - DBS, 134 - Best Medical Therapy - compared “on time.” motor function, QOL, Cognitive function and adverse events
  - DBS patients gained an average of 4.6h/d of “on time” vs. 0h/d  $p < 0.001$
  - 71% of DBS patients motor function improvement vs. 32%  $p < 0.001$
  - 7/8 QOL scores significantly improved with DBS as did the summary of QOL vs. No significant improvement  $p < 0.001$
  - Cognitive function slightly decreased at the 6month mark with DBS
  - More adverse events with DBS  $p < 0.001$  (49 adverse events with DBS vs 15)
  - **Conclusion: Deep Brain stimulation is superior to best medical therapy for people with Parkinson's Disease, in regard to increased “on time”, UPDRS scores and Quality of Life self assessment.**



# DBS Devices

- Implants
  - Lead to target in brain
  - Pulse generator and extension cable
- Programable
  - Externally by Neurologist and Patient
  - Battery will require replacement
  - even with re-chargeables







# DBS Patient Selection

- Idiopathic Parkinson's Disease
  - Significant “motor fluctuations”
  - Poor on time not amenable to medication alterations
  - Responsiveness to Carbidopa/Levodopa
    - “On/Off” Evaluation
    - Intolerance to medication
- Intact cognitively
  - MMSE >23, Mattis >125
- If depression - treated
- Expectations
  - Best “on time” increased three fold



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*“Damn it, I’m a brain surgeon, not a rocket scientist!”*





# Two Stage Surgery

- Two stage process
  - 1st Implant Lead - stereotactic surgery
    - usually done awake
  - 2nd Implant IPG (Implantable Pulse Generator)
    - Done under general anesthesia





# First Stage

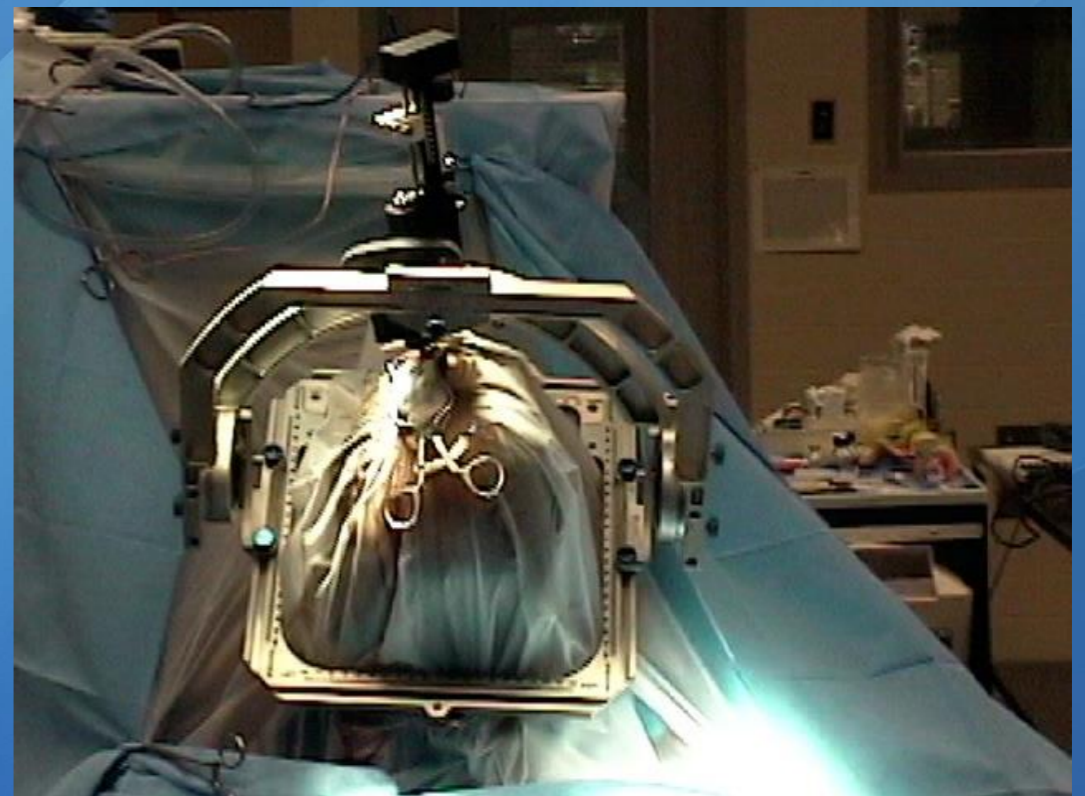
- Lead Placement
  - precise implantation of the lead into the brain
  - Stereotactic procedure
    - Frame Based
    - Frameless
  - Microelectrode recording
  - Test stimulation





