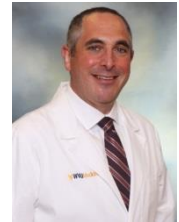


## ***Awake patient brain tumor surgery considerations for protocol construction***

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### ***Abstract***

In modern functional neurooncology, awake brain surgery is the gold standard to decrease surgical morbidity and increase extent of resection. This approach increases overall survival and preserves or even improves the patient's quality of life. Moreover, direct electrical stimulation (DES) has allowed neurosurgical teams to learn more about anatomic-functional connectivity pathways of patients. More specific cognitive screening becomes imperative both before and during surgery. Despite recent advances in technique, there is a lack of protocols taking into account these issues; in the light of this need, the authors propose a team based approach for construction of a neuropsychology protocol specifically related to brain tumor patients. This protocol will take into account this emerging neurosurgical need for more specific pre-operative screening and peri-operative neuropsychological evaluation. Such a protocol will directly benefit new neurosurgical teams starting this type of neurosurgical approach at their respective hospitals. A literature review was made to identify the basic protocol efforts that currently exist. A team based approach included inclusion and exclusion criteria from neurosurgery, anesthesia and neuropsychology that together concluded in a robust protocol with pre-, intra- and post-operative sub protocols concluding in robust protocol.

the faculty at West Virginia University as Associate Professor of Neurosurgery as well as the Director of Neuro-surgical Oncology – Eastern Campus. In this effort, he leads a multi-disciplinary team and robust translational research program as well as a clinical trials program. He has several clinical research interests in neuro-oncology and has published greater than 100 manuscripts in peer-reviewed journals.

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### ***Biography:***

Jonathan H. Sherman, MD, FAANS, FACS is a board-certified neurosurgeon specializing in Surgical Neuro-oncology. He obtained his medical degree from the Medical College of Georgia and completed his neurosurgery residency at the University of Virginia. Following completion of residency, he completed a fellowship in Surgical Neuro-oncology at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. Dr. Sherman joins