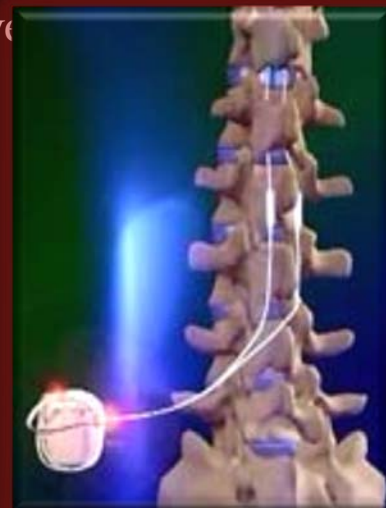


INFORMATION FOR PATIENTS

What are the services of the Wounded Warrior Pain Initiative?

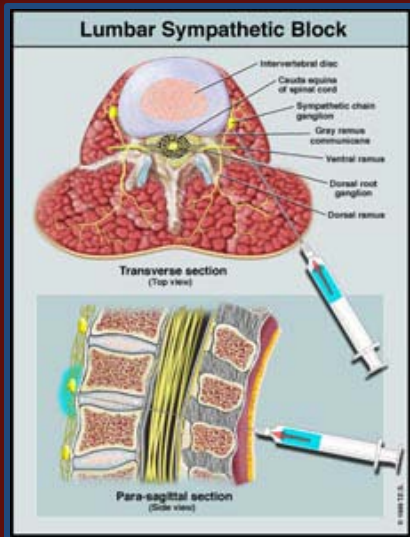
Transforaminal Epidural Steroid Injection: transforaminal injection places anti-inflammatory medicine into the epidural space where nerves leave the spine. This serves to decrease inflammation, which is believed to be the agent driving pain. By decreasing inflammation, we decrease pain, and patients note an overall increased level of functionality due to reduced pain.

Spinal Stimulator: Spinal Cord Stimulators are small implantable devices that work by intercepting pain signals before they reach the brain. This is done via a lead placed in the epidural space that delivers electrical pulses to nerves along the spinal cord. Instead of pain, patients report feeling a tingling sensation, in areas where they previously experienced pain. The beauty of spinal cord stimulation is that one undergoes a trial prior to having the device permanently implanted. Under fluoroscopic guidance a trial lead is placed and patient are sent home to try the device for 5 days. Should the patient report reduced pain, decreased need for medications, improved function, and the desire to have the device permanently implanted; a surgical date is set. This is an outpatient procedure that takes approximately 45 minutes.



INFORMATION FOR PATIENTS (cont.)

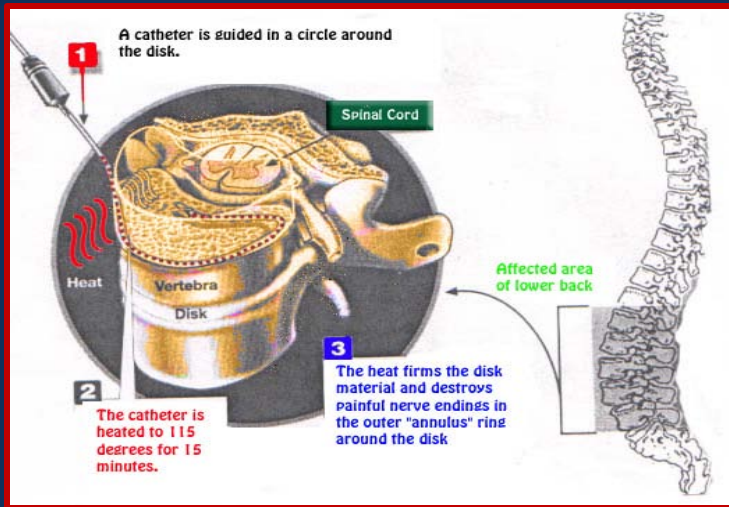
Epidural Injections: Cervical/Thoracic/Lumbar Epidural Injection: Epidural injections place anti-inflammatory medication into the epidural space. This serves to decrease inflammation in the spine. By decreasing inflammation, we decrease pain, and patient's note an overall level of increased functionality.



Lumbar Sympathetic Block: Pain fibers from the lower extremity follow the Lumbar Sympathetic chain. The sympathetic chain has been as a pain generator in many neuropathic pain states including Complex Regional Pain Syndrome - formerly known as RSD. The Lumbar chain is targeted under fluoroscopic guidance. This is a short outpatient procedure which takes approximately 15 minutes.

Stellate Ganglion Injection: Pain fibers from the upper extremity travel through the Stellate Ganglion. The stellate sympathetic ganglia has been implicated as a pain generator for many neuropathic pain states including Complex Regional Pain Syndrome - formerly known as RSD. The stellate ganglia is blocked under fluoroscopic guidance. This is a short outpatient procedure which takes approximately 5-10 minutes.

INFORMATION FOR PATIENTS (cont.)



IDET: IDET is a minimally invasive outpatient procedure in which a catheter under fluoroscopic guidance is placed into the disc. This procedure is performed in patients with annular tears in their discs. Once the catheter is placed, it is heated, and the heat serves to contract and thicken the collagen fibers in the disc while destroying nerve endings within the disc. The result - decreased pain in well selected patient populations.

Acupuncture: Acupuncture is a method of encouraging the body to promote natural healing and to improve functioning. This is done by inserting needles and applying heat or electrical stimulation at very precise acupuncture points.

