

The role of imaging in programming deep brain stimulation

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DBS programming

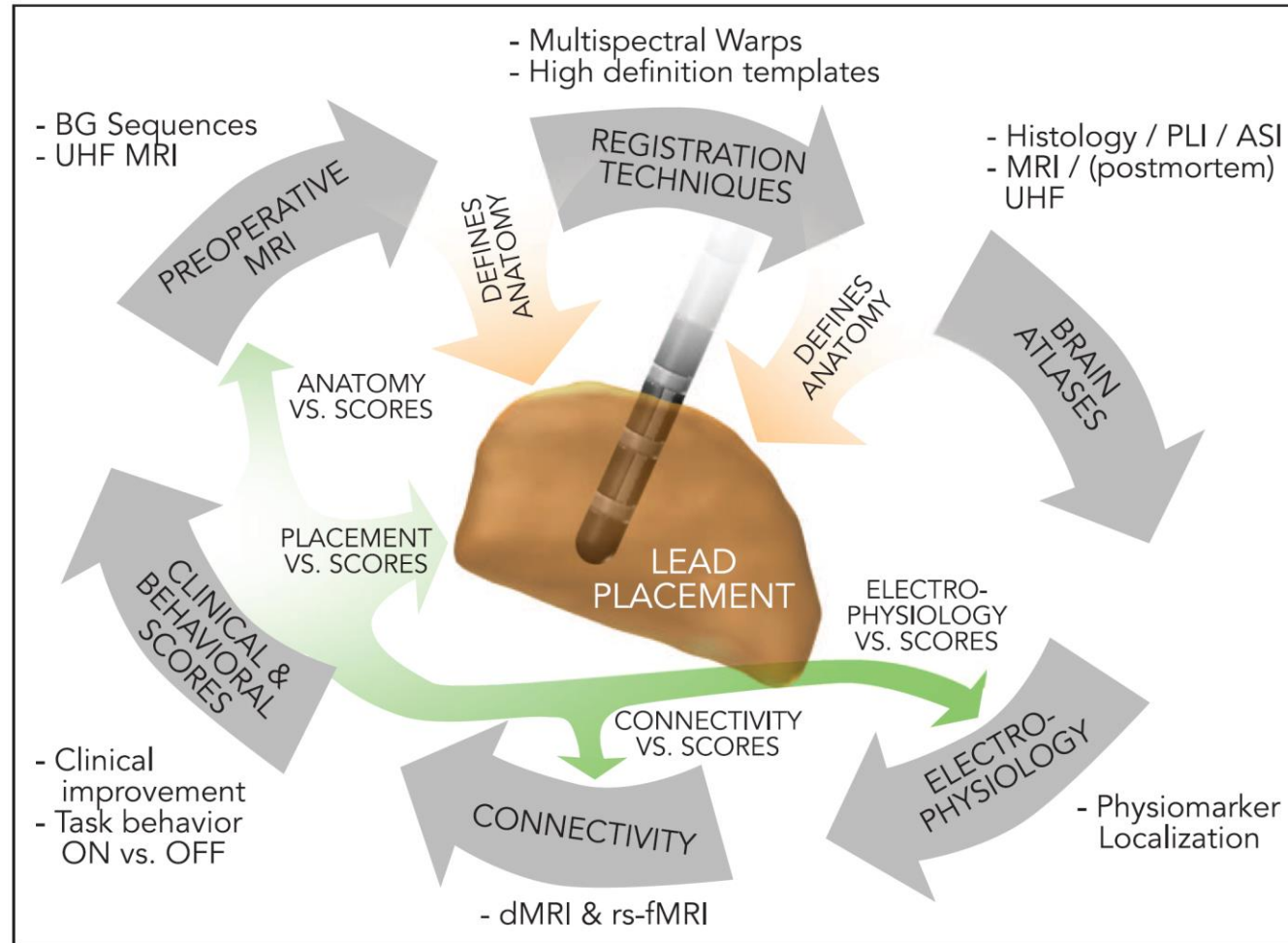
- Complex, time-intensive process requiring expert clinical adjustments
- Initial programming relies on healthcare professionals' (neurologists, specialist nurses) experience and trial-and-error adjustments: time consuming process and lead to variability in patient outcomes and prolonged optimization periods.
- Recent advancements in AI have introduced AI-assisted DBS programming, which leverage machine learning algorithms to streamline initial parameter selection

The importance of neuroimaging in programming

- Improving the visualization of brain networks to create patient-specific treatment plans
- Predicting and evaluating the clinical outcome
- Enhancing the overall effectiveness and safety of DBS

