PARKINSON’S DISEASE

LIVE YOUR BEST LIFE

IS DBS THERAPY RIGHT FOR YOU?
Sitting calmly, walking at a brisk pace, enjoying being out in the world — all are normal activities you may have taken for granted before you suffered from the effects of Parkinson’s disease. Imagine being able to take better control of your “on” times so you can get back to enjoying life again.

Deep brain stimulation (DBS) therapy has been proven over the past 16 years to be an effective treatment option for Parkinson’s disease symptoms. DBS is a reversible, personalized therapy that works by stimulating areas of the brain associated with involuntary movements using a thin, implanted wire connected to an implanted stimulator.

*Based on market approval date of the first DBS system in the U.S. in 2002. Abbott DBS therapy has demonstrated safety and effectiveness out to 5 years.
For patients with Parkinson’s disease, DBS therapy:**

- Provides improvement in motor score in “off-medication” state\(^4\)
- Adds 2 1/2 hours of quality “on” time compared to only using the best medical therapy alone\(^5\)
- Improves motor symptoms better than medication alone at earlier stages of Parkinson’s disease\(^6\)
- Has been demonstrated to maintain effectiveness past 10 years\(^7\)

There is no cure for Parkinson’s disease (PD), but there are options available to treat symptoms. The first-line therapy is medication. Surgical treatments are also available. It’s important to discuss with your doctor what’s right for you along with the risks and side effects of each option, such as motor fluctuations or permanent neurological impairment.

As with any surgery or therapy, deep brain stimulation has risks and complications. Most side effects of DBS surgery are temporary and correct themselves over time. Some people may experience lasting, stroke-like symptoms, such as weakness, numbness, problems with vision or slurred speech. In the event that the side effects are intolerable or you are not satisfied with the therapy, the DBS system can be turned off or surgically removed.

Risks of brain surgery include serious complications such as coma, bleeding inside the brain, paralysis, seizures and infection. Some of these may be fatal.

**Based on conclusions of authors who studied various DBS systems.
Your doctor can help you decide. You may be a good candidate for DBS therapy if:

- You’ve had Parkinson’s disease for at least five years
- Your primary symptoms include tremors and dyskinesia
- Medication has helped control your symptoms, but is becoming less effective or you need more of it, potentially causing side effects
- You can be considered for surgery because you aren’t suffering from other serious medical, cognitive, or psychiatric conditions
If you think you may be a candidate for DBS therapy, a next step could be visiting a neurologist who specializes in movement disorders to talk about how it could help. Some of the questions you might want to discuss include:

- Would DBS therapy be helpful for you?
- How does a DBS system work?
- What is involved in the implantation procedure?
- What are the risks and benefits of DBS therapy?

You may find it helpful to write down your questions before meeting with your doctor, and to have a friend or family member accompany you to your appointment.
The modern, state-of-the-art St. Jude Medical Infinity™ DBS system offers directional therapeutic control designed to manage your symptoms while providing options to limit side effects. And with the ability to manage your therapy wirelessly right from an Apple® iPod touch® mobile digital device, there has never been a better time than now to consider DBS therapy from Abbott.