

# **10 Things to Know About Neuromodulation**

## **Minimally Invasive Procedures to Reduce or Alleviate Pain**

Below is a list of 10 facts everyone should know about neuromodulation as a treatment option for reducing or alleviating pain, spasticity, and a multitude of other symptoms.

### **1. Neuromodulation improves the quality of life for patients in pain.**

The Institute of Medicine has estimated that chronic pain affects more than 100 million American adults—more than the total affected by heart disease, cancer, and diabetes combined. Pain can affect an individual's ability to function and even perform the simplest of activities of normal living; Patients who have received neuromodulation treatment have often been able to resume normal lives filled with routine daily activities, including a return to work.

### **2. Neuromodulation can be applied through different techniques.**

Neuromodulation comprises multiple treatment modalities including spinal cord stimulation, spinal drug delivery systems, sacral stimulation, brain stimulation, peripheral nerve stimulation, and peripheral nerve field stimulation. These treatments should only be administered or provided by a trained Physician who specializes in this type of care.

### **3. Neuromodulation is FDA approved and has been used in practice for more than a quarter century.**

Extensive research and clinical trials have documented Neuromodulation's safety and ability to decrease chronic pain and improve the quality of life for patients.

### **4. Potential neuromodulation patients can “test drive” the modality.**

Neuromodulation is administered via minimally invasive techniques and it is a rare medical treatment that the patient can “test drive” during an incision-less trial before final consideration of the device's insertion. During the trial the patient gets to experience what the therapy can provide in terms of symptom relief allowing a more informed decision on whether to proceed with permanent insertion.

### **5. Neuromodulation implants can be removed.**

Once implemented, if the patient chooses to stop the treatment, the device can be removed. The procedure is reversible.

### **6. Neuromodulation alleviates or lessens pain without putting patients into a “drug fog.”**

By relieving pain with neuro-stimulation or a spinal drug-delivery system (that provides microdoses of medicine), the patient can avoid many side effects of oral medications, including excessive sedation or cognitive impairment.

### **7. There are neuromodulation specialists in your area.**

There are approximately 1000 members of NANS located across the United States. Membership includes physicians of multiple different backgrounds, all of whom specialize in pain, spasticity and/or movement disorders. A member in your local area can be found by visiting <http://www.neuromodulation.org/>

### **8. Neuromodulation procedures are covered by most medical insurance and Medicare programs.**

As with all medical procedures, the patient must check with their insurance plan to receive proper approvals. Your doctor's office will work with you to obtain insurance authorization for this therapy

**9. Patient care is of the utmost importance to neuromodulation specialists.**

Members of NANS are concerned first and foremost with the care given to their patients and the impact the neuromodulation program has on their patients' lives.

**10. Neuromodulation is NOT SCIENCE FICTION.**

New scientific advances and expanding clinical indications will continue to fuel the growth of this dynamic field in the coming decade but the results it can bring to pain sufferers is real today.

**About the North American Neuromodulation Society (NANS):**

The North American Neuromodulation Society (NANS) is the premier organization representing neuromodulation in the United States and is the largest member of the International Neuromodulation Society. NANS promotes multidisciplinary collaboration among clinicians, scientists, engineers, and others to advance neuromodulation therapies through education, research, innovation and advocacy. Through these efforts NANS seeks to promote and advance the highest quality patient care. For more information, please visit our website:

<http://www.neuromodulation.org/>