The impact of modern-day neuroimaging on the field of deep brain stimulation

Andreas Horn



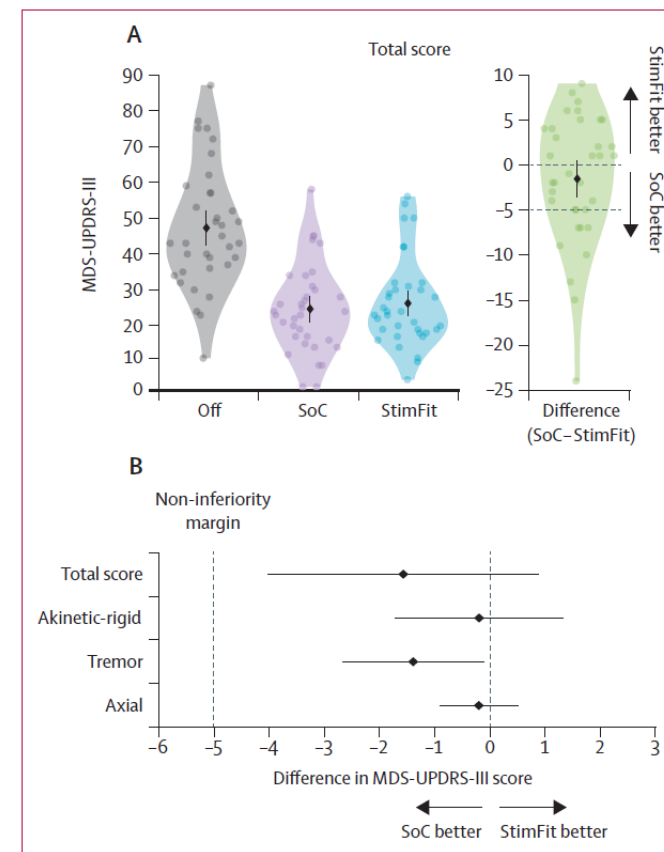
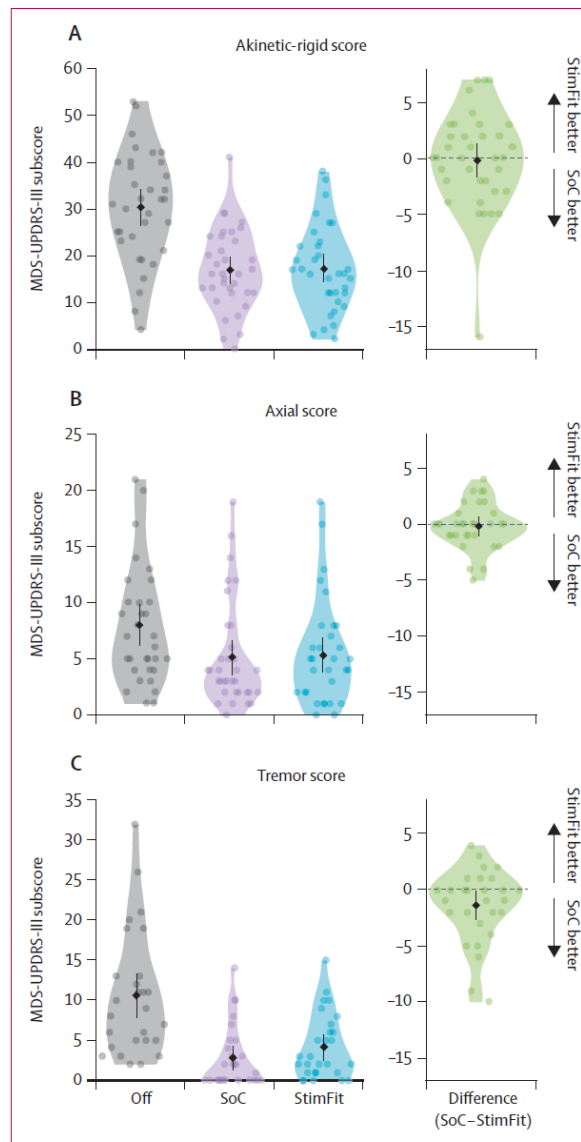
Automated deep brain stimulation programming based on electrode location: a randomised, crossover trial using a data-driven algorithm

Jan Roediger, Till A Dembek, Johannes Achtzehn, Johannes L Busch, Anna-Pauline Krämer, Katharina Faust, Gerd-Helge Schneider, Patricia Krause, Andreas Horn, Andrea A Kühn

Lancet Digit Health 2023;

5: e59–70

- Double blinded randomized trial
- 35 Parkinson's patients treated with STN
- 18 received automated programming (StimFit) followed by SoC stimulation, and 17 received SoC followed by StimFit programming
- Mean MDS-UPDRS-III scores improved from 47.3 at OFF-stimulation baseline to 24.7 under SoC and 26.3 under StimFit
- Non-inferiority of StimFit stimulation at a margin of –5 points
- In 17% patients initial programming of StimFit settings resulted in acute side-effects and amplitudes were reduced until side-effects disappeared



