

Neural Prosthesis Seminar

Brain Circuit-Based Treatments for Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder: A Model for Neuropsychiatry

Friday, March 10, 2017 • 8:30 AM

Wolstein Research Building, Room 1413
Case Western Reserve University



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Objectives

1. Appreciate invasive approaches to intractable OCD used clinically and investigationaly.
2. Understand noninvasive approaches to OCD used investigationaly.
3. Recognize current hypotheses about the neurocircuitry affected by these treatments.

Abstract

Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder is often viewed as a model illness in neuropsychiatry. Although like all disorders it is heterogeneous, there is more consistency among individuals affected with OCD than is the case for many other conditions. Invasive neurosurgeries for OCD, largely empirically-based, have continued in a limited fashion for the past 60 years. Studies of noninvasive brain stimulation in OCD began in the mid-1990s. In parallel, the putative neurocircuitry of OCD has been the focus of intensive study for about three decades, using increasingly sophisticated methods. This talk will present an overview of invasive and noninvasive methods in OCD in the context of an evolving picture of its neurocircuitry. Together, these lines of research exemplify a translational approach that may serve as a guide for research on a number of illnesses affecting Veterans and the population at large.

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