# Frame-based DBS

- Uses titanium cage applied to skull
- Requires all imaging the day of surgery
  - Lengthens surgery
- Dependent on placement of frame
  - the more accurately it is placed the more accurate the placement
- Fixes patient to bed throughout operation
- Fatigue factor - wearing the frame





# Frameless DBS

## NexFrame

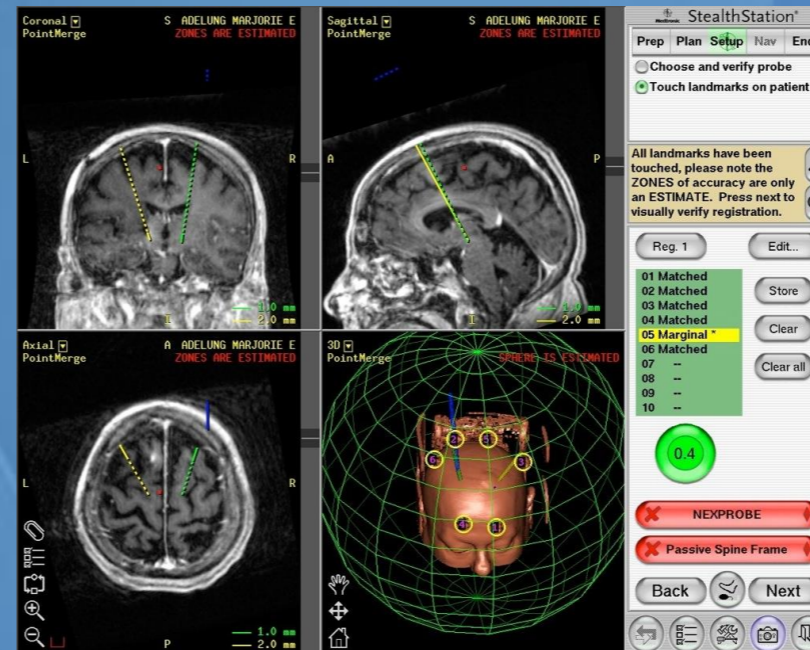
