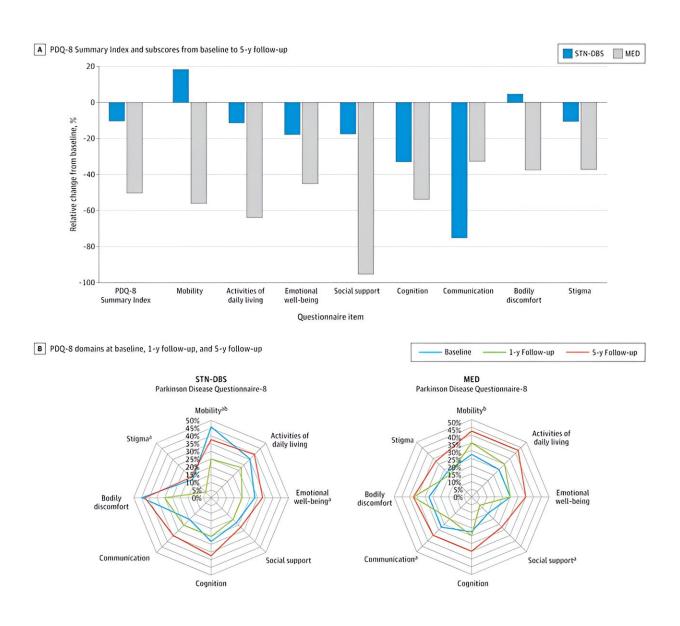


Quality of life outcomes stable with neurostimulation in Parkinson disease: Study

January 22 2024, by Elana Gotkine



Domains of quality of life and motor aspects in the patients receiving deep brain stimulation of the subthalamic nucleus (stn-dbs) vs standard-of-care medical



treatment (med) for the Parkinson's Disease Questionnaire 8 (PDQ-8), positive scores indicate improvement and negative scores indicate worsening. The PDQ-8 domain scores are illustrated as the percentage of maximum scores. More extensive areas represent more severe impairment. Credit: *JAMA Network Open* (2024). DOI: 10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2023.52177

For patients with Parkinson disease (PD), differences in quality of life (QOL) outcomes are seen with deep brain stimulation of the subthalamic nucleus (STN-DBS), according to a study <u>published</u> online Jan. 18 in *JAMA Network Open*.

Stefanie T. Jost, Ph.D., from the University of Cologne in Germany, and colleagues examined the long-term effects of STN-DBS versus standard-of-care medication (MED) on QOL in a prospective observational, quasi-experimental trial involving patients with PD. Overall, 108 patients underwent propensity score-matching (62 in the STN-DBS group and 46 in the MED group), resulting in a well-balanced matched subcohort with 25 patients in each group.

The researchers found that Parkinson's Disease Questionnaire 8 (PDQ-8) and activities of daily living (ADL) worsened only in the MED group at five-year follow-up (PDQ-8 change, -10.9; ADL change, -2.0), while in the STN-DBS group, both outcomes remained stable. There was a moderate correlation observed for changes in PDQ-8 and ADL. STN-DBS outcomes were favorable for motor complications, mobility, and levodopa-equivalent daily dose reduction (mean differences in change scores between STN-DBS and MED, -2.0, -1.0, and -821.4, respectively).

"These findings may provide helpful information when counseling patients on the efficacy of STN-DBS for PD and monitoring patients



postoperatively in long-term follow-up," the authors write.

More information: Stefanie T. Jost et al, Neurostimulation for Advanced Parkinson Disease and Quality of Life at 5 Years, *JAMA Network Open* (2024). DOI: 10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2023.52177

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