DEEP BRAIN STIMULATION AND SEXUAL FUNCTION IN PARKINSON'S DISEASE

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Background



Deep Brain Stimulation of the subthalamic nucleus (DBS-STN) is a non-lesioning surgical technique useful in the treatment of motor fluctuations and tremor in advanced Parkinson's Disease (PD). Its influence on sexual function has been poorly studied, but it's a common concern for patients and seldom discussed with the physician. Factors influencing erectile and sexual dysfunction in PD include age, motor and depressive symptoms, antiparkinsonian drugs, chronic comorbidities, etc.

DBS mechanism overview, Mayfield Clinic

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Methods and materials

Highly restrictive inclusion criteria:

Results and discussion

	Submitted to DBS-STN (n=21)	Candidates (n=19)	P-value
Age (years), mean±SD	62.9±8.6	60.7±7.9	.333
Gender, M/F (%M)	12/9 (57.1)	9/10 (47.4)	.752
Duration of disease (years)*	17.9±7.3	10.4±3.2	<.001
H&Y stage, mean±SD	1.9±0.5	2.1±0.3	.322
On MDS-UPDRS-III score*	20.3±9.0	26.9±10.1	.042
Erectile dysfunction, % (n)	83,3 (10)	77,8 (7)	1.000
IIEF total score*	42,2±19,3	35,8±20,4	.554
Sexual dysfunction, % (n)	77,8 (7)	90,0 (9)	.582
FSFI total score*	14,3±10,5	13,8±9,4	.968

Clinical variables and outcomes of treated patients with DBS-STN versus candidates *values are mean±standard deviation.

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P=.554 16

P=.672



- Determine the impact of DBS-STN on PD patients' sexual function
- Establish predictive factors for sexual function decline after surgery



FSFI and IIEF dimensions scores between DBS-STN submited patients and candidates (Higher is better)

	Erectile dysfunction		D	Sexual dysfunction		D
	Present 81,0% (17)	Absent 19,0% (4)	P- value	Present 84,2% (16)	Absent 15,8% (3)	P- value
Age*	62,9±6,4	49,8±8,9	.009	64,6±6,1	52,0±7,8	.005
Relative risk (95% CI)	1,259 (1,0	29-1,540)	.025	1,304 (1,0	13-1,679)	.039
Cardiovascular disease, % (n)	70,6 (12)	50,0 (2)	.338	87,5 (14)	0,0 (0)	.010
PDQ-39 emotional well-being score*	33,9±4,2	42,7±4,0	.043	51,2±20,2	13,9±13,4	.017

PD patients with and without sexual/erectile dysfunction univariate analysis *values are mean±standard deviation; CI, confidence interval.

Patients submitted to DBS-STN had similar prevalence of sexual (77,8%) and erectile (83,3%) dysfunction and scores comparing with non-surgically treated candidates. Regardless of DBS-STN submission, PD patients with erectile (p=.009) and sexual (p=.005) dysfunction were significantly older. Females with sexual dysfunction had higher prevalence (87,5%) of cardiovascular diseases (p=.010). Lower emotional well-being was found in females with sexual dysfunction (p=.017), in contrast to higher emotional well-being in males with erectile dysfunction (p=.043).

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Conclusions



FOR EACH YEAR OF AGE, PD PATIENTS ARE **1.3 TIMES MORE LIKELY** TO DEVELOP ED/SD



INCREASED EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING MAY LEAD MEN TO REPORT ED **MORE FREQUENTLY**

References and abbreviations

Castelli L, Perozzo P, Genesia ML, et al. Sexual well being in parkinsonian patients after deep brain stimulation of the subthalamic nucleus. J Neurol Neurosurg Psychiatry. 2004;75(9):1260–1264.

BDI, Beck Depression Inventory; ED, Erectile Dysfunction; FSFI, Female Sexual Function Index; IIEF, International Index of Erectile Function; MDS-UPDRS III, Movement Disorders Society-Unified Parkinson's Disease Rating Scale Part III; PDQ-39, 39-item Parkinson's Disease Questionnaire; SD, Sexual Dysfunction.





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DBS IN ACTION Scan this QR code enjoy!