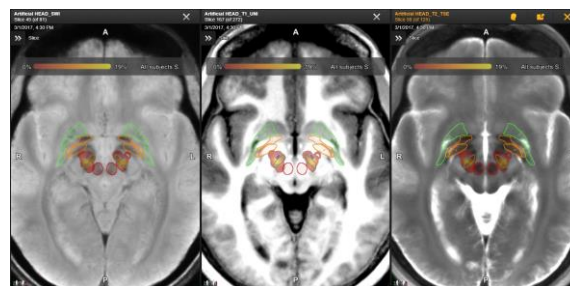
Imaging based augmented programming



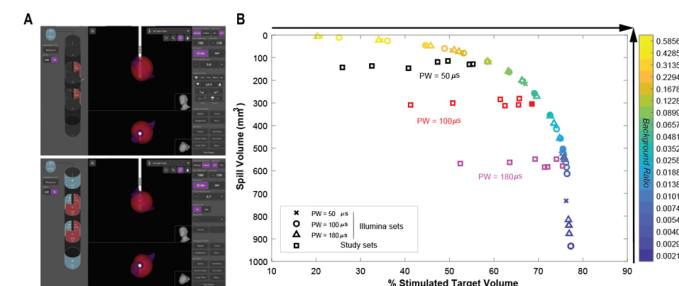
GUIDE XT & STIMVIEW XT



Aggregation and Analytics



DBS Illumina 3D



Neuroimaging guided Automated Programming

DBS Illumina 3D algorithm



Download target volume to review locally



View relative to patient specific anatomy



Use target (or avoidance) volume as a visual programming aid



Algorithm calculates a stimulation setting that provides the best fit to the target and avoidance volumes



