

# Biowave High Frequency Neurostimulation

## Sports & Athletic Training Training Guide

A large, abstract graphic of blue and teal wavy lines occupies the left side of the page, resembling a brain's neural network or a signal waveform.

**biowave**

Biowave Corporation

[biowave.com](http://biowave.com)

1-877-BIOWAVE



# Background on Pain **For Sales Representatives**

A large, abstract graphic of a wave composed of many thin, blue lines that curve and overlap to create a sense of motion and depth. The wave starts from the left side of the frame and curves towards the right, with its color transitioning from dark blue on the left to light cyan on the right.

# What is Pain?

**Pain is broadly divided into two groups:  
Nociceptive Pain and Neuropathic Pain**



## Nociceptive Pain

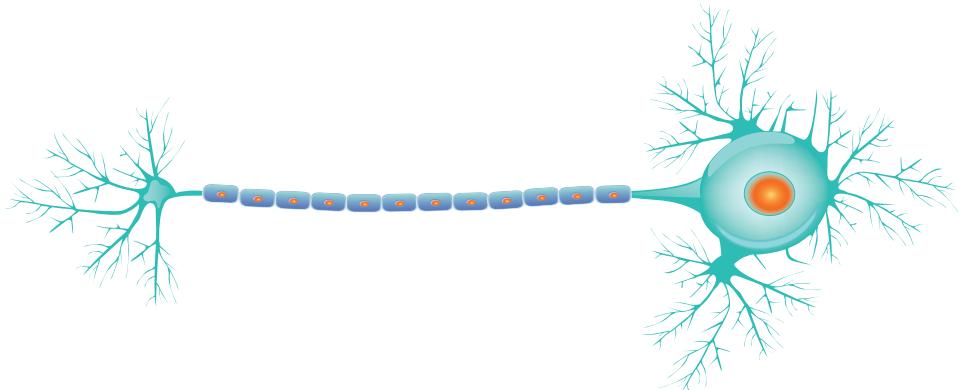
- Caused by intense or damaging stimuli
- Three classes of nociceptive pain:
  - Mechanical (stubbing a toe)
  - Thermal (burning a finger)
  - Chemical (putting alcohol on a cut)
- Examples include:
  - Post-operative pain
  - Pain associated with trauma
  - Chronic pain of arthritis

## Neuropathic Pain

- Caused by nerve damage accompanied by tissue injury
- Damaged nerve fibers send incorrect signals to different pain centers
- Examples include:
  - Allodynia
  - Radiculopathies
  - Neuralgia
  - Postherpetic neuralgia (shingles)
  - Complex Regional Pain Syndrome (CRPS)
  - Phantom limb pain

# Types of Pain Fibers

Nociceptors can be divided into two general types.



## C-fibers

- Unmyelinated axons
- Conduct action potentials slowly
- Small-diameter cell bodies
- Mediate the slower, burning quality of pain
- Comprise around 70% of all nociceptor fibers

## A-delta fibers

- Lightly myelinated axons
- Conduct action potentials rapidly
- Medium to large diameter cell bodies
- Mediate the fast, pricking quality of pain fibers

# Acute vs. Chronic

**Acute pain and chronic pain differ in their time frame, etiology, pathophysiology, diagnosis and treatment.**



## Acute pain

- Less than 3-months in duration
- Results from trauma or postoperative pain
- Self-limiting and serves as a protective biological function by acting as a warning of ongoing tissue damage
- Symptom of a disease process experienced in or around the injured or diseased tissue
- Nociceptive in nature and occurs secondary to chemical, mechanical and thermal stimulation of A-delta and C-fiber pain receptors.

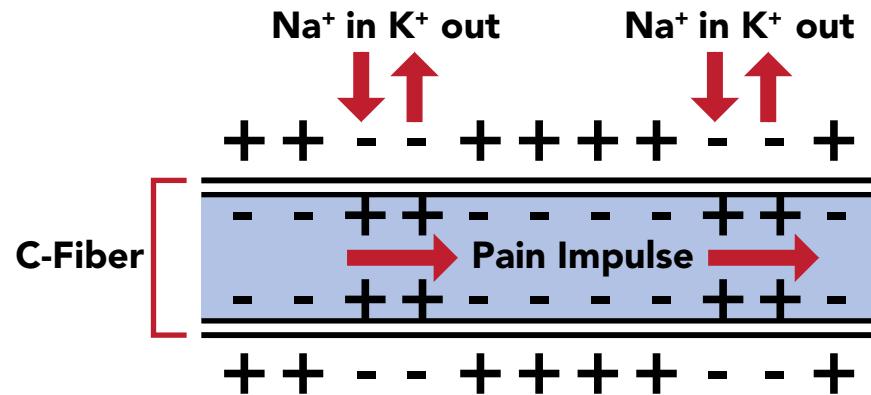
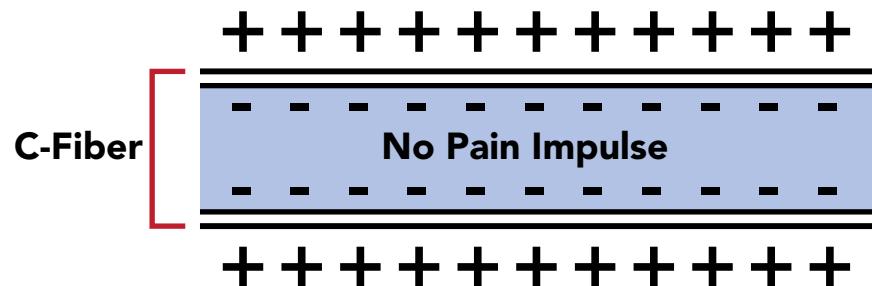


## Chronic pain

- Greater than 3-months in duration
- Serves no protective biological function
- Chronic pain is itself a disease process
- Not self-limiting and can persist for years and even decades after the initial injury
- Can be refractory to multiple treatment modalities
- If inadequately treated, associated symptoms can include chronic anxiety, fear, depression, sleeplessness and impairment of social interaction predominately neuropathic in nature (except for cancer pain) and involves damage either to the peripheral or central nervous systems

# How is Pain Transmitted?

Pain is initiated by an external stimulus that exceeds a certain threshold.



