

# MELBOURNE DBS

(<https://melbournedbs.com.au/>)

## DEEP BRAIN STIMULATION

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## About DBS

Established, technologically advanced treatment for **Parkinson's disease, Essential Tremor & Dystonia.**

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Deep brain stimulation (DBS) is an established, technologically advanced treatment for Parkinson's disease, essential tremor and dystonia. In Australia, DBS is funded for the treatment of these conditions by private health insurers (for private and public hospitals) and by the state government (in public hospitals only).

DBS works like a pacemaker, with an implanted battery (implantable pulse generator) that delivers electrical current (stimulation) through a wire (electrode) implanted into specific brain regions (targets). To simplify, DBS suppresses abnormal brain signals thereby restoring normal brain activity. There are many targets in the brain where stimulation can be applied – each causing different effects. In an individual patient, a specific target is chosen that best matches the symptoms that need improving. A major advantage is that DBS is reversible – with the aid of a programmer, it is easily turned down or switched off. DBS is not a cure for any condition but can be capable of greatly improving function and quality of life.

DBS is a highly specialised treatment. Success requires selecting patients who will benefit, choosing the best available target, safely and accurately implanting the hardware and then fine-tuning stimulation and medication. It is also crucial to assess outcomes to ensure that optimal results are delivered in every individual patient.

The following provides some general information about DBS. The exact process in any given patient may vary. Details on how DBS improves specific conditions is found under Conditions Treated.

## The DBS Process

If DBS is being considered, a workup is needed to assess whether you are suitable to have this treatment. For example, we need to assess whether your condition will respond to DBS, and if so, which brain target we should implant to best suit your needs.

Learn More

(<https://melbournedbs.com.au/about-dbs/dbs-process/>)

## DBS Risks & Side Effects

Risks can arise from the surgery to implant the hardware and side effects can arise from the application of stimulation and associated adjustments to medication.

Learn More

(<https://melbournedbs.com.au/about-dbs/risks-and-side-effects/>)

## Conditions Treated

Deep brain stimulation (DBS) is approved and funded in Australia for the treatment of Parkinson's disease, essential tremor and dystonia.

Learn More

(<https://melbournedbs.com.au/conditions-treated/>)

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DEEP BRAIN STIMULATION

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## Information

<https://melbournedbs.com.au/about-dbs/>

Team

Conditions Treated

Focused Ultrasound

Contact

## Links & Resources

Research

Media

Fight Parkinsons

International Movement Disorder Society

## Locations

Cabrini Hospital, Malvern

St Vincents Private Hospital, Fitzroy

Austin Hospital

Royal Children's Hospital, Melbourne

Medical Specialists on Rathdowne, Carlton

Grampians Consulting Suites, Ballarat

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