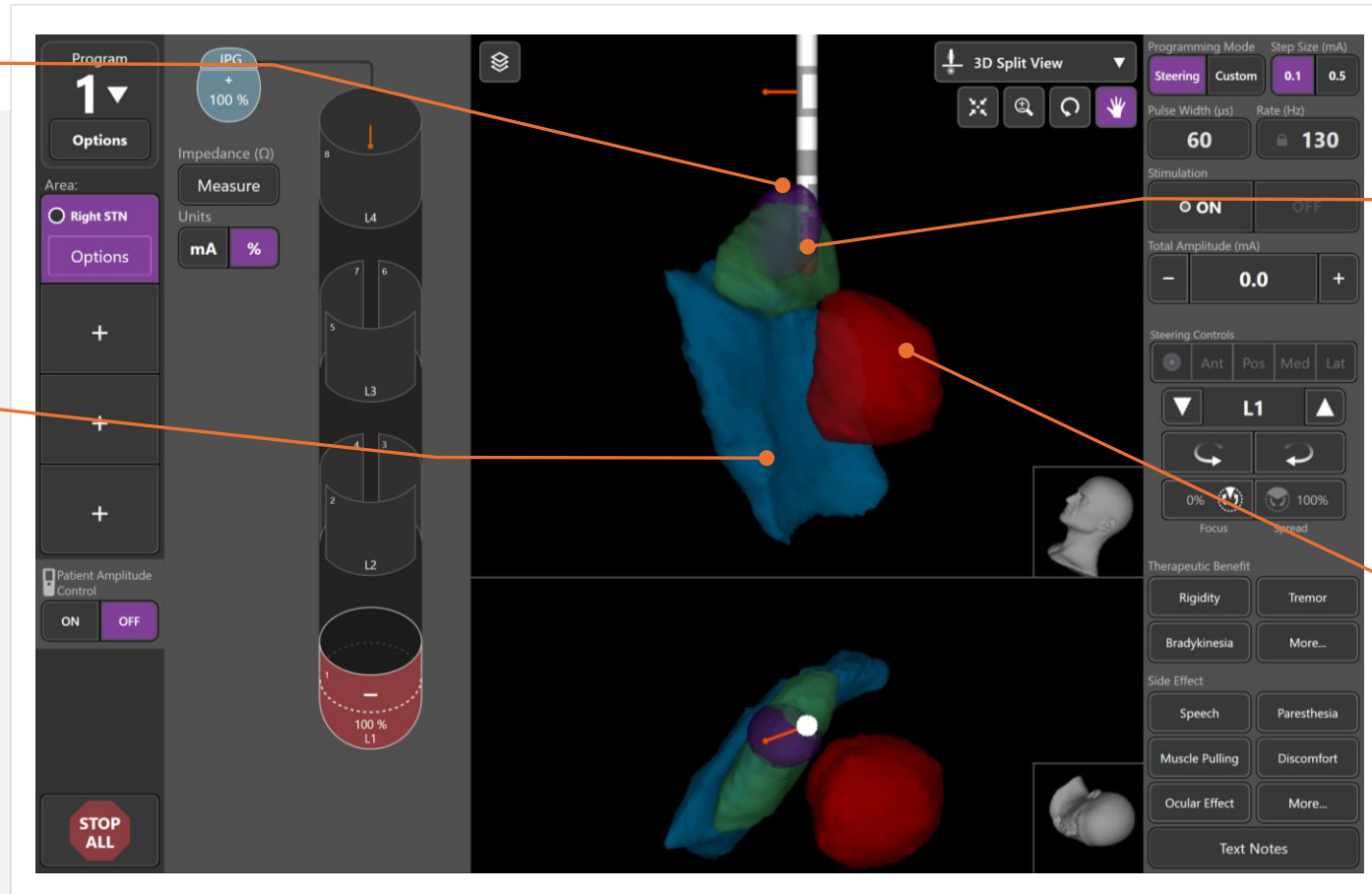
Illumina 3D

Target volume

Substantia Nigra

Subthalamic nucleus

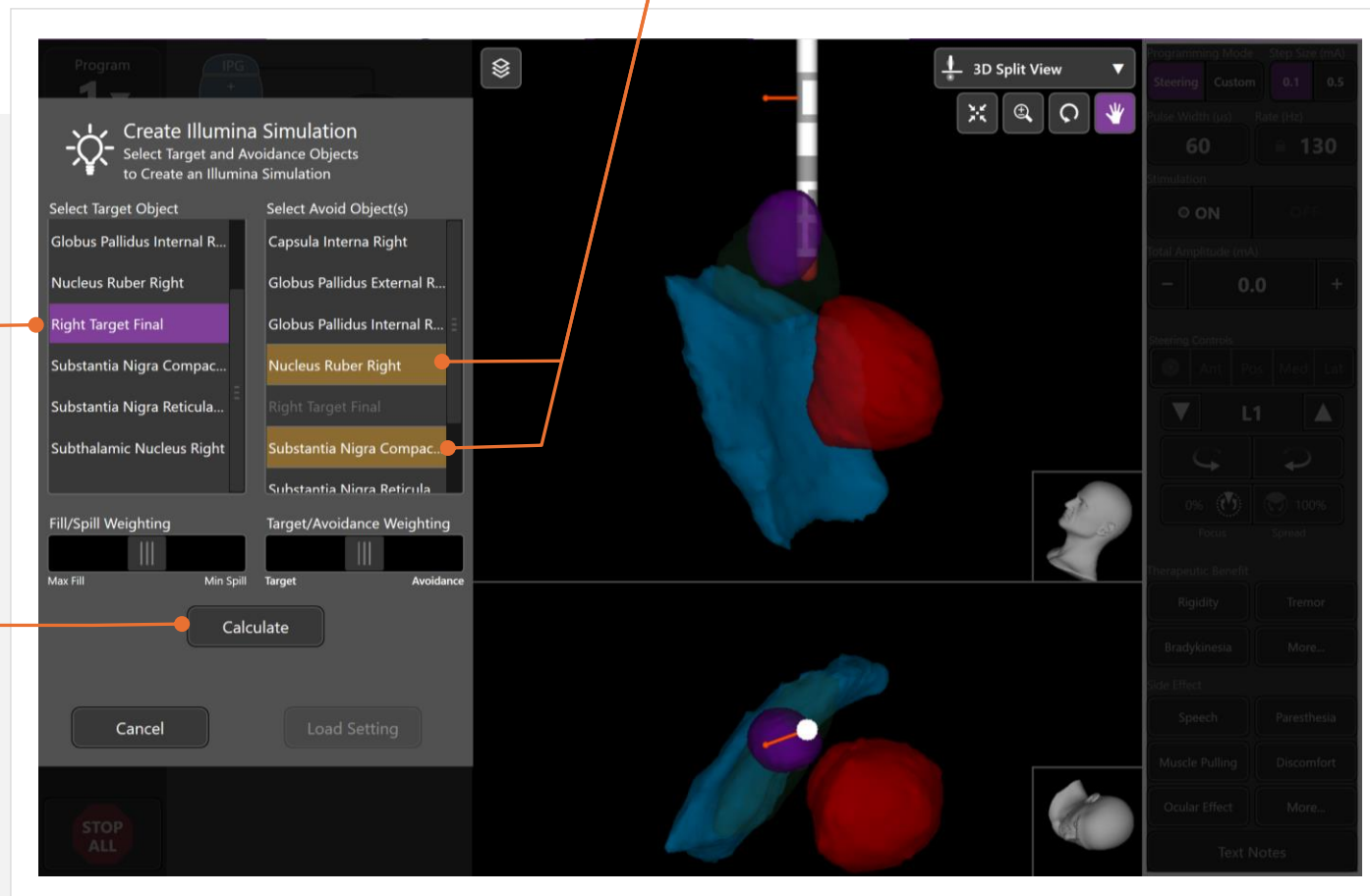
Red Nucleus



Select Target

Select Avoidance

Find solution



How to use Illumina 3D?