- Stimulus from outside the body is above a certain threshold (for example, a person hits their thumb with a hammer)
- Sodium ion passes from the outside of the membrane of the C-fiber to the inside of the C-fiber
- Potassium ion moves from the inside of the C-fiber to the outside
- Sodium-potassium ion exchange causes a polarity change
- Plus charge formed on the inside of the C-fiber is the pain signal
- Pain signal propagates along C-fiber to dorsal horn of the spine and up to the brain
- Person feels pain

# Different Ways to Treat Pain



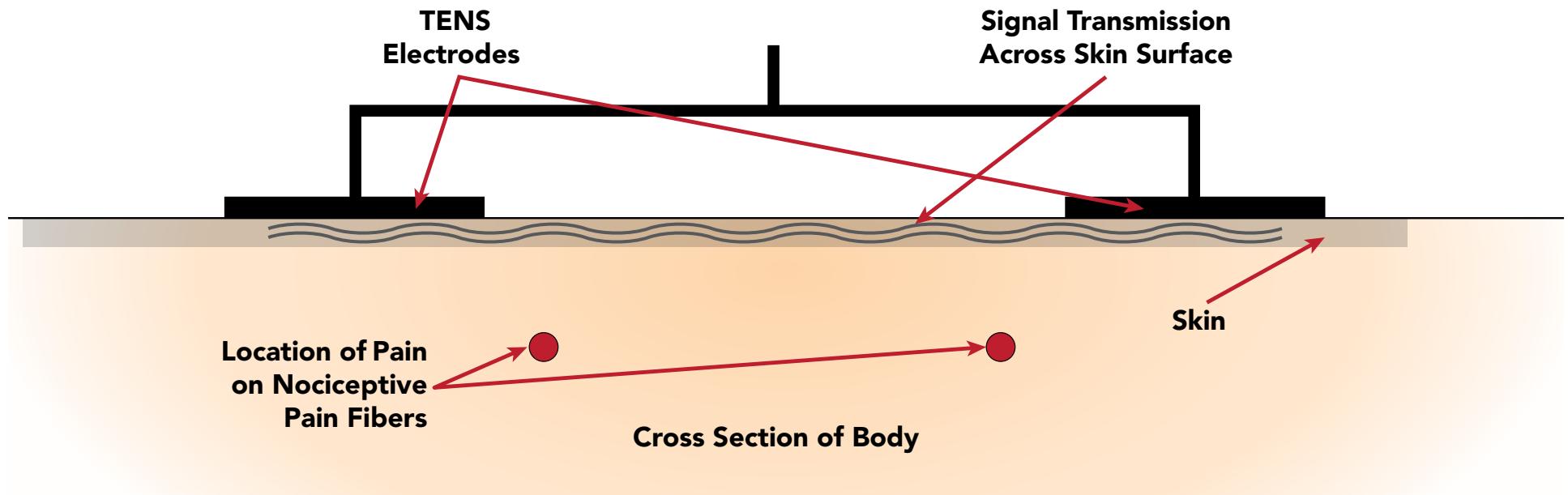
Tier 1	TENS  Electrical signals travel across surface of skin which may act as a distraction to pain  Gate Control Theory	NSAIDS  Reduces inflammation through peripheral inhibition of prostaglandin synthesis	Bio-feedback  Provides some control over physiological functions	Physical Therapy  Strengthens location surrounding injured area	Behavioral Modification  Reduces re-aggravation of pain condition
Tier 2	<b>Opioids</b>  Act on receptors located on neuronal cell membranes that inhibit neurotransmitter release	<b>Nerve Blocks</b>  Provides a chemical conduction block of the sodium channels which conduct electrical pain impulses	<b>Injections</b>  Suppresses the immune system reducing inflammation, pain and swelling at the site of the injury	<b>Radio Frequency Ablation</b>  Burns nerves to stop transmission of pain signals	
Tier 3	<b>Surgery</b>  Mechanical correction or stabilization to reduce pain	<b>SCS</b>  Implanted device and leads stimulates affected nerves  Gate Control Theory	<b>Drug Pumps</b>  Provides a chemical conduction block of the sodium channels which conduct electrical pain impulses		



