

# Doctors show woman a ray of hope

KOLKATA, 9 NOV: A 53-year-old woman, suffering from Parkinson's disease, got a new ray of hope after a team of doctors at Medica Superspeciality Hospital conducted a critical surgery on her today.

The patient, a resident of Jadavpur, is suffering from Parkinson's for the past eight years. Due to her illness she had to quit her job. The left portion of her body used to shake and she could hardly carry any weight in her left hand.

Doctors said that they had installed a neurostimulator known as deep brain stimulator (DBS) to provide electrical stimulation to targeted areas in the brain that controls movement and blocks the abnormal nerve signals that cause abnormal tremor.

The patient is now keeping well with treatment and she will be released from the hospital soon.

Dr LN Tripathy, director of Medica Institute of Neurological Diseases (MIND), said, the new technique will help control the disease and also reduces the intake of medicines and their side-effects.

Moreover, patients suffering from deep depression, dystonia and chronic pain due to cancer could be benefited with this surgery. The cost of the surgery comes to around Rs 5 lakh and doctors from England had been roped in to conduct such surgery.

According to an epidemiological study conducted by a group of doctors at Bangur Institute of Neurology, one person out of 100 suffers from Parkinson's disease and its prevalence is expected to increase with the increase in life expectancy. **sns**