Uses bone screws for accuracy

Imaging can be done 1 week or more before surgery

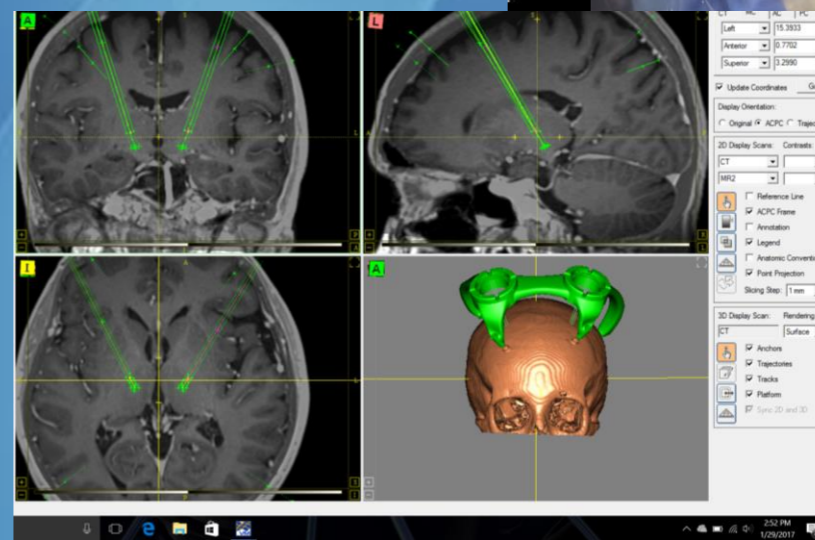
Patient is NOT immobilized for surgery

Generally a faster operation

NO SACRIFICE in accuracy



## StarFix







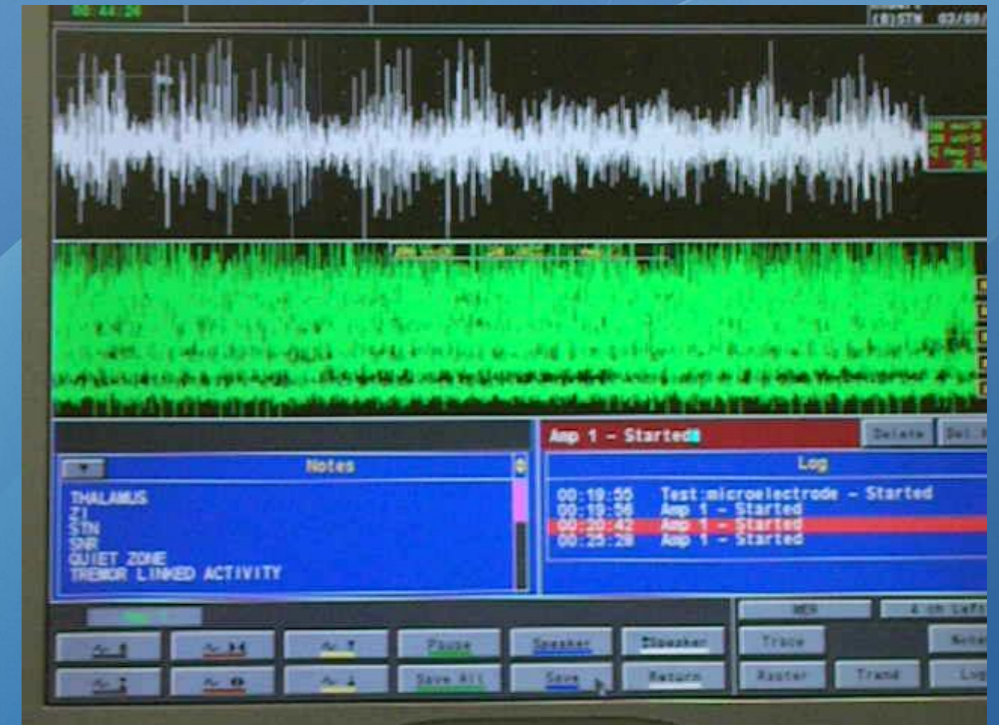
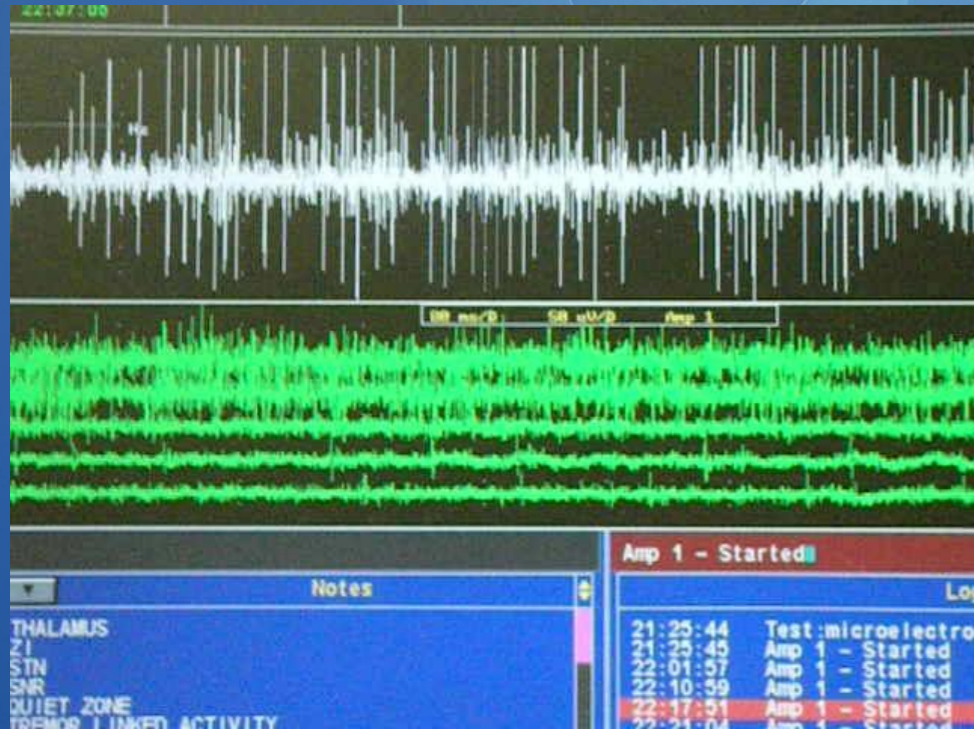
# Surgical Overview