# Clinical and Technical Inservice on Biowave



# Problem with Existing Stimulation Technologies

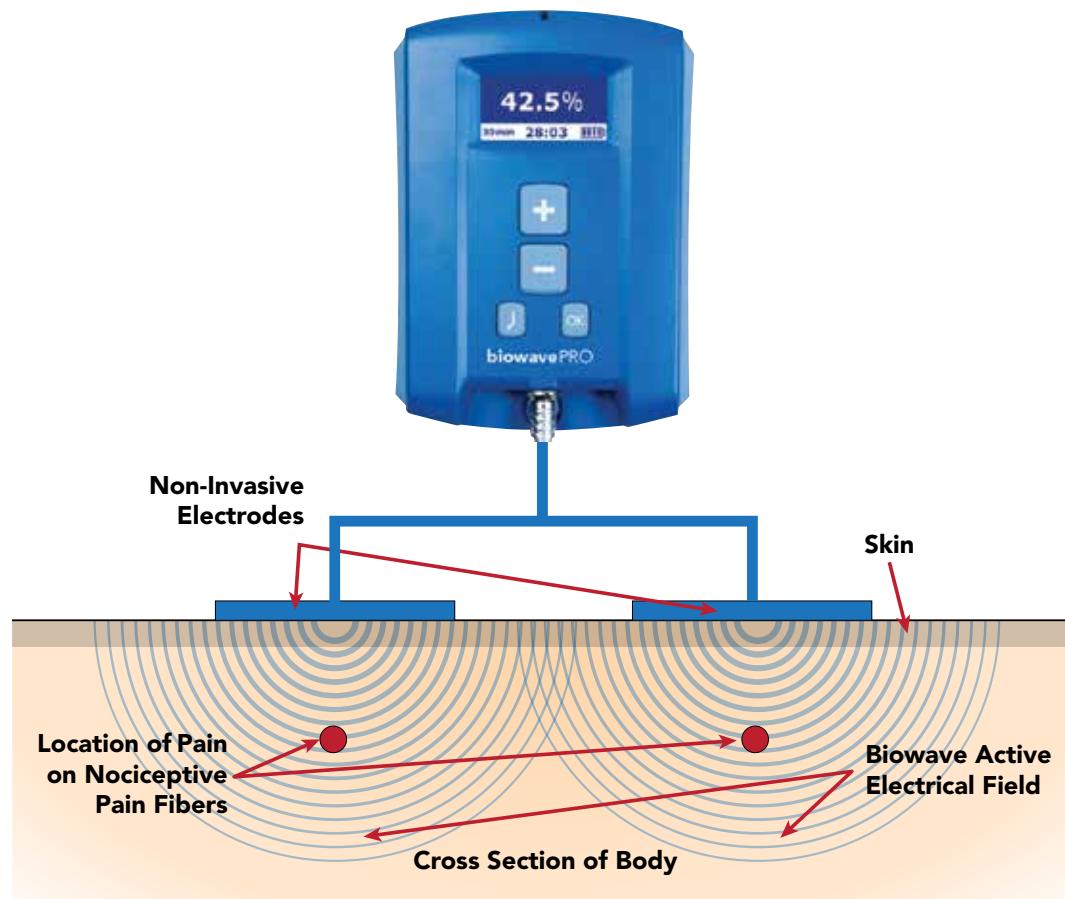


- Low Frequency signals (1-180 hz) affect nerve fibers
- Problem - skin has high impedance & capacitance
- Low Frequency (LF) signals regardless of the shape of the waveform cannot pass through skin - LF signals only travel across the surface of skin (Fundamental problem with TENS)
- PNS and SCS devices are implanted with leads placed in the proximity of the nerve to be stimulated

# Solution to Problem



## Patented Biowave Advanced Signal Technology

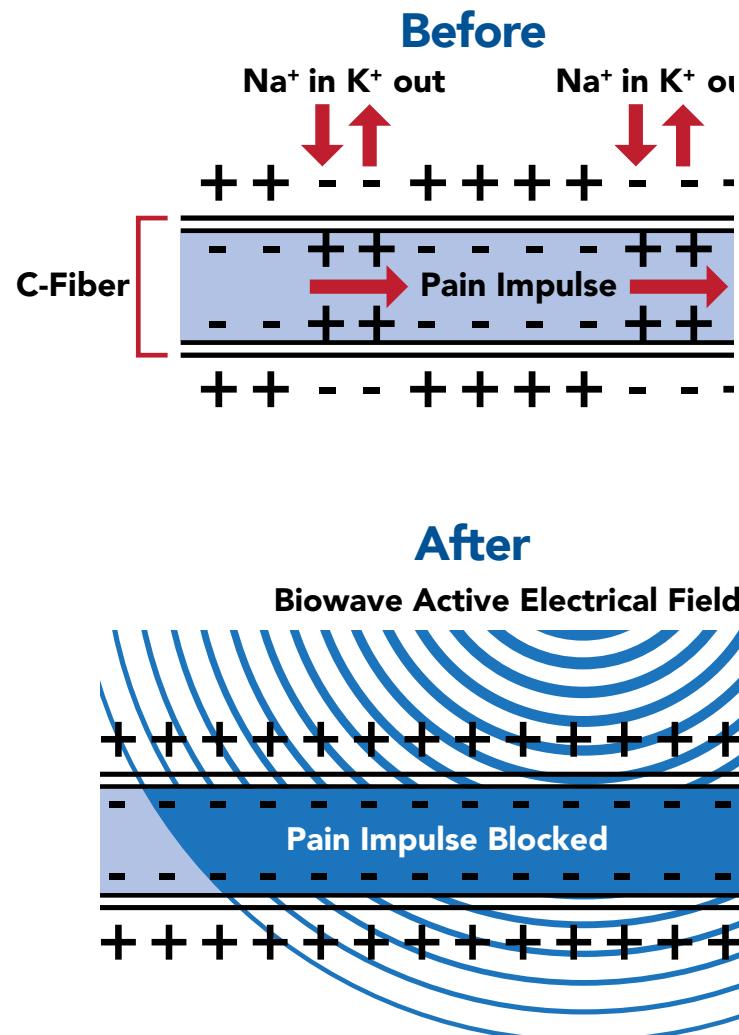


- Proven in a rabbit model
- Delivery of Biowave's two summed High Frequency (HF) signals (4000 hz + 3880 hz) alternates between two noninvasive electrodes
- As the 2 HF signals pass through skin into deep tissue, all polarized structures including nociceptive pain fibers (C-fiber, A-delta fiber) and muscle tissue cause a further multiplication of the 2 HF signals (this is known as a Fourier Transform)
- Result is a new spectrum of signals, one of which is a Low Frequency (LF) signal that forms an active electrical field in a 3" diameter hemisphere beneath each noninvasive electrode
- Body is producing LF internally at surface of pain nerves instead of:
  1. trying to force LF through skin from the outside like TENS, or
  2. needing to implant a lead next to the nerve like a spinal cord stimulator (SCS) or peripheral nerve stimulator (PNS)

# Mechanisms of Action



## Biowave Treats Both Nociceptive and Neuropathic Pain



- Active electrical field forms at the surface of nerves in a 3" diameter hemisphere beneath both electrodes
- Hyperpolarization of C Fibers
  - Active electrical field inhibits sodium – potassium ion exchange across the membrane of C-fibers preventing action potential propagation
- Hypoesthesia is induced on A-delta Fibers:
  - Hypoesthesia is induced 5 min into the treatment
  - Light numbness lasts for up to 20 min following a 30-min treatment
- Blood flow is accelerated through volume of tissue in hemisphere where active electrical field is present
- Muscle tissue held in tension during treatment
- Deep smooth pressure sensation – Much more comfortable than IFC, NMES, TENS
- Long carry over effect from more efficient production of endogenous opiates – endorphins, enkephalins, serotonin

# First Human Study



## Chronic Low Back Pain Dosage Study at Cornell Medical College/NY Hospital



- Abstract in Journal Anesthesia & Analgesia Mar 2003
- Discovered optimal set of HF signals for passing energy through skin
- Discovered optimal LF signal formed inside body for:
  - preventing action potential propagation along C-fibers (inhibiting transmission of pain signal)
  - inducing hypoesthesia on A-delta fibers – light numbness forms in the hemisphere beneath and surrounding each electrode

# Result



## Very Simple to Use Neuromodulation Pain Therapy System



- No programming
- Signals are optimized for passing through skin and blocking pain directly on nociceptive fibers
- Only control is intensity
- Patients control their own comfort level
- Active feedback control prevents patients from receiving a burn
- Very simple to use
- FDA Cleared
- Manufactured in USA

