

**Adult Neurology**

Reed C. Perron, MD      John T. Nasr, MD  
Hugo N. Lijtmaer, MD      Amrit K. Grewal, MD  
Daniel R. Van Engel, MD      Olga Noskin, MD  
Kenneth A. Levin, MD      Yamini Naidu, MD  
Kenneth A. Citak, MD      Daniel Berlin, MD, MSc  
James T. Shamma, MD      Fumin Tong, MD, PhD  
Susan P. Molinari, MD      Elena Zislin, PA-C

**Pediatric Neurology**

Peter L. Heilbronner, MD, PhD  
Jennifer A. Cope, MD  
Alexis M. Dallara-Marsh, MD  
Mitchell Steinschneider, MD, PhD  
Heather Weiner, APN  
**Neuro Rehabilitation Center**  
Kenneth A. Citak, MD  
Medical Director

**Managing Partner**

Hugo N. Lijtmaer, MD  
**Chief Operations Officer**  
David T. Contento, FACMPE  
John Jensen, PT  
Director of Rehabilitation

**EPIDURAL STEROID INJECTIONS**

An epidural steroid injection is the injection of a small amount of steroid (a cortisone-type of medication) into the epidural space in the back. The epidural space is an area located within the spine, but outside the spinal cord.

An epidural steroid injection is performed for back pain which can be caused by herniated disc or spinal stenosis (narrowing of the spinal space). All of these conditions may cause irritation of the nerves, which in turn may cause you pain.

**What happens during the procedure?**

You may be sitting, lying on your side or lying face down. Your back will be cleansed with an antiseptic solution and your skin will be numbed. The doctor will place the needle into the epidural space and a saline/steroid solution will be injected. Fluoroscopy (x-ray) may be used to guide the placement of the needle, especially if you have had back surgery in the past. The needle may not be placed in exactly the same site as your pain. The medicine injected will "float" to coat nearby nerves.

- ❖ You may feel some pressure at the site of injection and occasionally your pain symptoms may intensify briefly with the injection. The doctor will inject slowly in order to decrease your discomfort.
- ❖ You may experience warmth, tingling and/or numbness for a brief period of time following the injection.
- ❖ There are times when headaches can follow an epidural - Let us know if this becomes a problem.

The procedure takes less than 20 minutes.

**Contraindications for the procedure:**

Bleeding problems and infection at the site of injection are possible contraindications. Please call us as soon as possible if you have any bleeding disorders, or if you have a fever, cold, the flu or any other infection.

**Special care afterward:**

A Band-aid will be applied to the injection site. You will remain in the Recovery area for a short time where a medical assistant will check your blood pressure, pulse and respirations and review you discharge instructions. Then you will be able to go home. It is recommended to have someone drive you if it is your first injection.

**Appointment Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Time:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DISCLAIMER**

*OUR OFFICE WILL OBTAIN AUTHORIZATION FOR YOUR TEST; HOWEVER, THIS IS NOT A GUARANTEE OF PAYMENT. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU UNDERSTAND YOUR INSURANCE PLAN'S CURRENT BENEFIT AND COVERAGE RULES. SOME INSURANCE PLANS PAY DIFFERENTLY DEPENDING ON THE PLACE OF SERVICE, FOR EXAMPLE; OUT-PATIENT HOSPITAL VERSUS A DOCTOR'S OFFICE. YOU MAY BE AT RISK FOR A GREATER OUT-OF-POCKET FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY; THEREFORE, YOU SHOULD CALL THE MEMBER SERVICES OR BENEFITS TELEPHONE NUMBER LISTED ON YOUR INSURANCE CARD TO FIND OUT WHAT YOUR FINANCIAL OBLIGATION MAY BE PRIOR TO ANY APPOINTMENT.*

**A CANCELLATION / NO-SHOW FEE OF \$100.00 WILL BE BILLED TO YOU IF YOU DO NOT GIVE AT LEAST 24 BUSINESS HOURS NOTICE PRIOR TO CANCELLATION OF YOUR APPOINTMENT.**