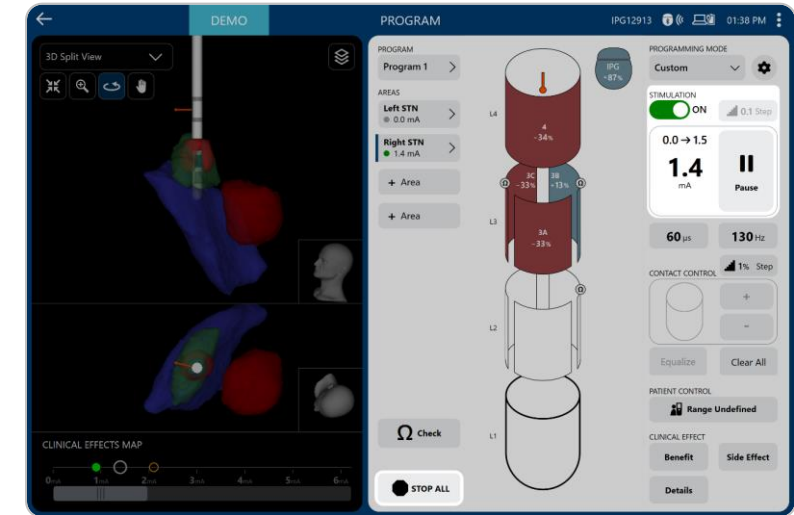
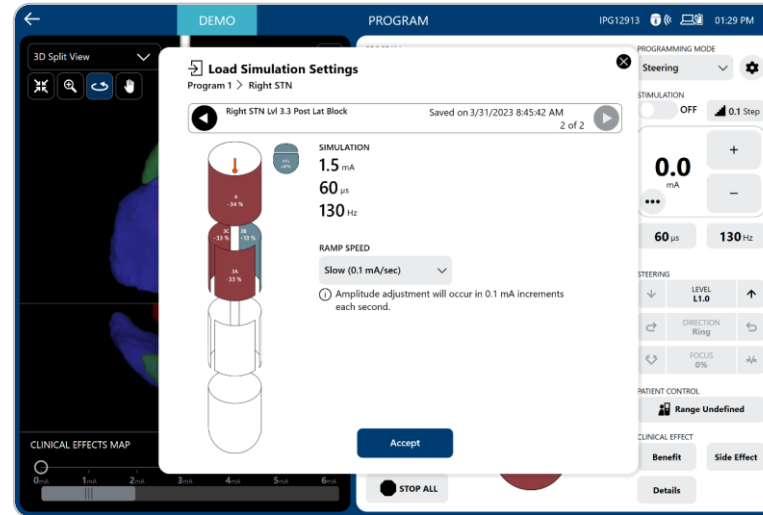
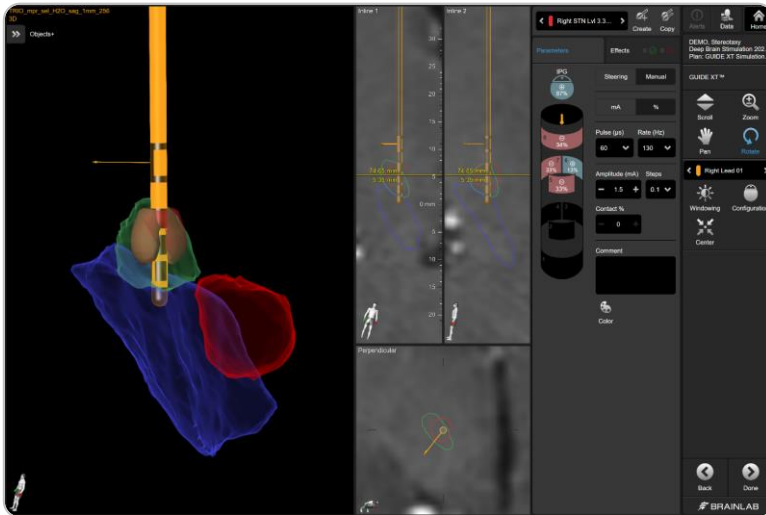
Stimulation field model