# Biowave Clinical Studies



## Clinical studies on acute, chronic and postoperative pain

- Long Term Use of BiowaveHOME High Frequency Neurostimulation for the Treatment of Chronic Pain in Veterans Following Successful BiowavePRO Neurostimulation Therapy in Veterans Administration Hospitals
- Randomized Controlled Study on the treatment of post-operative pain from TKA surgery - Hospital for Special Surgery, New York City - Podium Presentation at Eastern Orthopedic Association Annual Meeting, Oct 2008; Poster Presentation at AAOS Annual Meeting Feb 2009; Study submitted to the *Journal of Arthroplasty*
- Randomized Blinded Controlled Study Treating OA Knee Patients Rush Univ. Medical Center - Published in *ORTHOPEDICS* June 2007
- Weill Cornell Medical College Chronic Low Back Pain Study (Phase 1 + 2) - Abstract from *Anesthesia & Analgesia*, Mar 2003
- NY Giants White Paper - IRB approved study on treatment of Acute Sports Injuries on NY Giants football players June 2003-Dec 2005, 600 treatments on 90 players
- Clinical Study on treating extremities to reduce pain and improve range of motion - August 2005

Go to [biowave.com/clinical](http://biowave.com/clinical) to download studies

# Biowave Clinical Studies



## Results from Clinical Studies



- **Excellent treatment outcomes**
  - 81% patient response rate
  - 50%-75% reduction in VAS pain scores
  - Significant increase in ROM, reduction in stiffness and muscle spasm
- **Long carry over effect**
  - 30-minute treatment provides up to 24 hours of continued pain relief and functional improvement
- **Extremely comfortable**
  - Deep smooth pressure sensation
  - Excellent patient compliance

# Pain Treatment Protocol



## Static Treatment for Sports

**In athletic training applications, because athletes may re-aggravate their pain condition during practices or games, the recommended protocol is as follow:**

- Treat for 30 minutes immediately before practice or a game so the athlete may receive relief through practice or the game;
- Treat for 30 minutes immediately after practice or a game (which may be in combination with cold therapy) and
- Time permitting, treat a third time 2 to 3 hours later or in the evening. Multiple treatments with BiowavePRO and BiowaveHOME may provide a cumulative benefit.
- BiowavePRO and BiowaveHOME's portability allow for treatments to occur not only in the athletic training room, but while an athlete is watching film or in a meeting, or while traveling on a bus, airplane, in a hotel room or on the sidelines.

# Physical Therapy Treatment Protocol



## Facilitate Motion, Accelerate Rehabilitation and Manage Pain Simultaneously

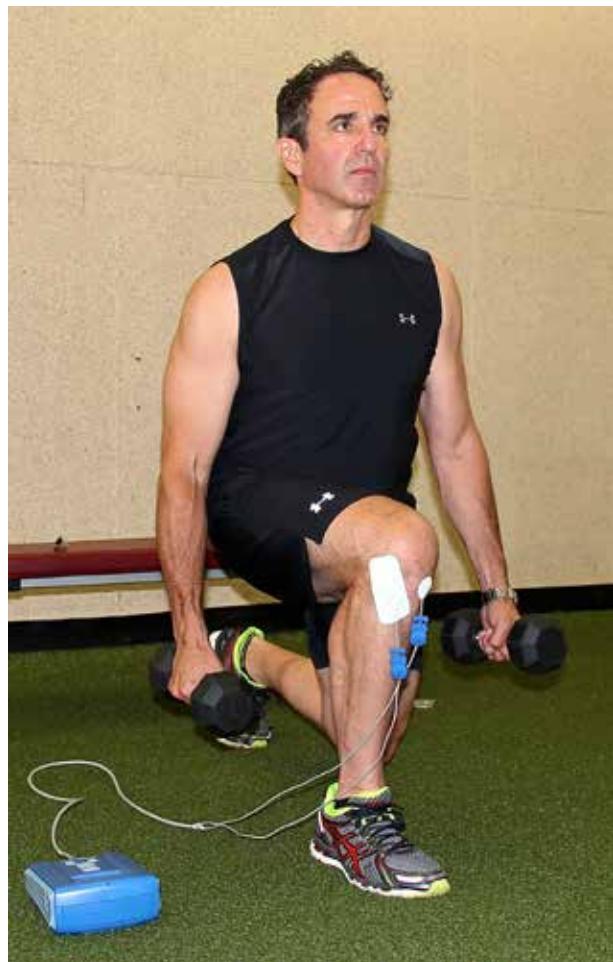


- Must use tape, cohesive wrap or velcro strap to help hold electrodes in place
- Use for 8 minutes first, preceding therapy
- Tissue in region of treatment area should be in a stretch position to allow for deeper penetration of the electrical field
- Patient continues to increase intensity to tolerance during first 8 min
- Motion changes the impedance of tissue, so before therapy reduce intensity by 5 - 10% to significantly reduce the sensation felt by the patient
- While Biowave treatment continues, begin AROM (active range of motion), PROM (passive range of motion), exercise or stretching therapy
- Patient can move more resistance through a greater ROM (range of motion) with significantly less pain
- Biowave allows the patient to more easily complete your therapy regimen while managing pain
- Long carryover effect limits post exercise soreness

# Physical Therapy Treatment Protocol



## Facilitate Motion, Accelerate Rehabilitation and Manage Pain Simultaneously



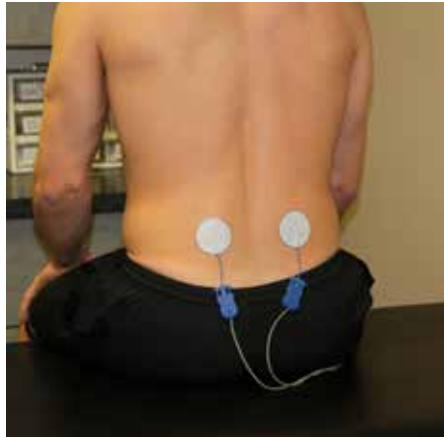
- Can patient harm themselves by exercising too aggressively?  
Generally NO!
- Therapist plans the appropriate amount of resistance, ROM or therapy for the state of the patients' condition (early in the rehab process, later in the rehab process, or details relating to the specific injury)
- Pain relief is not so absolute that patient can move way beyond normal activity without Biowave
- ROM is greater, but there is a new limit to patients' range of motion
- Pain is still used as a guide relative to activity that can be tolerated
- Whether more resistance with AROM or extra flexion/extension of a joint with PROM, pain still limits one's activity or maximum ROM and prevents them from injuring themselves
- BIOWAVE REMOVES THE GUARDING EFFECT ASSOCIATED WITH PAIN

