TREATMENT CHALLENGES IN PARKINSON’S DISEASE

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55 YEAR OLD MALE RECENTLY DIAGNOSED WITH PARKINSON’S DISEASE

- Mild resting tremor of right hand
- Right arm rigidity (stiffness)
- Slow (bradykinesia) causing difficulty with work and performing tasks at home
  Stooped posture
- Good balance
EARLY PARKINSON’S
I’VE BEEN DIAGNOSED WITH PARKINSON’S –NOW WHAT?

- Early initiation of carbidopa/levodopa therapy –is it right for me?
- What are my medication options?
- Do I have to take medicine?
- What other treatment options do I have?
70 YEAR OLD MALE WITH 10 YEAR HISTORY OF PARKINSON’S

- Right greater than left resting tremor of upper and lower extremities
- Rigidity (stiffness) in upper and lower extremities
- Slow movements (bradykinesia)
- Improvement of symptoms for 2-3 hours after taking carbidopa levodopa but medication seems to wear off before next dose is due
MY MEDICATIONS WORK BUT DO NOT LAST LONG ENOUGH. WHAT CAN I DO?

- Oral medications
- Intestinal levodopa
- DBS
Carbidopa/levodopa IR
Rytary (Carbidopa/levodopa ER)
Duopa (levodopa intestinal gel)
Deep brain stimulation

Symptoms under control - “on time”
Re-emergence of symptoms – “off time”
DEEP BRAIN STIMULATION

• What does it treat?
• What doesn’t it treat?
• How early in the disease process is too early?
• How late in the disease process is too late?
• Who is a candidate for DBS?
• Who is not a candidate for DBS
• Are there any absolute contraindications to DBS?
68 YEAR OLD FEMALE WITH ABNORMAL GAIT AND FALLS

• Feet get “stuck” when walking through doors
• Trips going up stairs
• Poor balance –falls if turns too quickly
ABNORMAL GAIT, POOR BALANCE, AND FALLS

• What’s causing my impaired gait and balance?
• What’s the best strategy for managing falls and imbalance?
• Is there medication and/or other treatment that can help?
APPROACHES TO MANAGING BOTHERSOME NON-MOTOR SYMPTOMS

• Anxiety
• Depression
• Apathy
• Hallucinations and delusions
QUESTIONS?