OBJECTIVE
To investigate clinical practices for Deep Brain Stimulation (DBS) pre-operative evaluations for Parkinson’s disease (PD) Non-Motor Symptoms (NMS)

BACKGROUND
• NMS are frequently factored into discussions regarding DBS surgical candidacy.
• The clinical practices for preoperative NMS evaluations have not been commonly assessed, which we aimed to do across PSG clinics.
• The Parkinson Study Group (PSG) is a non-profit group of physicians and other health care providers from medical centers in the United States, Canada and Puerto Rico experienced in the care of PD patients and dedicated to clinical research of PD.

METHODS
• The NSWG drafted an on-line survey and piloted the survey to a group of expert Movement Disorder Neurologists, Coordinators, and Neuropsychologists.
• The on-line survey (Survey Monkey) was sent to all 131 PSG sites to assess the clinical practices regarding evaluation of a comprehensive range of NMS before and after DBS.

RESULTS
• 67/131 PSG sites completed the survey (51%).
• 82% of the surveys were completed by a Neurologist.
• DBS sites were primarily academic settings (76%) in which greater than 30 surgeries were performed in the prior year.
• Over 1/2 of the DBS programs had existed for >10 years.
• 47% of the sites had 4 or more Movement Disorder Neurologists.
• 73% of sites performed post-operative imaging for lead localization.

SURVEY RESULTS
What assessments do you use regularly to make decisions regarding surgical candidacy?

SURVEY RESULTS
How much do these NMS factor into your decision if the patient is a good candidate?

ACKNOWLEDGMENT: This research was supported by the Parkinson’s Disease Foundation’s Advancing Parkinson’s Treatments Innovations Grant, the Parkinson’s Study Group, and the Veterans Affairs, Office of Research and Development. The authors wish to thank all of the PSG sites who completed the on-line survey.