

TMS TRENDS

SEPTEMBER 2011

A publication of the TMS Institute of Pennsylvania – Advanced Neuropsychiatric Solutions

SUPPORT GROUP HOLDS FIRST MEETING

The TMS Support Group of Chester County held its first meeting on Tuesday, September 13. With ten in attendance, the group enjoyed a warm welcome from our host venue – the West Chester United Methodist Church.

In addition to the social networking aspect of the group, several key issues were discussed including:

- Insurance reimbursement
- Increasing public awareness of TMS
- The stigma of depression
- Managing treatment resistant depression
- The safety and efficacy of TMS compared to other treatment modalities

New members are always welcome and any interested individuals are encouraged to join our meetings. This is also a great forum for family members who are helping their loved ones cope with depression, as well as for therapists and counselors who would like to learn more about TMS therapy. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet with and speak to individuals who have had TMS therapy and hear their firsthand experiences. **Privacy and confidentiality is strictly maintained.**

Meetings will be held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7 PM, with our next meeting scheduled for October 11. The group meets at 129 S. High Street, West Chester, PA 19382. Drinks and light snacks are provided. Please call us at (610) 738-8671 with any questions regarding the support group or our upcoming meeting.

OCTOBER 2-8, 2011

Mental Illness Awareness Week is coming soon! This year's theme is "Changing Attitudes, Changing Lives." For more information on the history of Mental Illness Awareness Week, or for ideas on how to get involved, check out the National Alliance on Mental Illness website: www.nami.org/miaw

NEUROSTAR CLINICAL OUTCOMES STUDY UPDATE

Enrollment is now closed for the NeuroStar Clinical Outcomes Study. This observational study, being conducted by Neuronetics, Inc., has reached its goal of 300 evaluable patients gathered from over 40 clinical locations across the country.

In April, we reported the preliminary findings of the first 99 patients enrolled in the study. Now, with data from the full population of 300 patients, the study can move forward in analysis on a much larger scale.

Follow-up analysis will assess patients' progress for a year after completion of their acute treatment phase. The follow-up period is projected to be completed by September, 2012.

The study, which aims to examine the effectiveness of TMS therapy in a clinical setting, has already yielded exciting preliminary results. The information gathered from this study will be incorporated into many realms, from clinical use to insurance reimbursement purposes. We look forward learning more about TMS therapy in long-term settings through the final analysis.

We look forward to sharing the full study results as soon as they are published.

HEARING LOSS AND DEPRESSION

A large-scale study conducted by the National Council on Aging demonstrates the importance of hearing healthcare in maintaining mental health. The study found that individuals over the age of 50 with untreated hearing loss were more likely to report depression, anxiety, emotional instability and paranoia. The degree of depression and other mental health issues increased with the severity of hearing loss.