

### **Robert Dallapiazza, MD, PhD**

Dr. Dallapiazza is a fellowship-trained neurosurgeon and the Director of Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery at Tulane University School of Medicine. He completed his neurosurgery residency at the University of Virginia. Following his residency, he completed a fellowship in Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery at Toronto Western Hospital in Toronto, Ontario. Additionally, he has international training as a senior registrar in the Department of Neurosurgery Auckland City Hospital, Auckland District Health Board, Auckland, New Zealand. He has research interest in identifying novel treatments and advancing current surgical treatment for movement disorders. He has additional interests in simple and complex spine disorders, brain and spinal cord tumors and skull base surgery.

## **PRACTICE LOCATIONS**

### **Tulane Doctors Neuroscience**

#### **Metairie**

4224 Houma Blvd. Suite 540

Metairie, LA 70006

P – 504-503-7001

F – 504-503-7002

### **Tulane Doctors Neuroscience**

#### **Covington**

101 Judge Tanner Blvd. Suite 402

Covington, LA 70433

P – 985-951-3222

F – 985-951-3223

### **Tulane Health System Neuroscience Center**

1415 Tulane Avenue, 5th Floor

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STEREOTACTIC AND FUNCTIONAL NEUROSURGERY

## FUNCTIONAL AND STEREOTACTIC NEUROSURGERY

### Q: WHAT IS FUNCTIONAL NEUROSURGERY?

A: Functional neurosurgery is a specialty within Neurosurgery that focuses on the surgical treatment of movement disorders, chronic pain, epilepsy, and neuropsychiatric diseases. Some surgeries are both “functional” and “stereotactic”, like deep brain stimulation, which is currently the surgery of choice to treat movement disorders.

### Q. WHAT IS STEREOTACTIC NEUROSURGERY?

A. Stereotactic neurosurgery uses imaging studies like MRI and/or CT to help guide the approach to target the area of the brain to treat movement disorders.

### Q: WHAT IS DEEP BRAIN STIMULATION (DBS)?

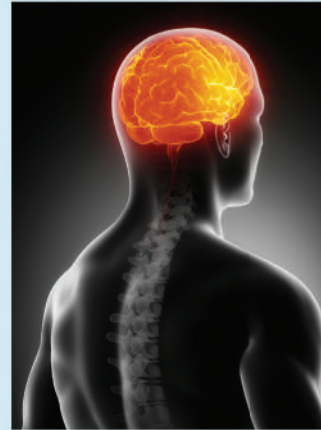
A: Deep brain stimulation is a neurosurgical procedure involving the implantation of a medical device called a neurostimulator, which sends electrical impulses through an electrode to areas in the brain for the treatment of movement disorders like Parkinson’s disease, essential tremors, and dystonia. DBS is not a cure for movement disorders, but it can successfully treat symptoms by disrupting the abnormal patterns of brain activity.

## STEREOTACTIC AND FUNCTIONAL SURGERY

DBS involves implanting electrodes to alleviate symptoms from movement disorders. The amount of stimulation is controlled by a pacemaker-like device.

### DBS is approved to treat:

- **Dystonia**
- **Essential Tremor**
- **Parkinson’s Disease**
- **Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder**



Tulane fellowship trained Movement Disorders Neurologists evaluate patients who may be candidates for DBS, and then work in collaboration with functional neurosurgeon, Dr. Robert Dallapiazza, to perform DBS surgery to restore neurological function and quality of life.



## OUR TEAM APPROACH

- **Multi-specialty**
- **Comprehensive**
- **Specialty Training**

We make decisions together to best help our patients.

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