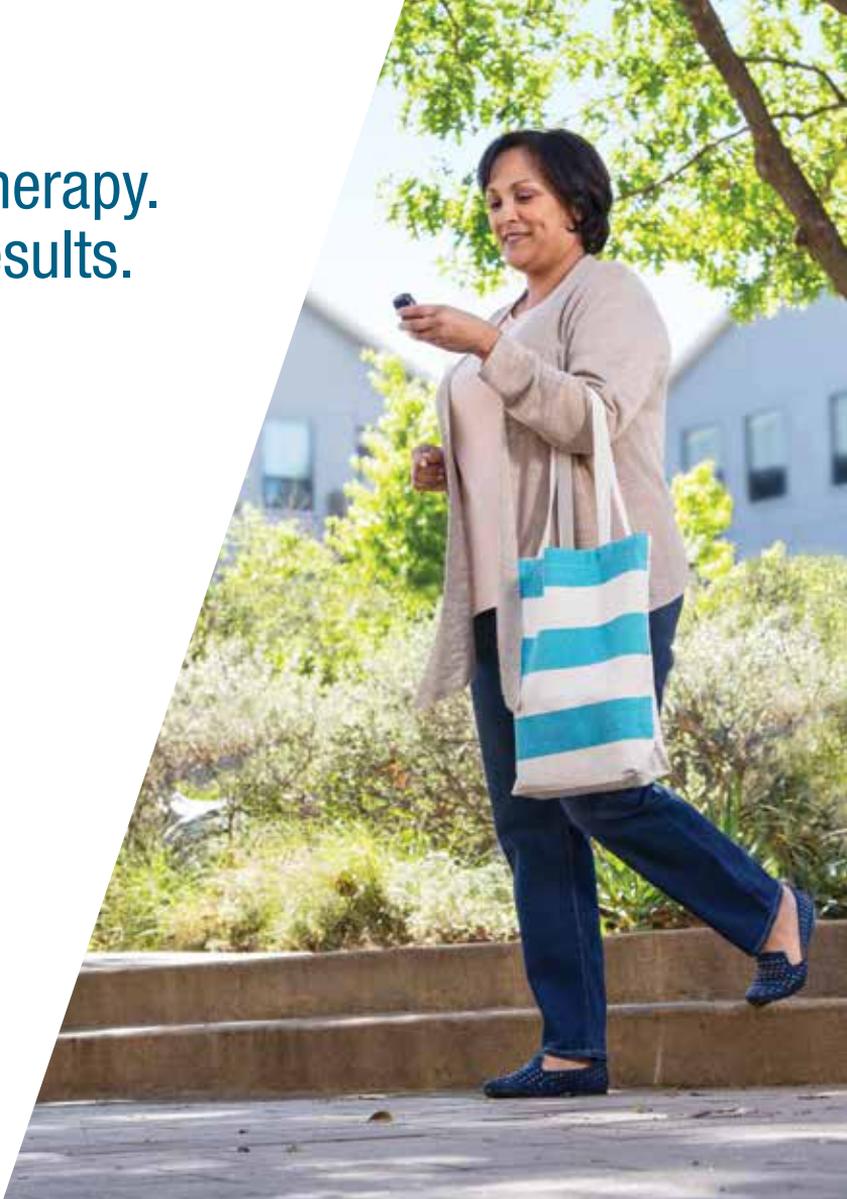


Proven pain therapy.
Stimulating results.



NUVECTRA™

Living with chronic pain can be difficult. We're here to help.

We understand the physical and mental suffering associated with chronic pain. Not being able to live the active life you want. Trying different and complicated pain treatments, with no effective results. Feeling like your life is becoming defined by your pain.

There's an option you may not have considered that could be of help.

Spinal cord stimulation (SCS) is designed to help you gain more control over your pain. This booklet provides an overview of spinal cord stimulation pain therapy and some important next steps if you're considering SCS treatment.

Spinal cord stimulation – a viable alternative.

Spinal cord stimulation, or SCS, is a therapy that has been helping people overcome their chronic pain for more than 40 years. SCS works by masking or interrupting pain signals as they travel up the spinal cord to the brain. And while it can't cure or eliminate the cause of your pain, for many people, SCS can provide control over certain types of chronic pain.

How SCS works:

- Thin wires, called leads, are placed along your spinal cord.
- A small device called a stimulator is placed under your skin and connected to the leads.
- The stimulator generates small amounts of electricity, which travel through the wires to stimulate the nerves that are sending pain signals.
- The stimulation sensation “overrides” the pain signals. Instead of feeling pain, you might experience “paresthesia,” a tingling sensation.



Along with being a reversible procedure, the advantages of SCS may include:

- A significant reduction in chronic pain ^{1,2,3}
- A reduced need for oral pain medication ²
- An improved ability to perform daily activities ^{1,3,4}

As with any treatment plan, the exact measure of success with SCS depends on the individual. In general, though, SCS is considered successful if you experience at least a 50% decrease in your pain.¹

The therapy also provides you with the ability to adjust the level of stimulation to your needs.

