



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

**PUBLIC PETITION NO.**

**PE01723**

**Name of petitioner**

Mary Ramsay

**Petition title**

Essential tremor treatment in Scotland

**Petition summary**

Calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Government to raise awareness of essential tremor and to support the introduction and use of a focus ultrasound scanner for treating people in Scotland who have this condition.

**Action taken to resolve issues of concern before submitting the petition**

I have raised this issue with Rhoda Grant MSP who held a debate in the Parliament on this matter.

**Petition background information**

I have essential tremor and have been to hell and back for the past 62 years. The effects of essential tremor can have a serious impact on a person's life, with lack of understanding and awareness of the condition leading to ineffective treatment but also bullying. I want to prevent any child or adult going through verbal and physical abuse like i did.

There are over 4000 people in Scotland with essential tremor. The main treatment at the moment is brain surgery or deep brain stimulation (DBS) which some people with the condition do not want to endure. DBS is expensive. The cost to the NHS in Scotland is approximately £30,000. The cost of a focus ultrasound scanner is approximately £10,000. The focus scanner is also a much less invasive procedure.

The introduction of a focus ultrasound scanner together with an awareness raising campaign of essential tremor could help Scotland take the lead in looking at innovative, more effective treatments for the condition.

**Unique web address**

<https://www.parliament.scot/GettingInvolved/Petitions/focusultrasound>

### Related information for petition

**Do you wish your petition to be hosted on the Parliament's website to collect signatures online?**

YES

**How many signatures have you collected so far?**

0

**Closing date for collecting signatures online**

04 / 07 / 2019

### Comments to stimulate online discussion

Do you agree it is important to raise awareness of essential tremor?

How do you think this can be achieved?

Would you like access to a focus ultrasound scanner in Scotland?

What benefits to the individual and the NHS do you think a focus ultrasound scanner could deliver?