# Body Position During Treatment

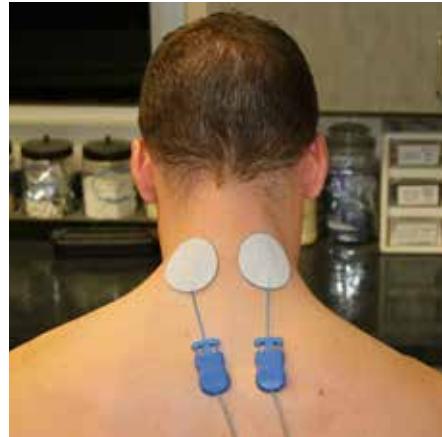


**Tissue should be taut or in a stretch position to allow deeper penetration of the electrical field**

- **Lumbar** – torso at 90° to legs
- **Neck** – tilted forward
- **Knee** – bent at 90°
- **Shoulder** – neutral position
- **Elbow, Wrist, Hand and Finger** – neutral position and hold a rolled up towel to keep fingers in a comfortable position during the treatment



**Lumbar Position**



**Neck Position**



**Knee Position**



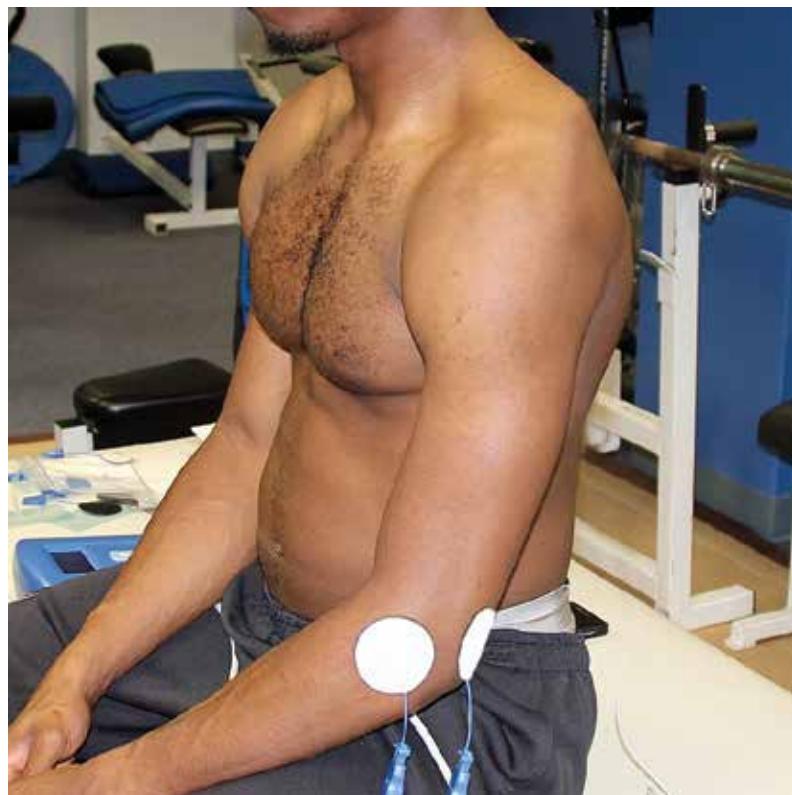
**Shoulder Position**

# Motion During Treatment



## Motion can change the location of the electrical field

Gently and slowly articulate the pain site location to find positioning that causes the **sensation** from the electrical field to be **focused on and encompass** the location of pain.

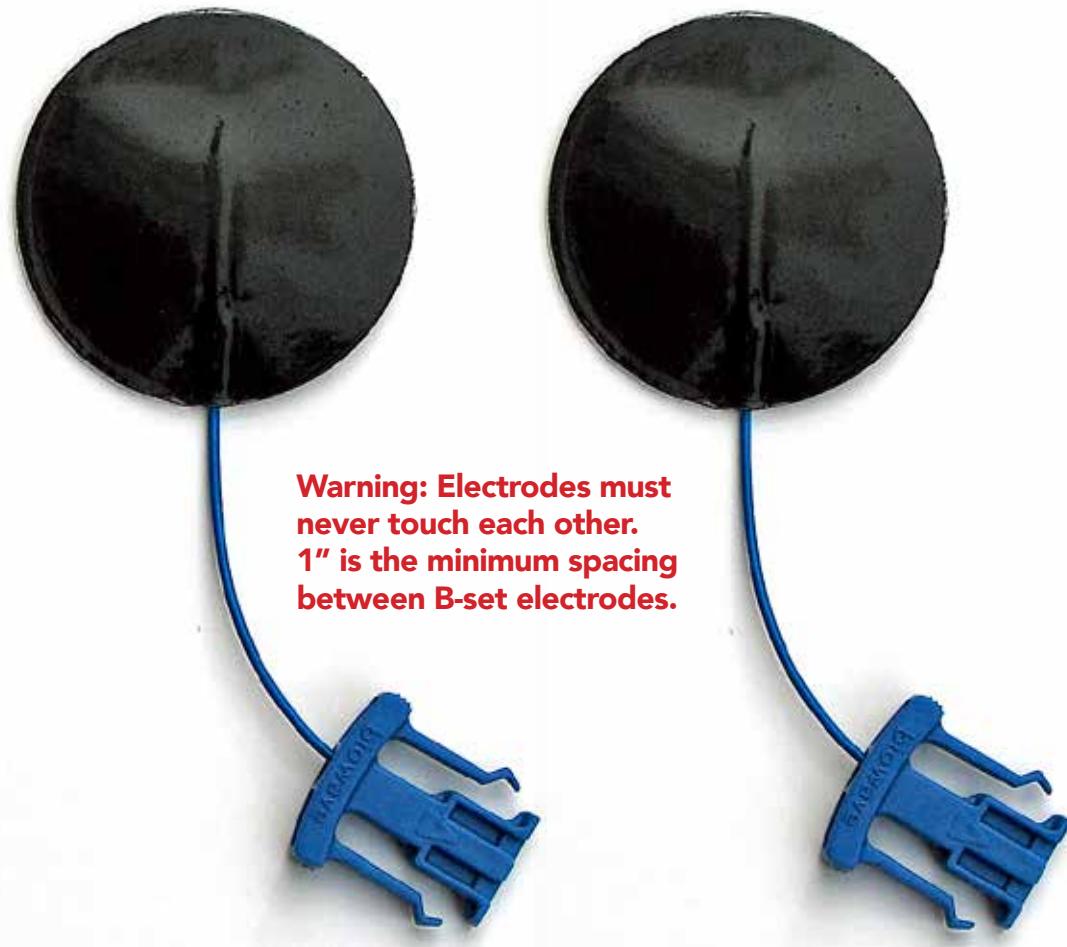


**The sensation from the electrical field should feel like it's "hitting the spot"**

# Focusing of Active Electrical Field



**Active electrical field is focused by changing area of electrodes relative to one another**



## B – Set Electrodes

- Two 2" diameter noninvasive electrodes, both of equal area
- Density of electric field is equal beneath both electrodes
- Electrodes must be placed directly over 2 pain sites or over 1 pain site and over the origin of pain