- Stop all Movement Disorder medication 6pm prior to surgery
- Surgery in AM the following day
  - Awake but sedated
  - Microelectrode recordings
    - listen to the brain to localize target
  - Test stimulation
    - look for benefit
    - screen for side effect
    - Secure electrode and close
- Admitted to ICU
  - Imaged the next day and discharged





# Microelectrode Recording and Test Stimulation







# Target Selection

**Vim:** Ventral intermediate nucleus of the Thalamus

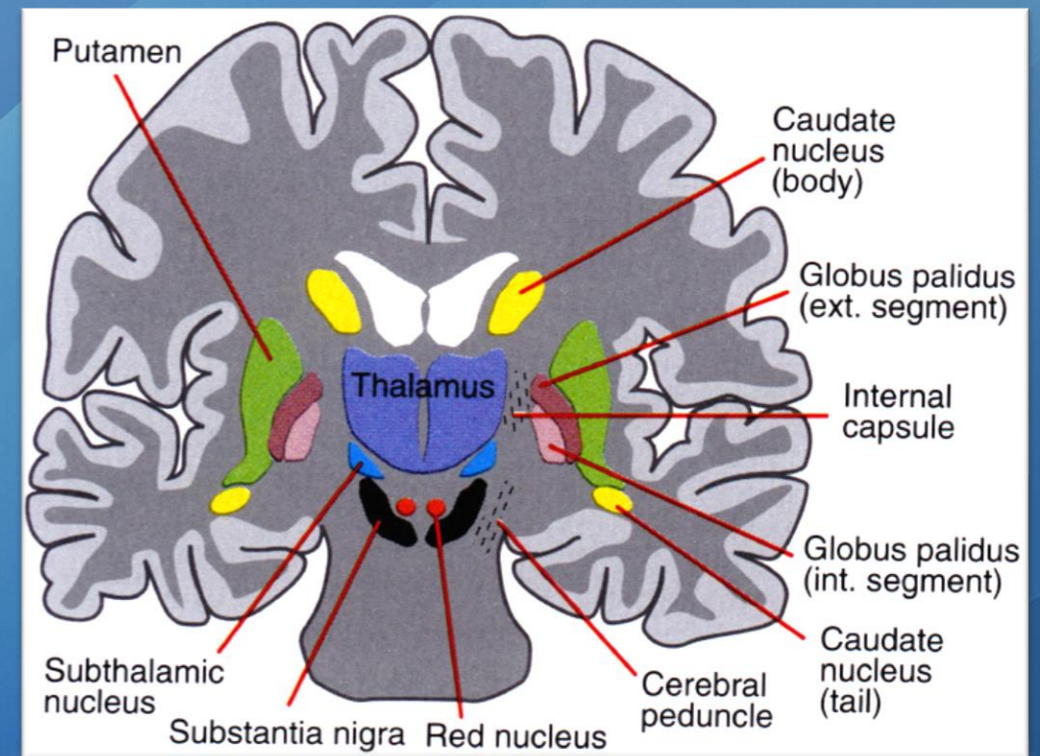
Tremor control, little to no reduction in freezing, bradykinesia, rigidity, dyskinesia

**GPi:** Globus Pallidus (internal segment)

Reduction in dyskinesia, rigidity, freezing and tremor. No significant reduction in medication

**STN:** Subthalamic nucleus

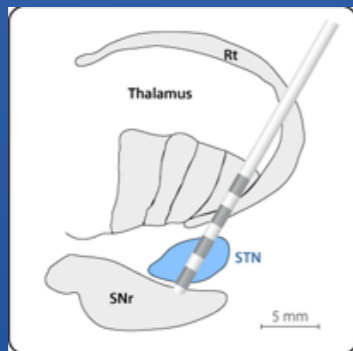
Reduction in tremor, bradykinesia, freezing, rigidity, reduction in medication with many patients which reduces dyskinesias.





