

## ***Deep Brain Stimulation for Parkinson's Disease in elderly patients: our experience.***

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**Objectives:** Deep brain stimulation (DBS) has been proven to be an effective therapy for medication-refractory symptoms of Parkinson's disease. Actually the cut-off age for DBS in PD is 65-70 years, but in literature there are some studies dedicated to evaluation of DBS in elderly patients with PD. The Authors present their experience in DBS for Parkinson's Disease in elderly patients.

**Materials and methods:** bilateral electrode implantation into different targets was performed in a total of 21 patients older than 70 years, suffering from PD, between 2005 and 2013. All the patients underwent to preoperative evaluation with CAPSIT-PD and then were analyzed retrospectively. The median age of the patients was 72 years. UPDRS motor score (part III), Hohen and Yahr score, L-dopa medication and complications were determined.

**Results:** all patients presented an important improvement in UPDRS and Hohen and Yahr scale after DBS implant. L-dopa equivalent medication have been reduced by a mean of 45% during the first 12 months after DBS. In our series we registered 2 cases of mild complications after DBS implants with complete resolution.

**Conclusions:** DBS implant in elderly patients is clinically effective as it in younger ones. Nevertheless in literature is reported a higher risk of surgery-related complications and a higher morbidity rate in elderly patients in our experience there's no increasing of morbidity.