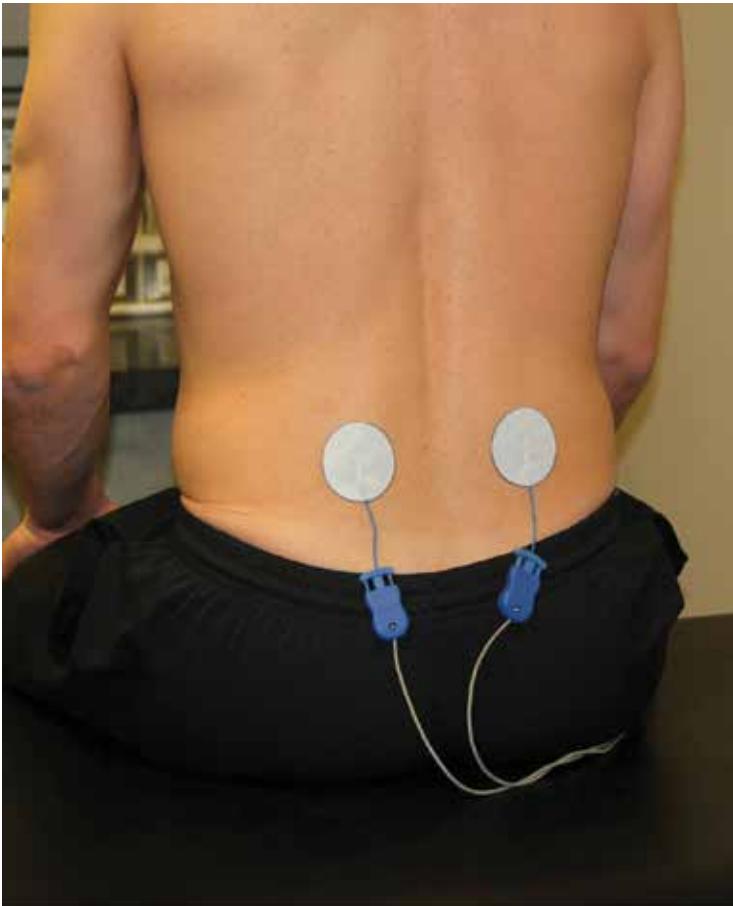
## Used for Treating:

- Two Locations of Pain
- One Pain Site and Origin of Pain
- One Large Area of Pain

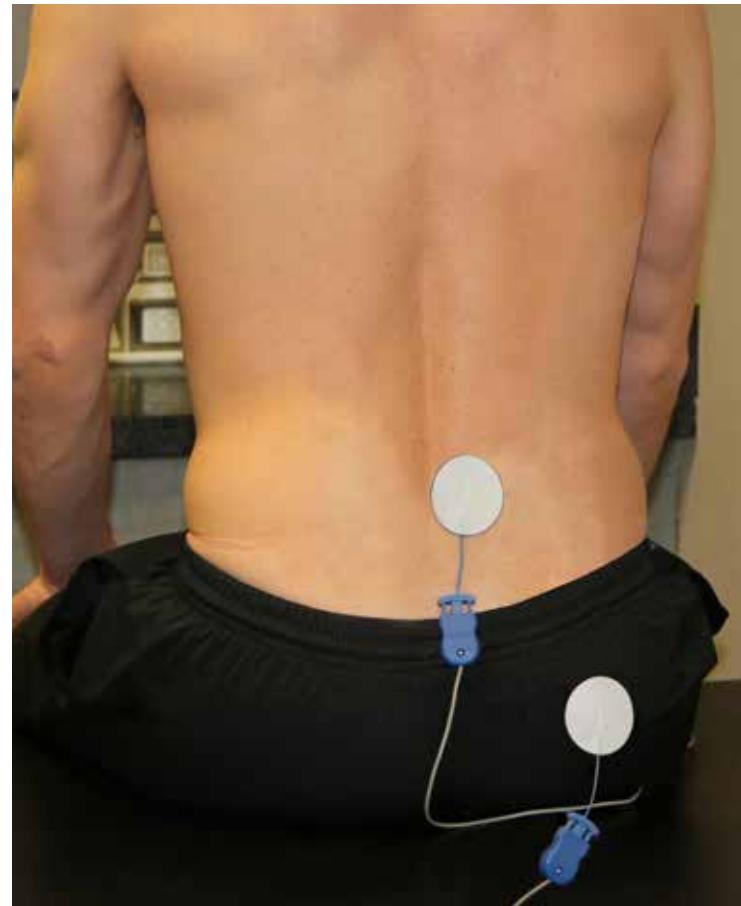
# Focusing of Active Electrical Field



## Electrode Placement Example - Two Locations of Pain or Radiculopathy



**Two Distinct Locations of Pain  
e.g. Bilateral Lumbar Pain**



**Origin of Pain and Most Proximal  
Location of Pain e.g. Radiculopathy**

# Focusing of Active Electrical Field



## Electrode Placement Example - One Large Area of Pain



**Chronic Pain Throughout the Knee**  
e.g. Osteoarthritis (OA),  
Postoperative Pain from a  
Total Knee Replacement (TKR)