# Outcomes: STN DBS

- Bilateral STN
  - Tremor 82% improvement
  - Bradykinesia 79% improvement
  - Rigidity 81% improvement
  - Dyskinesia 71% improvement
  - Medication reduction 40-50%



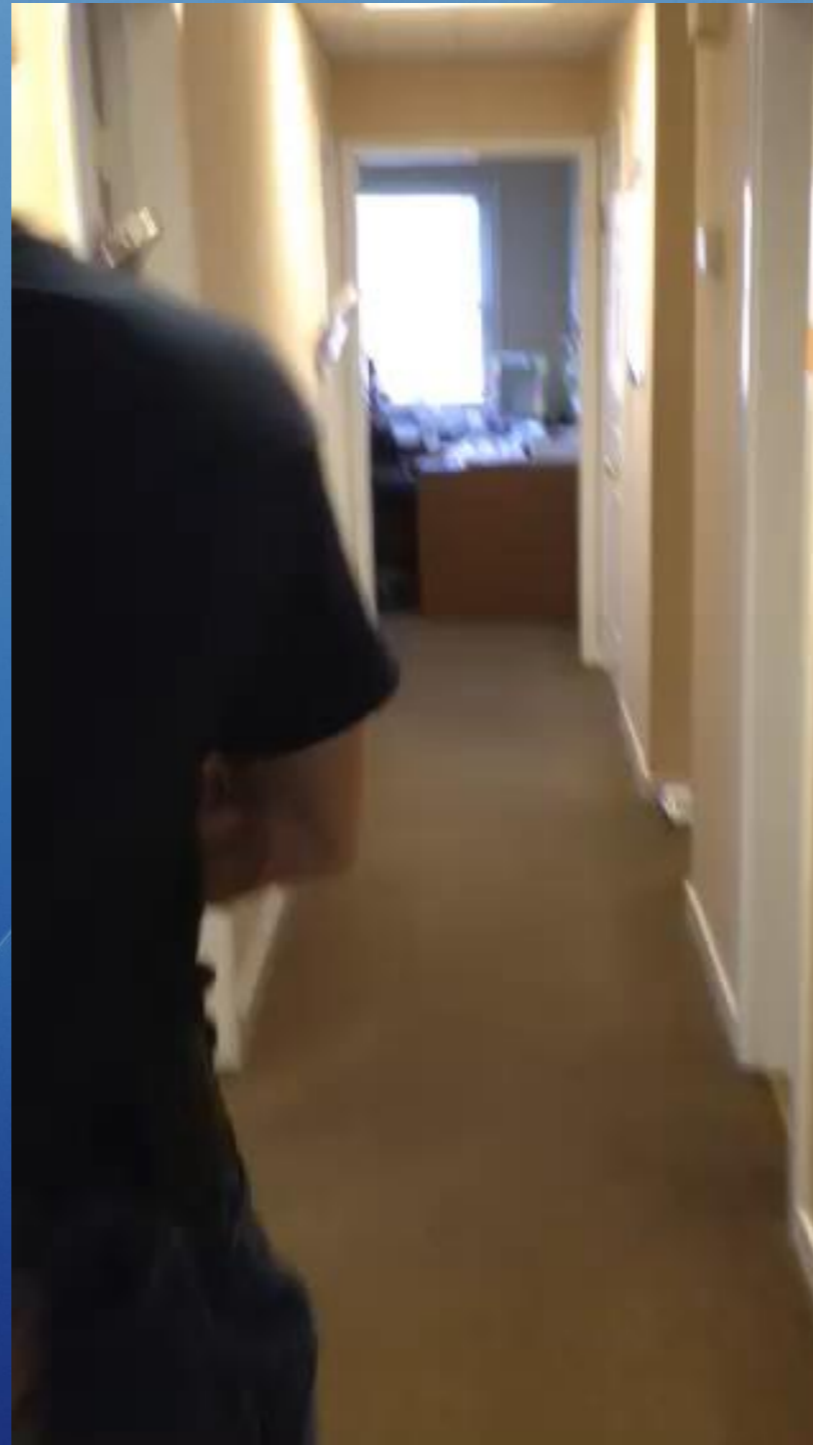




# Outcomes: GPi DBS

- Bilateral GPi
  - Tremor 70% improvement
  - Bradykinesia 80% improvement
  - Rigidity 83% improvement
  - Dyskinesia 85% improvement
  - Medication reduction <20%

