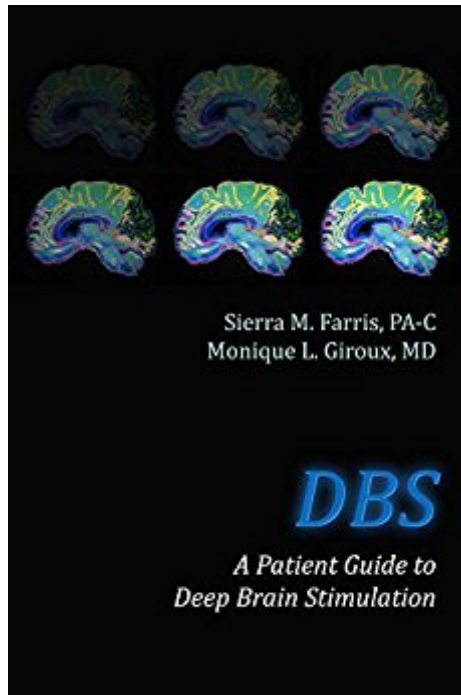


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DBS A Patient Guide To Deep Brain Stimulation



Synopsis

DBS A Patient Guide to Deep Brain Stimulation by DBS experts Sierra Farris, PAC and Monique Giroux, MD distill a high tech brain surgery into understandable terms for every reader. This guide offers a wealth of information about DBS for Tremor, Dystonia and Parkinson's disease whether new to DBS or already living with DBS. The authors bring 14 yearsâ™ experience working as a DBS team in treating over 1000 patients with DBS. Their easy to read format is packed with practical tips in a patient-centered approach. The authors hope to promote patient empowerment by offering insights that are rarely shared outside the clinic appointment. Being well informed is the first step in making the right decision for you. Deep brain stimulation offers years of symptom relief for people with Parkinson's disease, tremor and dystonia. DBS may even modify the disease course and improve quality of life when other therapies are not enough. As medical consumers, patients must become their own advocates to ensure they are well informed, especially when considering brain surgery. Filled with case studies, personal stories, practical tips and unique graphics, this book offers in-depth easy to understand explanations for one of the most high tech procedures that can turn back the clock on neurological disease. DBS programming expert Sierra Farris, PAC explains that "the day you have DBS surgery is the first day of the rest of your life. Make sure you know what you are getting into and even more important, feel confident with your chosen team." These words echo the sentiments of both authors and their patient centered approach to care. Chapters include detailed explanations of DBS therapy, expectations for improvement, the surgical evaluation process, and surgical procedure. An emphasis on stimulation programming principles and troubleshooting steps for poor outcomes remains an important aspect to a life-time of therapy. Long-term care tips, DBS specific lifestyle tips and caregiver impact is discussed. Finally, myths and controversies make this book unique and an important guide for you- the patient. Worksheets can be found at www.dbsguide.com.

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Customer Reviews

This is a very well written, understandable book. It covers all the details from pre-surgery to post-surgery. It has very useful graphics that really point out what a difficult and tiny target the Subthalamic Nucleus (STN) is and the errors that can happen in placement. I have had two surgeries since both sides of my body are affected. The last one was 3/24/14...still don't have everything adjusted satisfactorily yet and it has been almost 3 months. No one gave me a timeline for this process, but the book does (it can take up to a year!) However, my main problem is not tremor, it is rigidity and freezing and finding the optimal settings and medication amounts are totally individual. In the book, you are given questions to ask your doctor when considering the serious proposition of messing with your brain. It tells you about the surgery in great detail with photos of xrays showing broken wires and incorrect placement in the STN, a couple rare possibilities of things gone wrong, but not unfixable. For the most part, I am doing ok, But having this book after my Neurologist suggested surgery, would have been a great help. I have shown it to my DBS Neurologist as well as my continuing care Neurologist and have recommended they give them to potential DBS patients. If you don't want that much detail, but want general information, I would suggest Michael S. Okun, MD, the author of : Parkinson's Treatment: Ten Secrets to a Happier Life. A very good overall look at Parkinson's and it's treatment options; DBS being one of them.

I ordered this book just before I had DBS surgery and it was very helpful and informative on the surgery and what I would experience. Thank you for having a book that was so informative and helpful. JS

This book is as good as coming to Colorado and meeting with Dr. Giroux and Sierra in person -

should every Parkinson's patient be so fortunate. After seeing 4 other neurologists over 8 years these two not only helped me through the decision to have DBS but were the first doctors I met with who truly understood the emotional trauma that PD brings to your life and your family. Having DBS is a risk and this book doesn't sugarcoat anything. But as living proof of the benefits of DBS I am an advocate of both this miraculous technology and the amazing team that truly saved my life. Jill Denver, COPD diagnosis 2005 DBS 2013

I longed to read a book such as "DBS: A Patient Guide to Deep Brain Stimulation" before having my Deep Brain Stimulation (DBS) surgery in 2005. Recently released, this book meets the needs of patients and their families who desire a comprehensive explanation of DBS. It is written in easy-to-understand language, yet it explains complex technical concepts. The book describes in detail the surgery evaluation, the surgery itself, the stimulation adjustments and provides practical tips on going through this process. The benefits and risks of DBS surgery are also discussed. The book arms patients with questions to ask before surgery and educates patients, so that they can be active participants in their own DBS process. The Symptoms and Expectations Exercise helps patients to concretely identify their own expectations of DBS and to determine if they are realistic and are in sync with the DBS team.

This is a superlative and critically important read for anyone embarking on or having received DBS surgery. I wish we had the opportunity to have read this before my husband had disastrous DBS surgery which was to decimate his life and worse the abdication of any duty of care by the Team who carried this out. In the U.K we do not have such a Centre as featured in this book but this book has spurred me on to seek alternative Professional opinion which was denied to us by the people involved with his surgery who find it more comfortable and convenient to "close his file and hope he will die quickly" .

This book gives anyone considering DBS a step by step guide of questions and possible risks when considering DBS surgery. The book is well written in layman terms. It explains the importance of the relationship among the team members, with the patient being the focal point. I spent 15 years struggling with this debilitating disease before I seriously considered DBS. I read everything I could find on the disease, the surgery, the risks, the recovery process. Of everything I read and researched (internet, books, and people that had had the surgery), "DBS A Patient Guide to Deep Brain Stimulation" was by far the best written and most comprehensive resource available. It covers

all aspects of if, when, why, and how to proceed on making the decision to have DBS surgery. This book is not just for the patient but also for the caregivers and families of the patient. I highly recommend this book for everyone considering DBS surgery.

Readable and realistic explanation of DBS before, during, and after surgery. Information is as up-to-date as you'll find in book form. You may find yourself feeling somewhat jealous of the very patient-centered clinic described here. It will help you be a self-advocate; provides many good questions for you to ask people on your DBS team.

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