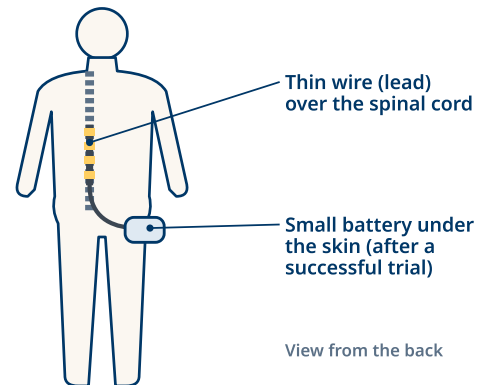


# Spinal Cord Stimulation

## What it is

A spinal cord stimulator is a small device that sends mild electrical signals to the spinal cord. The signals may change how you feel pain. You try it for a few days first before deciding on a long-term device.



## Why it is done

- Chronic back or leg pain after spine surgery
- Complex regional pain syndrome (CRPS)
- Painful diabetic neuropathy
- Chronic pain not adequately controlled with other treatments
- Completion of a psychological evaluation, often required by insurers

## Self-care tips

- Keep the cut clean and dry until it heals.
- During healing, avoid bending, lifting and twisting as told.
- Carry your device ID card. Tell other providers you have a device before any MRI.
- Charge or check your device as shown.

## What to expect

**Before:** You try the device first for about a week. Thin wires are placed through a needle and connected to a small device you wear outside the body.

**During:** You and your doctor look at how much your pain and daily activities improved during the trial.

**After:** If the trial helped, a long-term device is placed under the skin in an outpatient procedure. You will have follow-up visits to adjust the settings.

## When to call us

- Fever over 101°F or chills
- Redness, swelling or fluid draining from the cut
- The device stops working or gives an unusual feeling
- Symptoms that get worse

**Call 911 for chest pain, trouble breathing, or loss of bladder or bowel control.**

## Call 732-202-3000

One number for all offices. Questions about this handout? We are glad to help.

**Our 7 offices:** Whiting · Toms River (Hooper Ave) · Brick · Barnegat · Manahawkin · Freehold · West Long Branch

[gsmedicalcenter.org/treatments/spinal-cord-stimulation/](https://gsmedicalcenter.org/treatments/spinal-cord-stimulation/)



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