\*Fewer Cases: Cannot compare to STN





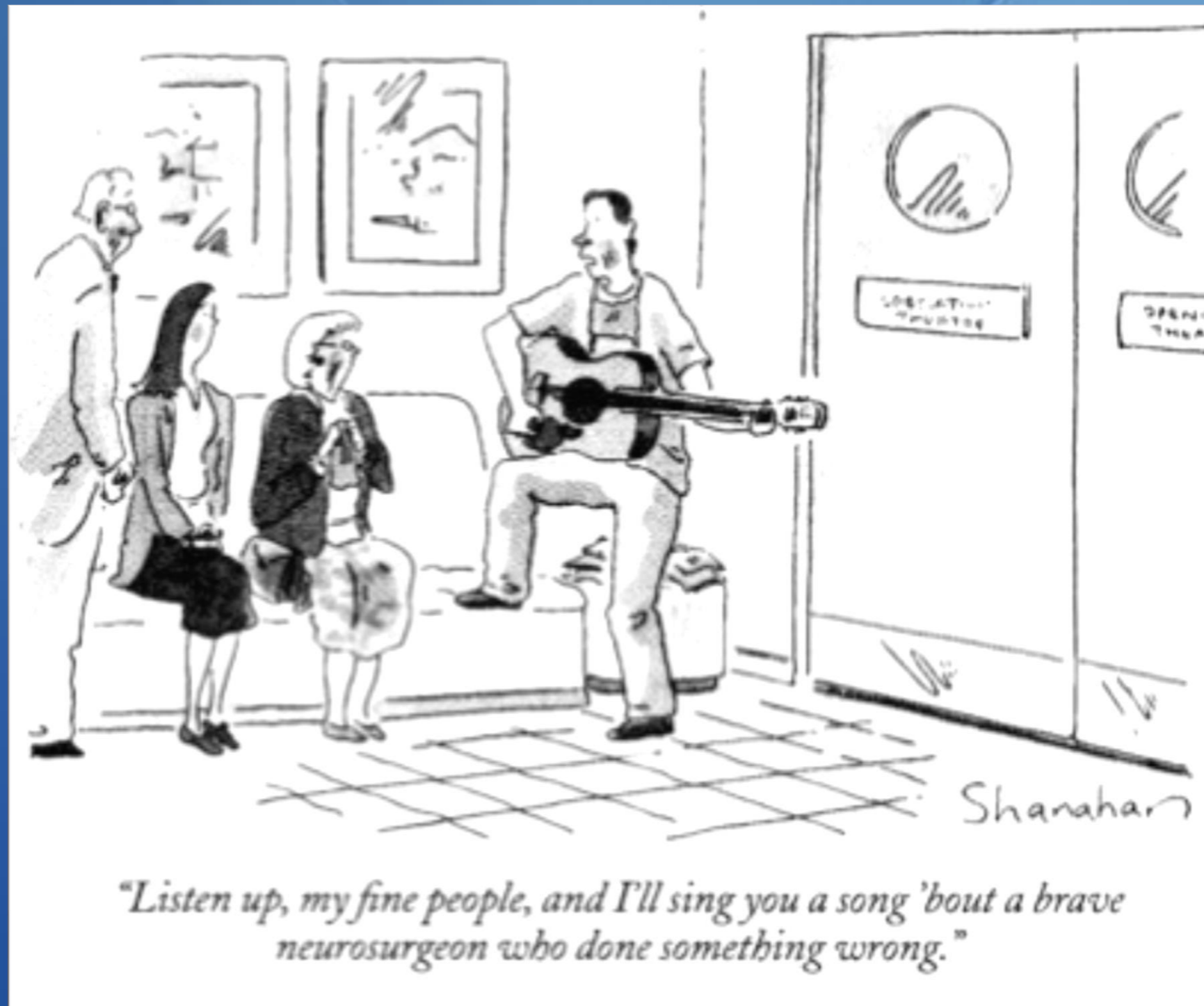
# Expectations

- Deep Brain Stimulation is NOT a cure
- Tremor Control does not mean tremor arrest in every case
- Parkinson's Disease symptoms that are improved are not completely arrested
  - tremor, bradykinesia, dyskinesia, rigidity
  - expect your best "on" time to be the majority of your day
  - DBS does not replace the use of medication
- Dystonia improvement is better in large muscle groups





# Complications





# Complications

Lead Migration/Breakage (1-3%) <1%

Usually due severe trauma or twisting of the cables

Infection (3-23%) 2%

Pulse generator is more common than “brain lead”

