



ΟΜΙΛΟΣ ΥΓΕΙΑ

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12.03.2010

PRESS RELEASE

HYGEIA S.A: Deep Brain Stimulation (DBS) in patient with Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder (OCD)

HYGEIA Hospital applied with great success the '**deep brain stimulation**' method to a treatment-refractory obsessive-compulsive patient.

Obsessive-compulsive neurosis is a retractable chronic condition, debilitating patients and depriving them of their normal functional outcome. Drug treatment is not always effective and the adverse events resulting from many drugs intake render treatment hazardous or unattainable.

International epidemiological studies have illustrated that a 2% of the general population suffers from obsessive-compulsive neurosis, while in Greece it is estimated that over 100,000 individuals suffer from obsessive-compulsive neurosis ranging from mild to severe.

HYGEIA Hospital, faithful to its mission of offering top quality, effective and safe health services, is a forerunner in applying new treatment methods of evidenced effectiveness in special cases where the standard treatment is ineffective.

Lately, various centers abroad have developed the '**deep brain stimulation method**', an effective method in cases where pharmaceutical treatment has failed.

At **HYGEIA Hospital**, a specially trained and accredited team of physicians, consisting of a neurologist, psychiatrist, psychologist and neurosurgeons, is already applying this method in movement disorder conditions.

With the 'deep brain stimulation' method, patients can be successfully treated, implanting with maximum accuracy two electrodes to the so-called nuclei accumbens of the brain and regulating the stimulator to send electrical pulses to suppress the area's overactivity caused by the disease manifestations.

Therefore, the stress generating obsessions is suppressed and pharmaceutical treatments are decreased or discontinued; as a result, side effects are fewer, patients recover from depression almost always manifested in such cases and become compulsions-free. In many cases, after a period of time, obsessions disappear too.

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Treatment is concomitant to other psychiatric therapies as depression, allowing psychiatrists to administer lower-dosage drugs, reducing thus side effects.

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