



WHEN AND WHY TO OBTAIN AN ELECTRICAL STIMULATOR

Within the last generation, implanted electrical stimulators have been made for persons whose intractable pain could not be controlled by medical means. This basic reason has not changed. Persons with adhesive arachnoiditis (AA) may develop the very worst possible intractable pain that is resistant to medical measures.

Difficulty in Controlling the Pain of AA: The pain of AA may be difficult to control. It usually requires a combination of opioids, corticosteroids, and medicinals for neuroinflammation. Few doctors know how or are willing to prescribe the necessary medications for pain control. An implanted stimulator may be the best recourse.

Improvement in Technology: The implanted electrical stimulators of today are markedly improved over the models of yesteryear. Complications such as infections or worse pain have essentially been eliminated. We follow many persons with AA who have an implanted electrical stimulator, and the complication rate is nil.

Pain Control Necessity: Many persons with AA simply want to “tough it out” although their pain is so severe they can barely function. We do not feel this is wise. Uncontrolled pain has a negative, adverse effect on the body’s hormone and immunologic systems that are necessary for healing. Simply put, uncontrolled pain has the general effect of making AA worse.

Stimulators Don’t Stop Disease Treatment: An implanted stimulator does not directly treat the disease of AA. One can and should carry out measures to treat AA after the stimulator is implanted.

Tests or Trials: Today, you are given trials to determine if the stimulator will relieve your pain before it is implanted.

Summary: If you have AA and your medical treatment is not controlling your pain so you can be comfortable and function, ask your physician for an implanted electrical stimulator. This may be a godsend and positively change your life.