Retrospective review of real-world outcomes following 60-day PNS of the cervical medial branch nerves

RD Mattie, MD¹, JA Kost, MD², EP Washabaugh, MD³, DD Lester, MD⁴, CA Zurn, MS⁵, ND Crosby, PhD⁵, JW Boggs, PhD⁵

¹Total Spine Institute, Los Angeles, CA; ²Hartford Hospital Pain Treatment Center, Hartford, CT; ³Michigan Pain Specialists, Ypsilanti, MI; ⁴Central Virginia VA Health Care System, Richmond, VA; ⁵SPR Therapeutics, Cleveland, OH



BACKGROUND

- Axial neck pain is prevalent and often debilitating.¹⁻³
- Conventional treatment options commonly lack efficacy or are neurodestructive. 1,4,5



- 60-day percutaneous PNS targeting the cervical medial branch (CMB) nerves is a potential nondestructive treatment for axial neck pain.
- The present work is a retrospective review of realworld outcomes from patients receiving a commercial 60-day PNS treatment targeting CMB nerves.

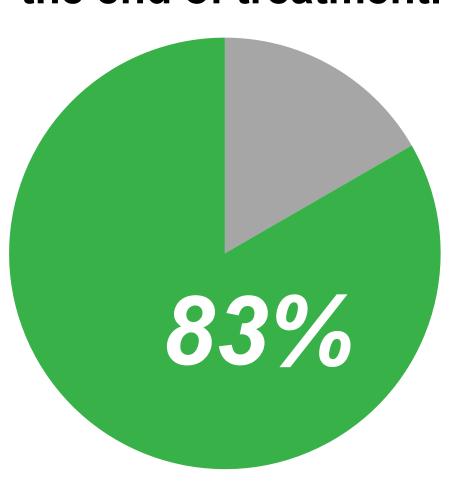
METHODS

- Anonymized records were reviewed from a national real-world database of patients who:
- i. Previously underwent commercial implantation of 60-day PNS leads targeting cervical medial branch
- ii. Opted in to provide data to the device manufacturer
- iii. Had baseline and end of treatment outcomes available
- Outcomes summarized at end of treatment (EOT)
- Responders = substantial (≥50%) pain relief and/or clinically significant improvement in quality of life as measured by the Patient Global Impression of Change (PGIC)



RESULTS & DISCUSSION

83% (25/30) of patients were responders at the end of treatment.

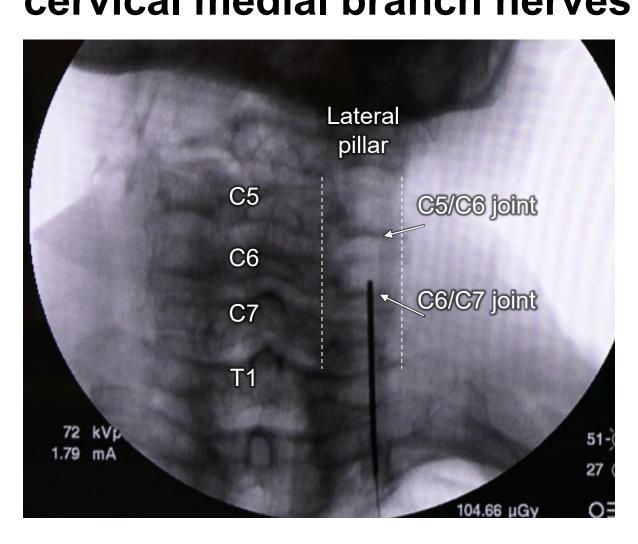


Responders Non-responders

Responders had ≥50% pain relief and/or clinically significant improvement in quality of life

Average pain relief 53% experienced by responders

Example fluoro-guided approach to the cervical medial branch nerves



Example fluoroscopic image showing AP view with stimulating probe targeting medial branch over lateral *lamina of C6*

While safety was not directly analyzed here, published studies indicate the most common events are skin irritation due to adhesive bandages, pain or discomfort due to stimulation, and pain due to the lead placement procedure.

Stimulation targeting efferent fibers in the cervical medial branch nerves is intended to produce comfortable, cycling tension in core cervical musculature for pain relief.

- Stimulation of efferent motor fibers (blue) induces muscle tension, activating proprioceptive afferent sensory fibers (purple) in response to stretch & tension
- Afferent messaging to cortex has been theorized to engage central mechanisms to provide sustained pain relief⁶

Conclusions

- Sixty-day peripheral nerve stimulation treatment targeting the cervical medial branch nerves produced significant improvements in pain and/or quality of life in a majority of patients.
- This real-world evidence suggests that a 60-day PNS treatment targeting the cervical medial branches is a promising, non-destructive option for axial neck pain.



REFERENCES

1. Douglass and Bope 2004; 2. Cote et al., 1998; 3. Rao 2002; 4. Carragee et al., 2009; 5. Cohen and Hooten, 2017; 6. Deer et al., 2021

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