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Contarino, M.F.

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Improving surgical treatment for movement disorders

M.F. Contarino
26 Maart 2013

1. Through a minimally invasive procedure, Deep Brain Stimulation opens a privileged perspective to learn more about the fascinating world of the basal ganglia functioning and the pathophysiology of movement disorders. This increased awareness will ultimately contribute to further improving of the treatment of our patients. (This thesis)

2. Postoperative CT or MRI localization of electrodes to determine the precise relationship between the position of active contacts and clinical outcome should be repeated after longer follow-up. (This thesis)

3. Identification of symptom-specific characteristics of intraoperative micro-electrode recordings may lead to further refinement of STN targeting, tailored to the specific clinical presentation. (This thesis)

4. Systematic preoperative evaluation of psychiatric comorbidity, and close postoperative follow-up are recommended in all DBS patients. (This thesis)

5. “The method of the physician is [...] to give oneself totally to each person throughout the brief duration of a hearing; [...] to accord to these individuals all the polite attention which at the best moments one gives to oneself.” (Marguerite Yourcenar, Les mémoires d’Hadrien)

6. Having a driving license doesn’t make you a good driver, as much as not having a driving license hasn’t prevented me from winning two world titles and two MotoGP’s. (Jorge Lorenzo)

7. Rare are the people who use their minds. Few are the people who use the heart and unique those who use both. (Rita Levi Montalcini)

8. Perfect is the enemy of Good.

9. Good is the enemy of Great.

10. Testing writing skills in different countries: “Oggi e’una bella giornata di sole” - “Il fait beau et les oiseaux chantent” - “Today is a beautiful sunny day” – “Amsterdam is een mooie stad maar is gebouwd op palen. Als die stad eens ommeviel wie zou dat betalen?”

11. The hardest part of flying is landing.

12. Life is a matter of priorities.

13. Sometimes it’s what you don’t say that counts.