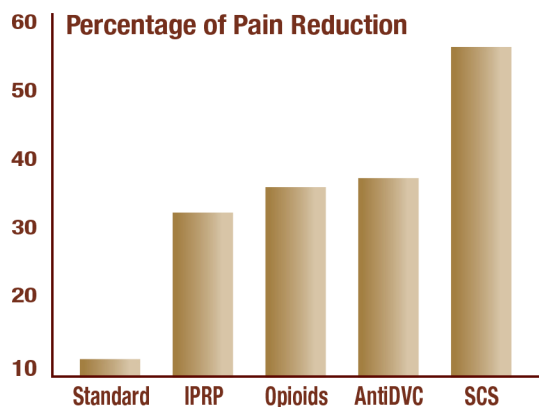


SPINAL CORD STIMULATOR (SCS)

WHAT IS A SPINAL CORD STIMULATOR (SCS)?

A Spinal Cord Stimulator is a small implantable device that relieves chronic back, neck, leg, and arm pain by sending electrical impulses to electrodes located in the spine. These electrical impulses produce a gentle massaging or soothing sensation.

Patients suffering from chronic pain have found the SCS to be very effective at providing relief. Our expert physician skillfully places the electrodes to help the device best block the pain. The device's electrical impulses are programmed with an external control unit that the patient can use to control the device, turn it on or off, and adjust the power level.



SCS relieves more pain overall compared to other treatment modalities.

In the figure above:

IPRP= Interdisciplinary Pain Rehabilitation Program

Anti-DVC = Antidepressants/Anticonvulsants

SCS =Spinal Cord Stimulator

Source: St. Jude Medical



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

What types of pain does the SCS treat?

SCS is effective at providing long-term relief for chronic pain in the back, neck, arms, and legs.

Can a SCS help me?

One of the advantages of the SCS is that it has a one-week trial period with each patient prior to implantation. For one week, you can use the device to gauge its effectiveness for you. This is the patient's chance to "try it before you buy it."

How much does it cost?

We contract with all insurances, and most of them include the device as a covered service. A recent national study shows that patients who use the device have less than half of the healthcare cost of those who have back surgery.

How do I get more information?

Come see one of our expert physicians to learn more about how we can help you with your pain issues, and whether a SCS makes sense for you.

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