Deep Brain Stimulation and Focused Ultrasound for OCD

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Neurosurgery for OCD:

- 10-40% of OCD patients are treatment-refractory.
- Neurosurgical interventions such as the capsulotomy have been used since the 1950’s for OCD.
- Capsulotomy associated with 50% reduction in OCD symptoms.
- DBS associated with approximately 40% reduction in symptoms in half of patients.
- 2008: DBS of the ventral capsule/ventral striatum (VC/VS) approved by FDA under a Humanitarian Device Exemption for OCD.
- Targets: VC/VS, anterior limb of the internal capsule, cingulate gyrus, nucleus accumbens, etc.
Disrupted circuitry in OCD:

Hypothetical CSTC Loop for Executive Functions

DLPFC → Striatum → Thalamus → DLPFC

From Stahl, 2008
Deep Brain Stimulation (DBS):
Focused Ultrasound (FUS):
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FUS reduced OCD symptoms and anxiety plus improved mood.
Questions:

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