The screenshot displays the Illumina 3D software interface. On the left, there's a 'Program' panel with a dropdown set to '1' and an 'Options' button. Below it, the 'Area' is set to 'Right STN' with another 'Options' button. A vertical column of five circular diagrams represents electrode contacts L1 through L4, with L2 highlighted in red and labeled '100 %'. To the right of this is an 'Impedance (Ω)' section with a 'Measure' button and 'Units' set to 'mA'. The central part of the screen shows a 3D brain model with a color-coded stimulation field. An orange arrow points from the text 'Stimulation field model' to this field. Below the brain model is a 'Patient Amplitude Control' section with 'ON' and 'OFF' buttons. At the bottom left is a red 'STOP ALL' button. On the right side, there's a 'Programming Mode' panel with 'Steering' set to 'Custom', 'Step Size (mA)' set to '0.1', 'Pulse Width (μs)' set to '60', and 'Rate (Hz)' set to '130'. The 'Stimulation' section has a green 'ON' button. Below that, 'Total Amplitude (mA)' is set to '2.2', 'Step Size (%)' is set to '1%', and 'Contact (%)' is set to '3'. There are 'Clear All' and 'Equalize' buttons. The bottom right panel lists 'Therapeutic Benefit' (Rigidity, Tremor, Bradykinesia, More...) and 'Side Effect' (Speech, Paresthesia, Muscle Pulling, Discomfort, Ocular Effect, More...) with a 'Text Notes' button. An orange arrow points from the text 'Ramp up the amplitude to reach the solution amplitude' to the 'Total Amplitude (mA)' field.

Ramp up the amplitude to reach the solution amplitude

Import Pre-Planned Guide XT Settings

Pre-plan personalized therapy with Guide XT to make your time with the patient even more efficient



Pre-plan in Guide XT **based on patient specific anatomy**

Load pre-planned stimulation **when the patient is in the room**

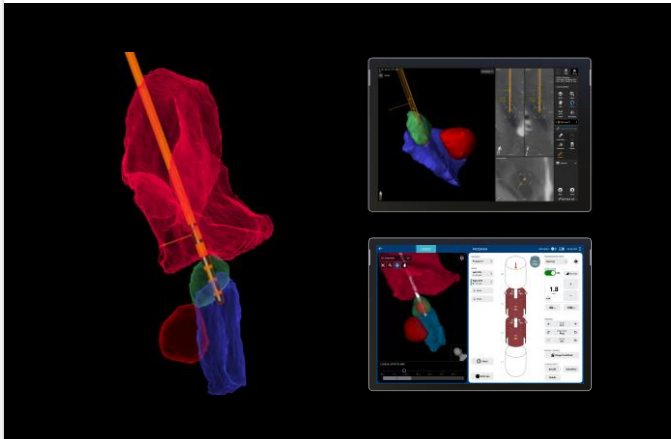
Automatically ramp amplitude **as you clinically assess the patient**

The Future with Image-Guided Programming

GUIDE XT & STIMVIEW XT

Patient Specific Anatomical Visualization

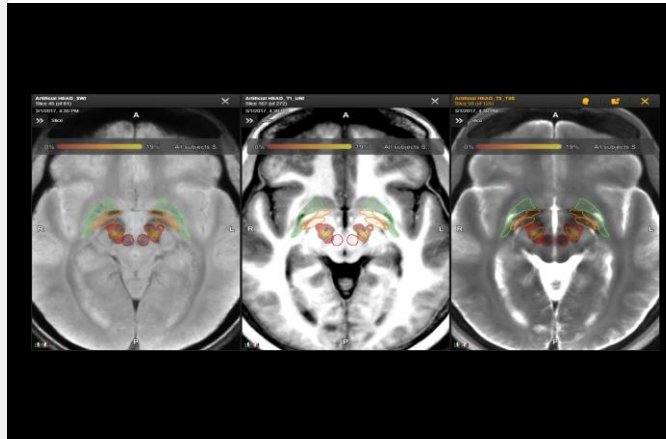
With lead and Stimulation



Aggregation & Analytics

Learn from Population Analysis

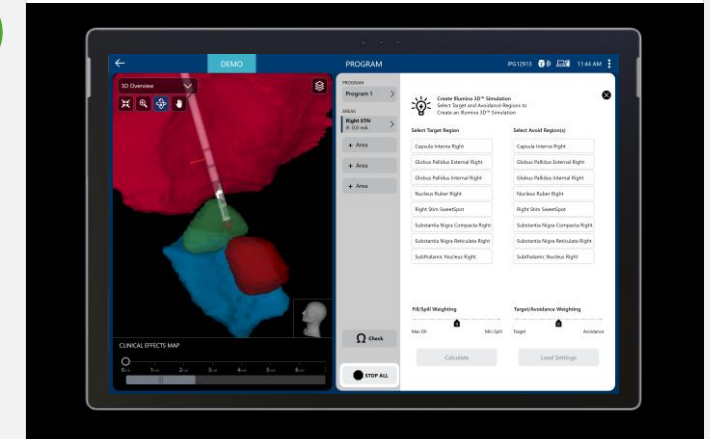
Probabilistic maps that correlate brain
anatomy with objective outcomes



