

Accurately diagnosing and treating pain with personalized care

Our network of pain management physicians treats a variety of conditions, using comprehensive diagnostic techniques and non-surgical treatments for all musculoskeletal pain.

To learn more about conditions treated, visit NationalSpine.com or ask your affiliated physician.

Pulsed Radiofrequency Neurotomy

Procedure Offers Relief from Difficult Nerve Conditions

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Treatment Brochure

LEAVE PAIN
BEHIND.
GET BUSY
LIVING.

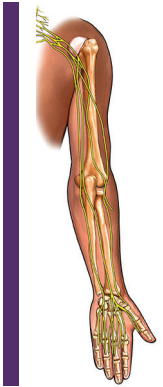
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Pulsed radiofrequency (RF) neurotomy is a procedure that provides long-term relief by interrupting painful nerve transmission.

Pulsed RF uses intermittent electrical energy to diminish nerve over-activity. The procedure can be used to treat long-standing nerve, joint, and extremity pain. Often, pulsed RF is used following a successful nerve block or epidural steroid injection in order to prolong and increase pain relief.

Our network of pain management physicians has the experience and technology to treat even the most challenging conditions involving delicate or hard-to-access nerves.



Pulsed Radiofrequency Neurotomy

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What is pulsed radiofrequency neurotomy?

Pulsed RF is a modified version of a procedure called radiofrequency neurotomy, which was developed more than 30 years ago.

Unlike standard radiofrequency, pulsed RF does not use heat and does not create a destructive lesion. Pulsed RF creates an electrical field along an injured nerve without damaging it. The energy applied decreases the nerve's ability to send painful signals and promotes nerve healing.

How is pulsed radiofrequency neurotomy performed?

Using fluoroscopic (x-ray) or ultrasound guidance, special needles are placed near the anatomical locations of the nerves to be targeted. When the needles are in place, electrical testing is performed. The testing verifies that the needle is close enough to stimulate the nerve. After testing, the energy is applied through the needle. Importantly, the application of electrical stimulation does not cause pain.

How long does it take?

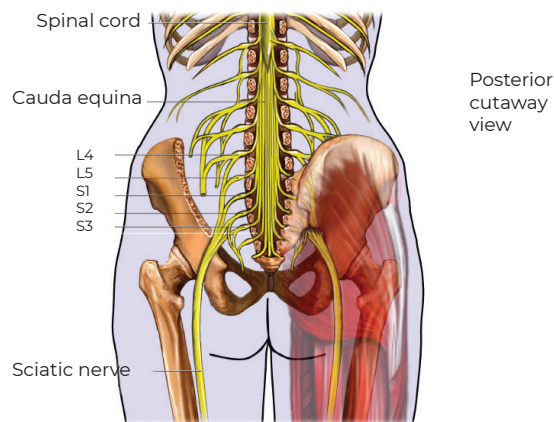
Pulsed RF is performed on an outpatient basis. The procedure typically requires 15 minutes or longer, depending on how many nerves are treated. It is followed by 30 minutes of observed recovery time.

How often should this procedure be done?

Pulsed RF is often effective after one treatment, but, if necessary, the procedure may be repeated.

What are the expected results?

Pulsed RF has been performed safely since the mid-1990s with excellent outcomes. There may be mild post-procedural pain because the muscles and soft tissues that overlie the nerves may be disrupted during needle placement. It is recommended that you take it easy on the day of procedure, and return to usual activities the following day. The benefit from this procedure will typically occur within 2 weeks. Successful neurotomy typically provides relief for 3 to 6 months or beyond.



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