

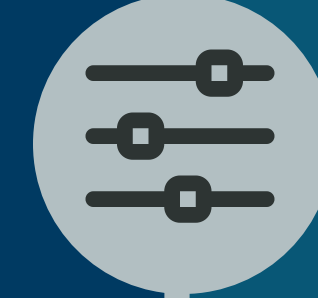
# Spinal Cord Stimulator

If you are living with chronic, unmanageable pain, spinal cord stimulator trials can provide significant relief. This minimally invasive procedure involves temporarily implanting a device that delivers electrical impulses to the spinal cord, disrupting pain signals and decreasing the frequency and severity of pain.

Our physicians at Vitruvian Health are experts in diagnosing and treating chronic pain. We offer personalized treatment plans tailored to your specific needs, helping you return to the activities you enjoy.



**Pain Signal Interruption:** Spinal cord stimulators (SCS) work by sending mild electrical impulses to the spinal cord, which disrupts pain signals before they reach the brain, effectively reducing the sensation of pain.



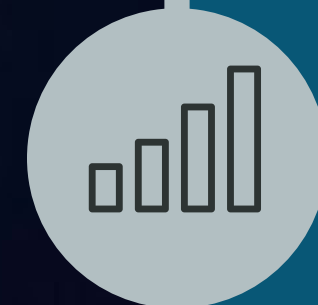
**Adjustable Therapy:** The intensity and pattern of the electrical impulses can be adjusted by the patient using an external remote control, allowing for personalized pain management.



**Reversible Treatment:** Unlike some surgical interventions, spinal cord stimulation is reversible. If the patient does not experience sufficient pain relief, the device can be removed.



**Trial Period:** Before permanent implantation, patients undergo a trial period where temporary leads are placed to evaluate the effectiveness of the treatment, ensuring that it provides adequate pain relief.



**Wide Range of Applications:** SCS is used to treat various chronic pain conditions, including failed back surgery syndrome, complex regional pain syndrome, and peripheral neuropathy, providing relief for patients who may not benefit from other treatments.



## Spinal Cord Stimulator

**Definition:** A spinal cord stimulator (SCS) trial is a highly effective, minimally invasive procedure designed to reduce the frequency and severity of chronic pain. This treatment involves temporarily implanting a device that delivers electrical impulses to the spinal cord, disrupting pain signals before they reach the brain.

### Procedure:

- **Preparation:** The patient is positioned comfortably to allow easy access to the targeted area of the spine.
- **Lead Placement:** Temporary leads are inserted near the spinal cord, guided by imaging techniques like fluoroscopy (x-ray) to ensure precision.
- **Stimulation:** The device delivers electrical impulses to the spinal cord to block pain signals, with the intensity and pattern adjustable by the patient using an external remote control.
- **Duration:** The trial period typically lasts about 5-7 days, during which the patient can assess the effectiveness of the treatment in a real-world setting.

### Frequency:

- The trial period is a one-time assessment lasting up to a week.
- If the trial is successful, patients may proceed to a permanent implantation of the spinal cord stimulator, which will be referred to a specialist.

### Expected Results:

- Patients often notice a reduction in pain during the trial period.
- Successful trials can provide significant pain relief, improved mobility, and a decrease in the reliance on pain medications.
- Many patients report an enhanced quality of life and the ability to return to daily activities with less pain.

### Follow-Up:

- A follow-up appointment is scheduled to assess the effectiveness of the trial and to discuss the possibility of permanent implantation.
- Most patients can resume their normal activities immediately after the trial procedure, although it is advisable to avoid strenuous activities during the trial period.
- Permanent implantation, if pursued, will be referred out to a specialist.

### Benefits:

- The SCS trial provides a non-surgical option for evaluating the potential benefits of spinal cord stimulation.
- By reducing the frequency and severity of pain, patients can experience significant improvements in daily functioning and overall well-being.
- This trial is a valuable part of a comprehensive pain management plan, including lifestyle modifications and other medical treatments.

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