The steps to SCS.

One benefit of SCS therapy is you get to try it and see how it works for you. An SCS trial will allow you and your physician to see what your level of pain relief might be before a long-term device is implanted. Before the trial, you and your doctor will also discuss the benefits and possible side effects of the trial.

The trial: what to expect.

- Temporary leads are placed in your back in a short, minor outpatient procedure, and the leads are connected to an external stimulator.
- During the trial period, you'll be asked to keep track of the pain relief you experience and how the stimulation feels.
- The trial period usually lasts anywhere from three days to a week.

After your trial, you and your doctor will discuss the benefits you've experienced and decide if long-term SCS is right for you.



Long-term SCS: what to expect.

- Permanent leads are placed in your back.
- A long-term stimulator is placed under your skin and connected to the leads.
- You are shown how to manage your pain on an ongoing basis.

Once you've had some recovery time, your doctor will encourage you to resume your daily activities and begin to adjust to life with your system.



Have a conversation with your doctor.

To move forward, it's time to discuss spinal cord stimulation with your doctor. Here are some questions you might consider asking about therapy:

- “How would SCS affect my current treatment plan?”
- “What kind of pain relief can I expect?”
- “What results have you seen in your patients with SCS?”
- “What kinds of activities would I be able to resume with an SCS system?”
- “What are the possible side effects and risks?”

Overall, it's important to gain a good understanding from your doctor about how SCS might impact your life and whether it's right for you to move forward with a trial.



Answers to some frequently asked questions.

Will I be pain-free with the therapy?

The response to SCS varies from person to person. However, most people do experience substantial pain relief. Pain relief is defined as successful if you experience at least 50% pain reduction, while using less pain medication, and are able to increase your daily activity. ^{1,2,3,4}

How long will it take to recover and resume usual activities?

After your procedure, it's important to follow your doctor's instructions on postoperative care so your body has time to heal. You'll be asked to restrict physical activity. And your doctor will provide information on when you may return to your normal activities and/or work.

How long will my stimulator last, and is it replaceable?

The stimulator is approved for a minimum of 10 years of use. After 10 years, the stimulator may not hold a sufficient battery charge and will need to be replaced in a minor surgical procedure.

Will I have activity restrictions?

Many people are able to return to daily activities. But there are some restrictions. For example, you should turn off the stimulation while driving.

Will the stimulator be visible when I am dressed?

The stimulator is small in size and features a countoured shape. For most people, the device is not visible through clothing.

Will I be able to travel with my SCS system?

SCS does not limit your ability to travel. After your procedure, you will be provided with an identification card stating that you have an implanted SCS system. You should carry this card with you at all times. Showing it may allow you to bypass security devices, such as theft detectors or security screeners at stores, libraries, and airports.

1. Kumar K., Taylor RS, Jacques L, et al. Spinal cord stimulation versus conventional medical management for neuropathic pain: a multicenter randomized controlled trial in patients with failed back surgery syndrome. *Pain*. 2007; 132:179-188.
2. Taylor RS, Van Buyten JP, Buchser E. Spinal cord stimulation for chronic back and leg pain and failed back surgery syndrome: A systematic review and analysis of prognostic factors. *Spine*. 2005; 30(1):152-160.
3. Cameron T. Safety and efficacy of spinal cord stimulation for the treatment of chronic pain: a 20 year literature review. *J Neurosurgery*. March 2004;100(3):254-267.
4. North RB, Kidd DH, Farrokhi F, Piantodosi SA. Spinal cord stimulation versus repeated lumbosacral spine surgery for chronic pain: a randomized controlled trial. *Neurosurgery*. 2005;56(1):98-107.

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Brief Summary: Product Technical Manuals and Information for Prescribers (IFP) must be consulted prior to use of this product.

Indications for Use: The Algovita® Spinal Cord Stimulation (SCS) System is indicated as an aid in the management of chronic intractable pain of the trunk and/or limbs, including unilateral or bilateral pain. **Contraindications:** Diathermy, patients who are poor surgical candidates.

Warnings/Precautions: Strong electromagnetic interference (eg, electrocautery, RF or microwave ablation, or MRI) can result in serious patient injury or death, unexpected stimulation, or device malfunction or damage. Rupture or piercing of the neurostimulator may result in severe burns. Safety and effectiveness of SCS have not been established for pediatric patients, for use during pregnancy, or for use with nursing patients.

Adverse Events: may include painful stimulation or loss of pain relief, hardware malfunction or migration, allergic response and surgical risks, such as infection, or additional surgery. For full prescribing information, please call Nuvectra at 1.844.727.7897 and or consult Nuvectra's website at www.nuvectramed.com. Rx Only. April 2016.