DBS Illumina 3D

Anatomical Programming Aid

Inform Stimulation Location and
automate optimization



Traditional Deep Brain Stimulation Programming versus Automated Image-Guided Algorithm in Patients with Parkinson's Disease

H. Maghzi, C. Kim, S. Worthge, C. Malatt, M. Tagliati (Los Angeles, USA)

Meeting: [2025 International Congress](#)

- 4 patients with Parkinson's disease treated with DBS (3 STN, 1 GPi).
- Traditional initial programming resulted in 8 monopolar configurations (6 ring, 2 segmented) with average amplitude of 2.08mA (0.5 SD) vs AI-assisted algorithm generated 8 semi-bipolar configurations (1 ring, 7 segmented) with average amplitudes of 2.46mA (0.9SD). Pulse width and frequency were kept constant across the two approaches.
- Clinical outcomes were equivalent
- AI-assisted algorithm resulted in significantly shorter programming sessions than the traditional approach

Automated Image-Guided Programming Algorithm Supports Clinicians During DBS Programming for Parkinson's Disease Patients

J. Aldred, C. Luca, A. Ramirez-Zamora, J. Wong, K. Wessels, T. Peabody, B. Reese, B. Farber Petrey, R. Mustakos, S. Niketeghad, R. Shivacharan, M. Malekmohammadi (Valencia, USA)

Meeting: 2025 International Congress

- Prospective, blinded, acute cross-over study involving 13 patients (10 male; 11STN, 2 GPi)
- Patients present to clinic in a meds-off state and undergo programming with either standard of care (chronic stimulation) or automated image-guided programming before crossing to receive alternative therapy.
- Automated image-guided DBS program provides beneficial motor improvement equivalent to optimized SoC DBS programming.

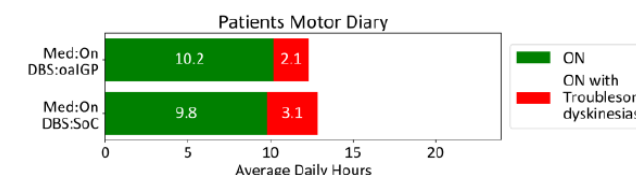
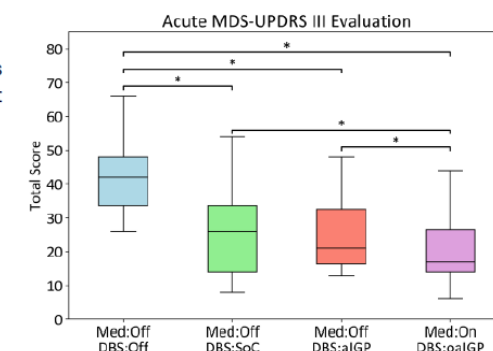
RESULTS

Motor Symptom Improvements

- **Meds-OFF:** Initial aIGP DBS-on improved symptoms by 39% vs. DBS-off ($p < 0.0001$); with no significant difference from optimized SoC DBS ($p = 0.44$)
- **Meds-ON:** Clinician-optimized aIGP DBS-on improved symptoms by 54% vs. DBS-off ($p < 0.0001$); with no significant difference from optimized SoC DBS ($p = 0.33$)

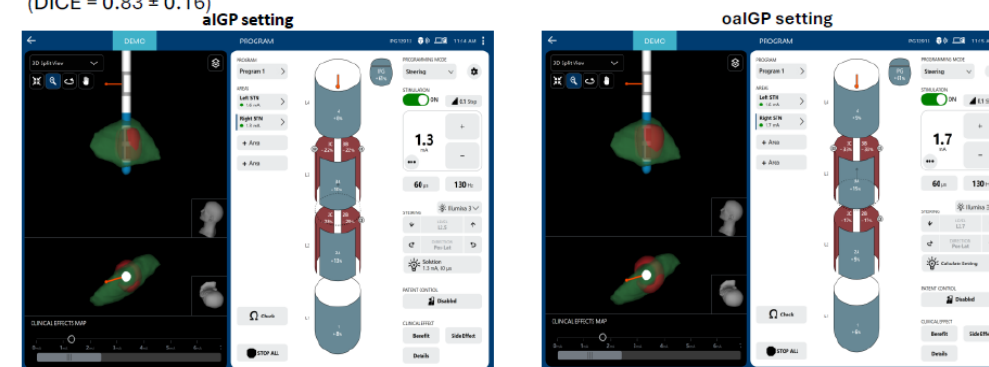
Chronic Assessment Via Motor Diary

- aIGP-guided programs (clinician-optimized) led to **25 min/day more "ON" time** and **58 min/day less "ON with dyskinesias"** vs. SoC, though group-level differences were not statistically significant.