Hemorrhage - Blood clot (2%) <1%

Most are insignificant found on postop imaging





# NCN Experience

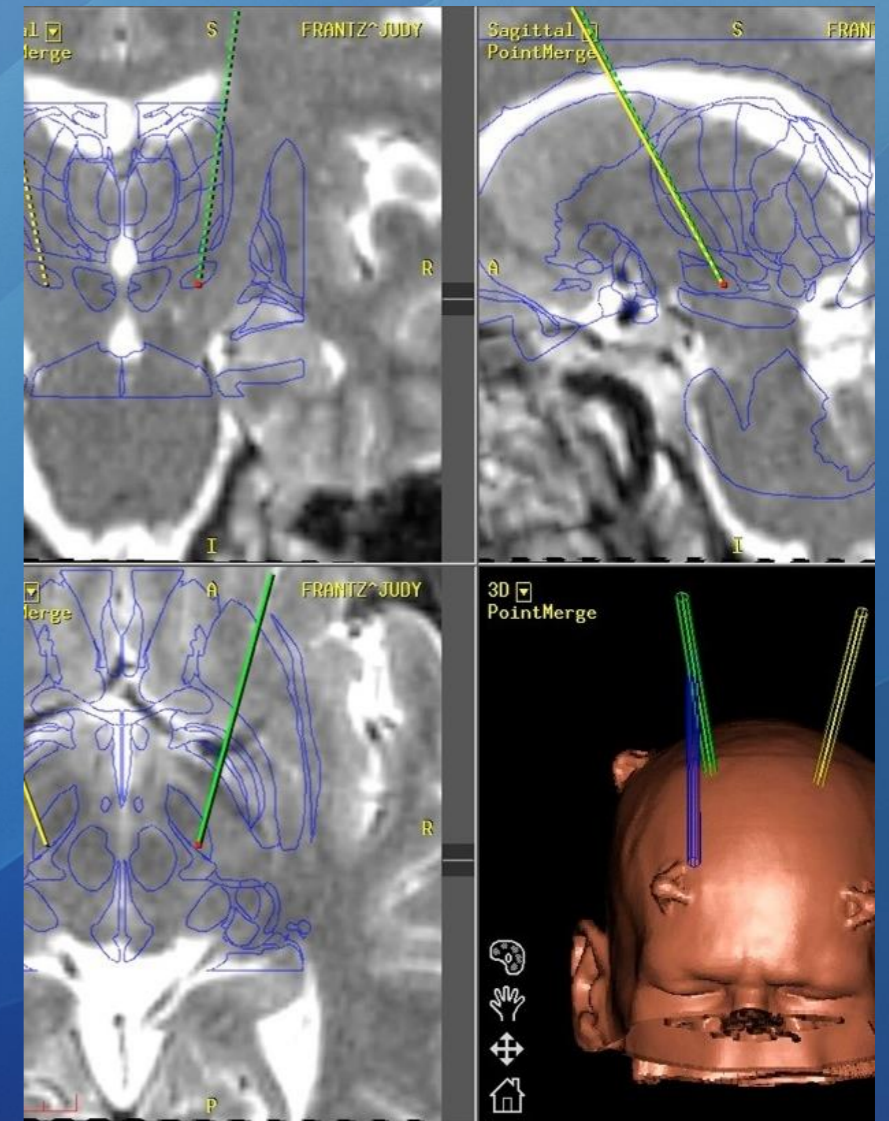
- Longest Experience DBS in Washington Metro Area
  - Collaboration with NIH
  - First Case 2001
  - >1000 DBS cases
  - First and only to do frameless DBS in DC and Maryland
  - >65% Parkinson's Disease
  - ~25% Essential Tremor
  - OCD, Tourette's syndrome, pain, MS related tremor





# NCN Research

- ***Frameless Accuracy in DBS***
- Compared postop image to predicted implant site from planning and recording
- Looked at 109 implants
- No difference in accuracy with frame as compared to literature
- Presented Neuromodulation and Pain Conference, Napa California 2008







# NCN Research

- ***Brain Impedance Recovery after DBS***
- How does the brain recover from DBS surgery
- Does this effect how we stimulate the brain?
  
- J of Neurol Neurosurg Psychiatry 2013;0:1-4  
doi:1136/







# NCN Research

- **Target selection**
- How do we pick which target is best for which patient
- Devise an algorithm to help with target selection
- **Alteration of Final Target based on MER or Macrostimulation – a functional approach to DBS**
- Looking at anatomic verses physiologic targeting in DBS

