DOPAMINE DYSREGULATION SYNDROME OBSERVED IN THREE PARKINSONIAN PATIENTS MANAGED BY STN-DBS

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STN-DBS is a very effective treatment method for motor fluctuations (MFs) in Parkinson’s disease (PD). There are controversies on STN-DBS indications for dopamine dysregulation syndrome (DDS). We obtained good outcomes of STN-DBS in three PD patients with DDS. All the patients were males with severe MFs and DDS symptoms. The mean onset age was 38.3 yrs., and the mean duration was 12.3 yrs. Drug dependence, hypersexuality, punding and compulsive shopping were observed as DDS symptoms. Preoperative LED was 1744mg/day and it was difficult to improve MFs and DDS with medication. During the early postoperative period, the stimulus intensity was low, and L-dopa was the main treatment drug. After six to twelve months, the stimulus intensity and L-dopa dosage were gradually tapered. Finally, they showed no MFs or DDS symptoms. The average postoperative LED was 500mg/day. STN-DBS improves MF and DDS symptoms, with careful adjustment of stimulus intensity and drug dosage.