SFM Assessment

- Following clinical optimization, the initial I3D settings were mostly unchanged or only slightly modified (DICE = 0.83 ± 0.16)





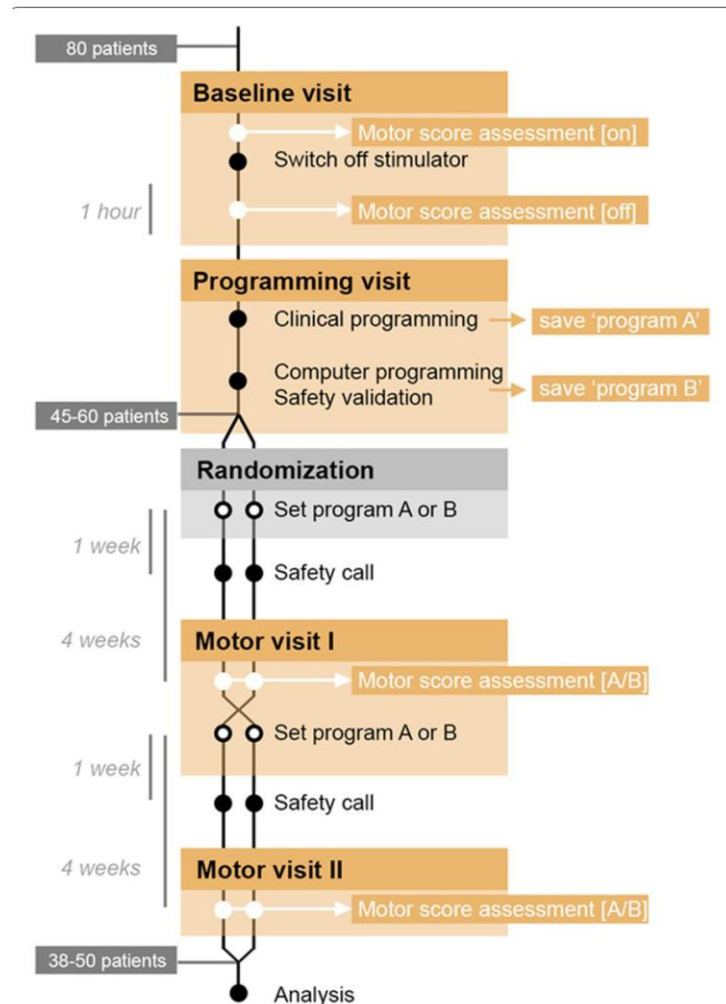
DIPS (Dystonia Image-based Programming of Stimulation: a prospective, randomized, double-blind crossover trial)

Florian Lange^{1*} , Jonas Roothans¹, Tim Wichmann¹, Götz Gelbrich^{2,3}, Christoph Röser³, Jens Volkmann¹ and Martin Reich¹

Lange et al.

Neurological Research and Practice (2021) 3:65

<https://doi.org/10.1186/s42466-021-00165-6>



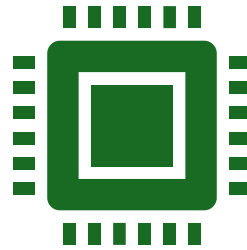
| Timepoint | Visit No. | Demographics | Dystonia motor score | | Quality of life | | Stimulation Programming | | | Adverse effects |
|-----------|-----------|----------------|----------------------|--------|-----------------|-------|-------------------------|----------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| | | | TWSTRS | BFMDRS | SF-36 | CDQ24 | Programming time | Stimulation settings | Energy delivered | |
| week 0 | 1 | Baseline | on | | | | | | | |
| | | off | | | | | | | | |
| week 0 | 2 | Programming | clinical | | | | | | | |
| | | computer | | | | | | | | |
| week 0 | | Randomization | | | | | | | | |
| week 2 | | Safety call | | | | | | | | |
| week 4 | 3 | Motor visit I | | | | | | | | |
| week 6 | | Safety call | | | | | | | | |
| week 8 | 4 | Motor visit II | | | | | | | | |

Fig. 2 gives an overview of the examinations per visit. The visits are represented as a row below each other, the respective examinations as marked columns on the right-hand side

THE FUTURE



Combining neuroimaging with electrophysiology data (local field potentials) to identify the most effective stimulation contacts and refine settings



Using computational models integrated with imaging data to predict the effects of different stimulation parameters, enabling more personalized programming



Developing multicenter studies on the use of automated DBS programming on dystonia syndromes and complex tremor

Neurofunctional team

The Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust



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- Thank you for your attention!

