

Irritable bowel syndrome

Irritable bowel syndrome (IBS) is a frequent gastrointestinal disorder that is difficult to treat. A woman (55 y old) with obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD), treated with bilateral deep brain stimulation in the anterior limb of the internal capsule, and IBS. After the brain stimulation treatment she reported substantial relief of her IBS symptoms. This reduction depended on specific stimulation parameters, was reproducible over time, and was not directly associated with improvements in OCD symptoms. These observations indicate a specific effect of deep brain stimulation on IBS. This observation confirms involvement of specific brain structures in the pathophysiology of IBS, and shows that symptoms can be reduced through modulation of neuronal activity in the central nervous system. Further studies of the effects of brain stimulation on IBS are required ¹⁾.

¹⁾

Berthold L, Kornelia S, Thomas C W, Max L, Loes G, Emeran A M, Juergen S. Deep Brain Stimulation for Obsessive Compulsive Disorder Reduces Symptoms of Irritable Bowel Syndrome in a Single Patient. Clin Gastroenterol Hepatol. 2015 Jan 28. pii: S1542-3565(15)00109-3. doi: 10.1016/j.cgh.2015.01.023. [Epub ahead of print] PubMed PMID: 25638586.

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