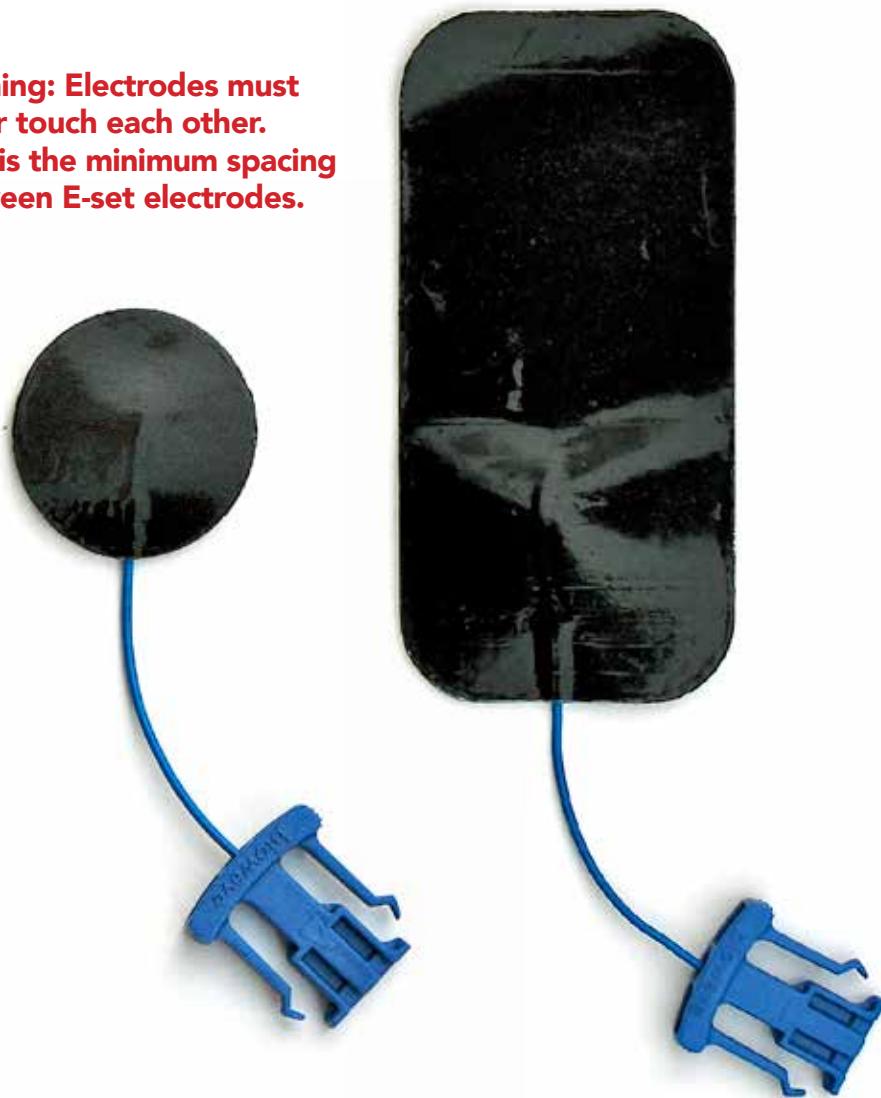
**Chronic Pain Throughout the Shoulder**  
e.g. Osteoarthritis (OA), Adhesive  
Capsulitis, Anterior and Posterior  
Shoulder Pain

# Focusing of Active Electrical Field



**Active electrical field is focused by changing area of electrodes relative to one another**

**Warning: Electrodes must never touch each other.  
1/2" is the minimum spacing between E-set electrodes.**



## E – Set Electrodes

- One small 1.375" diameter round noninvasive pain site electrode
- One large 2" x 4" rectangular noninvasive dispersive electrode
- Density of electrical field is much greater under smaller round electrode
- Small round electrode is placed directly over location of single pain site
- Larger dispersive electrode must be placed over BONY PROMINENCE near the region being treated
- Bony prominence is most comfortable place to receive stimulation
- Patient can achieve higher intensity under the smaller electrode. Higher intensity = greater efficacy and longer residual benefit

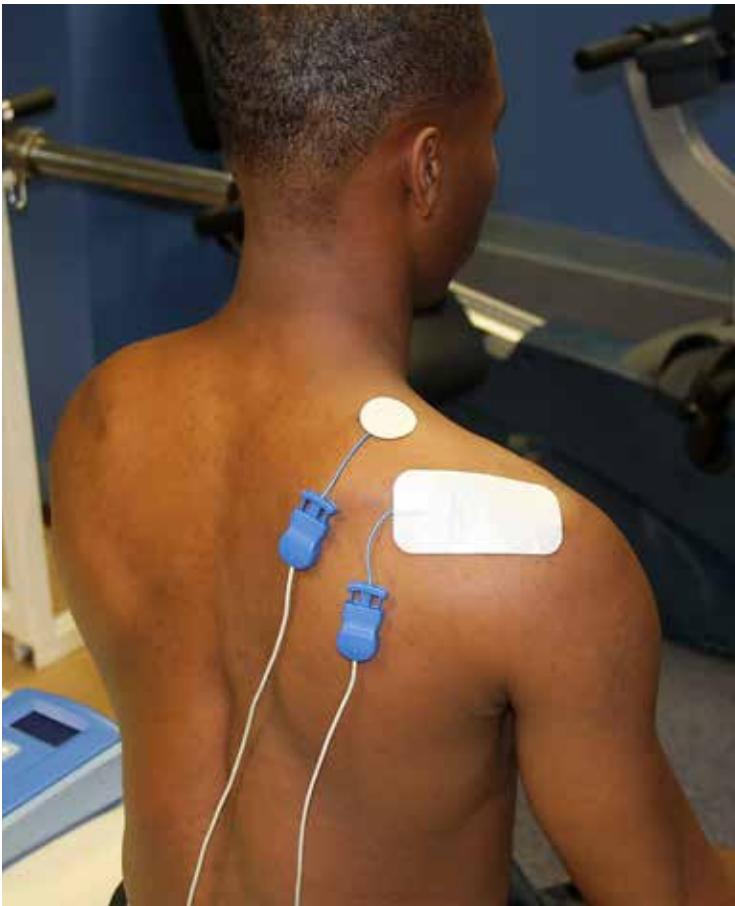
## Used for Treating:

- One Location of Pain on the Extremities

# Focusing of Active Electrical Field



## Electrode Placement Example - Single Location of Pain on the Extremities



Placement for  
Myofascial Pain in Trapezius



Placement for  
Patellar Tendinitis

# Focusing of Active Electrical Field



**Active electrical field is focused by changing area of electrodes relative to one another**

**Warning: Electrodes must never touch each other.  
1" is the minimum spacing between electrodes.**



## U – Set Electrodes

- One 2" diameter round noninvasive pain site electrode
- One large 5" x 8" rectangular noninvasive dispersive electrode
- Density of electrical field is much greater under smaller round electrode
- Small round electrode is placed directly over location of single pain site in mid torso region of the body
- Larger dispersive electrode is placed horizontally across the lumbar area of the back, a comfortable place to receive stimulation
- Patient can achieve higher intensity under the smaller electrode. Higher intensity = greater efficacy and longer residual benefit

