

Dr. David Greeley : A View of one of our Friends in Spokane

David Greeley's education was entirely at UW. He went to college and medical school at the University of Washington and his neurology residency was at the "other" UW-the University of Wisconsin in Madison. Those experiences formed his belief in collaborative care in the neurosciences, and in deep brain stimulation surgery (DBS) specifically. He writes, "I don't believe it can be done correctly working alone."

When the FDA approved DBS for Essential Tremor (ET), David and his neurosurgical colleague Dr. Jeff Hirschauer in Spokane jumped at the opportunity to provide the service as a team, and became one of the first private groups in the country to perform the surgery. To further their collaborative efforts, they joined with a neuropsychologist and started studying the "non-motor benefits" of DBS -- specifically how it impacted cognition and quality of life. They are proud of their team-approach, patient selection criteria, and patient outcomes that match those of the best programs.



David Greeley, MD

The group has been joined now by Jamie Mark, ARNP. Since 2000, Jamie has been a speaker and educator for Medtronic, along with Medtronic representative Pat Kautzman who has been with them from the start.

Dr. Jonathan Carlson has since joined Dr. Hirschauer in his practice at Inland Neurosurgery and Spine. Dr. Carlson trained under UW Neurological Surgery graduate Dr. Kim Burchiel at OHSU, and also has expertise in pallidotomy and thalamotomy from work as part of his MD/PhD.



Jamie Mark, ARNP

Continuing his collaborative efforts, David was recruited to Seattle once a month to work with neurosurgeons at Northwest (now part of the UW Medicine system) in further developing their own DBS programs. In Spokane, they continue to do about 50 DBS surgeries per year. Their team approach includes neuropsychological and/or cognitive testing, physical and speech therapists, as well as case managers and social service specialists for caregiver screening. The Spokane group believes patients should be operated upon in the location where their devices will be programmed, and recommends to physicians/patients living closer to Spokane than Seattle consider Spokane as an option.

For questions or for anyone interested in the Spokane program please contact David's office at Northwest Neurological (509-458-7720) or the neurosurgeons at Inland Neurosurgery and Spine (509-624-9112). A video can be found on the web at (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FieqICgM-Jc>).