

## Tracking brain function during surgery using a new tool

Video	Audio
Dr. Sabsevitz	"We wake up some of our patients during surgery, and we use different techniques to try to map out the brain and figure out where important functions are."
	Through his experience in brain mapping during awake brain surgeries, neuropsychologist Dr. David Sabsevitz realized there were limitations in how he could interact with and test patients in the operating room.
David Sabsevitz, Ph.D. Psychiatry Mayo Clinic	"I remember coming down from a surgery and thinking, wow, you know, we can do so much better. We need to innovate. We need to push forward. And that's where the idea of developing NeuroMapper came from."
	He developed a tool called NeuroMapper, a tablet-based testing platform. The tablet contains tests that look at language, memory, high-level problem-solving, attention and concentration.
Dr. Sabsevitz	"We can deliver these different tests to a patient during surgery as we're mapping and the platform will keep track of how well the patient's doing. The platform will also measure very precise things, such as how long it takes a patient to respond to an item, so if we see the patient slowing down or making more errors, that's important clinical information."
	Information that couldn't be captured prior to NeuroMapper.
Dr. Sabsevitz	"What I found through doing hundreds of cases is that we map a lot more efficiently we can test different functions quicker and reduce the overall time of the surgeries."
Dr. Sabsevitz	"What the surgeons have told me is, as they're getting constant feedback throughout the surgery, they can push their surgical borders more aggressively because they know the patient's doing well."
	For the Mayo Clinic News Network, I'm DeeDee Stiepan.