



Dr. Timothy Johans

Professional banking for professionals.

Like most doctors, Dr. Timothy Johans is an expert in his field – highly trained and intensely focused on delivering excellent care to his patients. But that doesn't mean he enjoys handling the financial elements related to the business of delivering excellent care.

"While I'm very good at neurosurgery, I also recognize that there are many things I don't know, including nearly all things banking," he said.

Western Capital Bank works closely with Dr. Johans to help him align his banking requirements with his personal and professional priorities.

"This has been the most personal experience we've ever had with a bank," he said. "They've helped us look at the entire picture by taking a great interest in both our household and business needs."

Dr. Timothy Johans – Healing through technology.

For millions of Americans, involuntary trembling makes everyday tasks such as tying shoe laces and brushing teeth a tremendous struggle. Known as benign essential tremors or the tremors associated with Parkinson's disease, these conditions cause unwanted shaking—sometimes subtly, sometimes not—in the hands, arms, legs and other muscles throughout the body.

Until recently, those suffering from tremors had limited treatment options. Often patients are prescribed medications to control their shaking. But for many, the medication itself results in too many unwanted side effects. They need another option.

That's why one Boise neurosurgeon has dedicated a significant portion of his career to reducing—even eliminating—the tremors.

Dr. Timothy Johans is one of only a handful of medical pioneers with an expertise in deep brain stimulation (DBS), a highly technical procedure that involves sending targeted electrical impulses into the deepest parts of the brain. It's a procedure that was relatively unknown to most of the medical community until the early 2000s when it gained prominence for its effectiveness in combating Parkinson's disease.

By the time most of the medical world was learning about DBS, Dr. Johans had been studying it for years as part of an intensive Functional Neurosurgery fellowship at Oregon Health Science University.

"There were very few people in the world performing the procedure," Johans said. "My boss believed we performed the first deep brain stimulation in the Western Hemisphere."

Once his fellowship was complete, the Boise native returned to his hometown to establish his neurosurgery practice.

Now beginning his 18th year of neurosurgical practice in Boise, Johans' roots run deep in Idaho. His wife's family homesteaded here, becoming prominent Boise citizens around the turn of the 19th century. Dr. Johans now resides with his wife and children in Boise's Northend. His kids are fifth generation Northenders.

"I had family here and this is where I wanted to live," Johans said.

Though, according to Johans, more than one million Americans are currently candidates for deep brain stimulation, most of his practice revolves around treating neck pain, lower back pain, and carpal tunnel syndrome.

Still, Johans says nothing matches the personal satisfaction he receives from helping patients eliminate tremors through DBS.

"I get letters from families and neighbors thanking me for changing their loved-ones lives," Johans said, choking back the emotions he clearly feels. "I get emotional about these people, because deep brain stimulation helps them so, so much."

Help it does. The results of the procedure are immediate and near miraculous.

"They come in and their right hand is shaking like a leaf," Johans describes. "But as soon as I complete the procedure, it's gone. Patients literally break down crying they are so excited about the transformation."

Today, Dr. Johans is the only neurosurgeon in Idaho actively performing deep brain stimulation.

"I truly believe that my talents are a gift from God," Johans said. "I love being able to use them to help people." □