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Spine Team Texas' Dr. Anthony Berg First in the World to Implant New Precision Montage™ MRI Spinal Cord Stimulation Device to Relieve Chronic Spine Pain

Newly-approved device is an MRI conditional neurostimulator that allows patients to have magnetic resonance diagnostic scans without interference from the device

Southlake, Texas—(MAY 11, 2016) This week, Anthony Berg, M.D., became the first physician in the world to implant the Precision Montage™ MRI at the Texas Health Spine Surgery Center in Rockwall, TX. The device is a new MRI conditional neurostimulation system that allows the patient to continue to have access to full-body MRI diagnostic scans without concern of interference from the device. With this device, Dr. Berg is now able to offer patients suffering from chronic spine pain a new technology that can continue to provide innovative therapy, stimulation modes, device diagnostics and the ability to proceed with future MRI scans that may be needed in relation to their spine or any other health issues.

Spinal cord stimulation, also called neurostimulation, is an important therapy option for patients who have not been able to alleviate their chronic pain through traditional methods such as medicine or surgery. Chronic pain affects 100 million Americans—more than heart disease, cancer and diabetes combined. The debilitating disease is cause for 40 percent of work absences due to back pain, second only to the common cold (50 percent). Chronic pain costs the nation more than \$635 billion each year in medical treatments and lost productivity expenses. Spinal cord stimulation is a proven therapy that has been used for over 40 years to help manage chronic pain.



Dr. Anthony Berg

“Chronic spine pain can greatly limit a patient’s quality of life,” said Dr. Berg. “With this new technology, we now have better options for treating spine pain. The advanced technology and ability to continue to have access to other diagnostic testing without fear of device interference can be a great relief to the patient.”

Similar in function and appearance to a cardiac pacemaker, the Precision Montage™ MRI neurostimulator delivers mild electrical pulses to the spinal cord, which interrupt or mask the pain signals' transmission to the brain. By masking the pain signals, patients who receive neurostimulation may see an overall improved quality of life. Until now, one of the greatest challenges with spinal cord stimulation therapies has been giving patients access to the latest technologies without limiting their ability to benefit from future diagnostic testing using any type of magnetic resonance testing equipment.

“Spine Team Texas’ commitment to investing in innovative medical technology,” said Mark Hood, CEO of Spine Team Texas, “lands us on the forefront of patient care when it comes to treating spine conditions, diseases and injuries. Our goal is always improving patients’ quality of life by using the least invasive procedure found to be most effective.”

Precision Montage™ MRI is one of the world’s smallest neurostimulators to treat chronic pain of the trunk or limbs and pain from failed back surgery. Patients in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex are encouraged to call Spine Team Texas if they are suffering from chronic spine pain.

About Chronic Pain and Spinal Cord Stimulation

Chronic pain is a largely under-treated and misunderstood disease that affects more than 1.5 billion people worldwide according to the American Academy of Pain Medicine. Neurostimulation studies have shown that spinal cord stimulation systems can often reduce pain symptoms by 50 percent or more. By providing significant pain relief, this therapy enables many patients to increase their activity levels and improve their overall quality of life. Patients can obtain more information about neurostimulation pain therapies by contacting Spine Team Texas.

About Spine Team Texas

Spine Team Texas specializes in the treatment of back and neck problems ranging from simple back or neck strains to the most complex spine surgeries. Through its in-depth knowledge and true team approach, Spine Team Texas is dedicated to treating patients conservatively through education, physical therapy, non-surgical treatments, and minimally invasive spine surgery when necessary. The philosophy of Spine Team Texas is to treat with an emphasis on non-surgical treatment whenever possible and consider surgical intervention only as a last resort when non-surgical measures have failed to provide long-term relief. This philosophy is supported in the fact that only 8-9% of Spine Team Texas new patients result in surgical intervention; that means that approximately 90% of our patients are treated successfully through non-surgical treatment options. (Individual results vary.) The team consists of physical medicine and rehabilitation physicians, specializing in non-surgical spine care; spine surgeons trained in the latest minimally invasive spine surgery techniques; spine pain anesthesiologists focused on chronic spine pain; spine-focused physical therapists and on-site registered nurses.

Established in December 2004, Spine Team Texas is headquartered in Southlake, Texas, and opened a full-spectrum sister facility in Rockwall, Texas, in March 2009. Other locations include Bedford, Fort Worth-Alliance, North Dallas-Richardson, and Allen. With approximately 175 employees, Spine Team Texas has received numerous awards such as ‘Best Places to Work’ & “Healthcare Heroes-Physician Award by Dallas Business Journal, “Top Docs” in Fort Worth, Texas magazine, U.S. News & World Report “Top Docs” in neurosurgery, “Top Docs” in neurosurgery & physical medicine and rehabilitation by Castle-Connelly, D Magazine “Best Docs” in orthopedic surgery and physical medicine and rehabilitation, Becker’s Spine Review “Top 105 Spine Surgery Practices to Know” & “Spine Leadership Award” in 2013 and 2015. For more information about Spine Team Texas, visit www.SpineTeamTexas.com. Connect with them on Twitter, YouTube and on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/spineteamtexas.