



Spinal Cord Stimulator Surgery

You have been referred by your pain management physician for permanent implant of a spinal cord stimulator. This is a surgical procedure that requires two incisions – one for the placement of the paddles and another for placement of the generator. Your surgeon will provide additional information regarding the specific device that is being implanted and how it works.

Since you have already established a relationship with another physician who knows you well, our office will not take responsibility for prescription of your pain medications following surgery, unless directed to do so by your referring provider. If you have an existing pain contract with another physician's office, please see our written Narcotic Policy for further information regarding your post operative pain medications.

At the appropriate time, your spinal cord stimulator will be activated by the representative assigned to you by the manufacturing company of your device. If at any time, you feel that your pain is not being well controlled by the implanted device, you should first contact this person. They can assess the programming of the stimulator to ensure it is covering your pain. Our office does not do stimulator programming or activation. If the programming does not resolve the problem, please call your referring provider/pain management provider as they are managing your care.

Post Op Instructions:

Following are a list of items you should contact our office about during the first 90 days following surgery:

- Wound drainage.
- Pain and/or swelling around your incision.
- Fever (within the first 30 days). After that timeframe, call your PCP.
- New onset of severe leg pain.
- Lack of a bowel movement following surgery.

*(after 90 days, please contact your referring provider with all questions and concerns)

Please go to the emergency room for any of the following:

- Chest pain
- Shortness of breath
- Sudden severe leg pain
- Severe headache

Please call our office to make your surgical follow up appointments. You will be seen at 4 weeks and 3 months from the date of surgery. Following these appointments, you will be discharged to the care of your referring provider.