



## **FUNCTIONAL NEUROSURGERY WORKING GROUP of the PARKINSON STUDY GROUP**

### **Introduction**

The purpose of the Functional Neurosurgical Working Group (FNWG) is to generate ideas for surgical trials including deep brain stimulation (DBS), gene therapy, neurotrophic factor delivery, and other novel surgically directed technologies. The PSG has a well-developed research infrastructure and wide interdisciplinary membership across many institutions with diverse geographic locations and scientific strengths. Thus, the PSG, using the facilitation by the FNWG, is uniquely poised to advance clinical research on the functional neurosurgical treatments of PD.

### **Goals of FNWG**

To increase awareness of the functional neurosurgical treatments for PD within PSG, among clinicians, researchers, and funding agencies,

To provide a forum for the generation, development, execution, and dissemination of interdisciplinary clinical research studies that lead to increased knowledge regarding the functional neurosurgical treatments of the motor symptoms of PD and the non-motor consequences of these treatments, including single and multi-site trials and other clinical protocols, retrospective studies on existing databases (“data mining projects”), and review and position papers,

To foster the development of new investigators across multiple disciplines with expertise on functional neurosurgical treatments of PD and the related research,

To counsel appropriate PSG bodies (e.g., Executive Committee, Scientific Review Committee, Mentoring Committee, steering committees of clinical trials) and collaborate with other working groups of PSG on clinical studies that lead to a greater understanding of the functional neurosurgical treatments of PD.

### **Potential Scope of FNWG**

Examples of topics addressed by FNWG: DBS, gene therapy, neurotrophic factor delivery, and other novel surgically directed technologies, effects of functional neurosurgical treatments on motor and non-motor symptoms

#### Project classification:

1. Interventional Trials:
  - a. Population-Based
  - b. Location-Based
  
2. Non-interventional Studies
  - a. Observational
    - i. Survey

- ii. Analysis of external databases
- b. Prospective (descriptive or experimental)
  - i. Epidemiology
  - ii. Clinical features (course, features, associated factors)
  - iii. Genetics
  - iv. Imaging
  - v. Pathology
  - vi. Combined approach
- c. Clinical practice parameters
  - i. Review/consensus panels for evaluation/development of assessment tools
  - ii. Review/consensus panels for neurosurgical treatments

### **Procedures for Member Initiated Proposals**

The procedures for application for PSG studies and for conduct of the approved studies are explained in the [PSG Constitution & Bylaws](#), Article X. All PSG proposals have to be reviewed by the Scientific Review Committee, and then a decision will be made by the Executive Committee, based on the recommendation of the Scientific Review Committee. However, before this formal stage is reached, the FNWG can act as a facilitator for the discussion and development of the project as a “pre-proposal”. FNWG leadership will periodically announce request for pre-proposals that can be submitted using a special form and be discussed with the interested WG members by e-mail, conference calls, and eventually during WG meeting during the annual PSG meeting. Article XII of the [PSG Constitution & Bylaws](#) explains the Publication Policies that result from PSG projects.

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