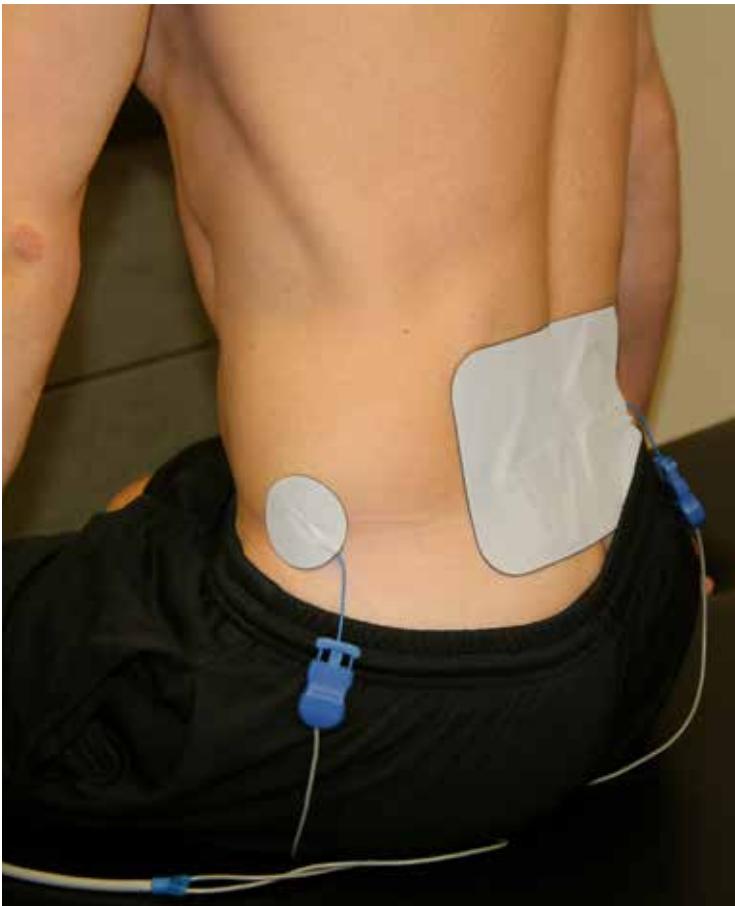
## Used for Treating:

- One Location of pain in the mid torso region of the body

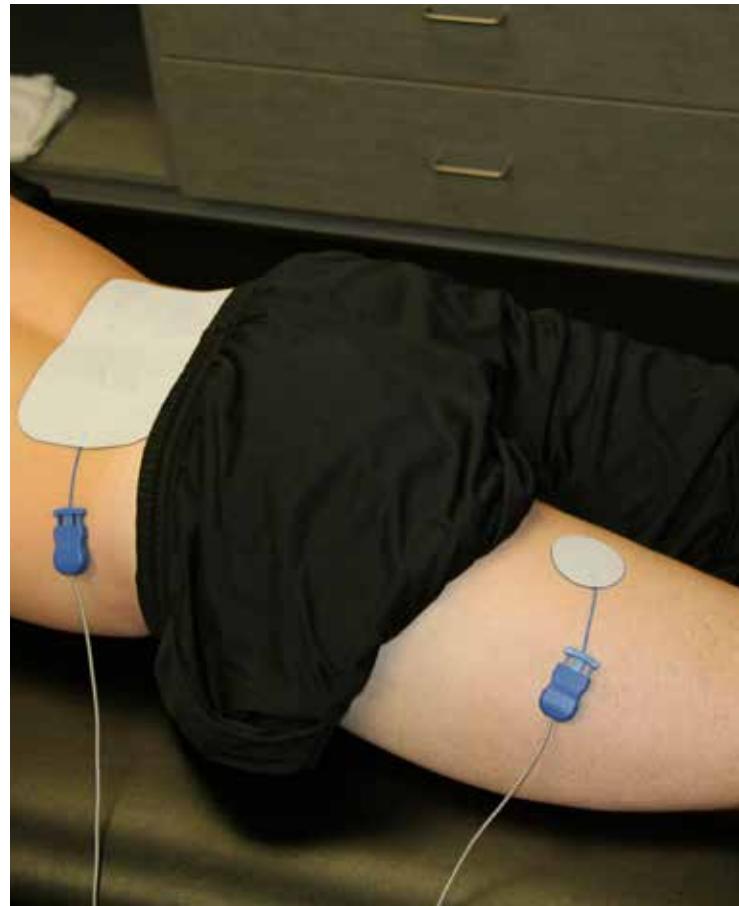
# Focusing of Active Electrical Field



## Electrode Placement Example - Single Location of Pain in the Mid-Torso Region



**One Location of Pain  
e.g. Hip**



**One Location of Pain  
e.g. Hamstring**

# Treatment Set Up



- Treatment may be performed by a physician, PT, ATC, RN, PA, MA
- Determine B, E, or U-set electrodes for pain condition
- Palpate to find center of pain location
- Clean skin to remove oil, lotion and dead skin cells
- Apply noninvasive electrodes per the electrode placement examples
- Attach leadwire cable to electrodes. Either blue leadwire connector can be attached to either electrode.
- Align red dot on metal connector so it is facing up. Gently slide metal connector on leadwire cable into device so it clicks in place.
- Turn on device. Start up screen should read 0.0%.
- Stimulator may sit on counter or sideways on patient's lap so cable exits to the side
- No Programming
- Total set-up time is about 2 minutes

# Operation of Device



## Start of Treatment



- Patient begins treatment by pressing PLUS button
- Intensity increases in 0.5% increments with each press of PLUS button
- Patient should advance intensity to tolerance so sensation felt is strong but still comfortable
- As body adapts to electrical field, sensation diminishes
  - Patient should continue to advance intensity to keep sensation strong during entire 30 minute treatment
  - As hypoesthesia develops in first 5 minutes, tingling sensation is masked and treatment feels more like a deep massage
- Most patients advance the intensity level to:
  - 30% - 50%, 5-10 minutes into the treatment
  - 50% - 80% by the end of the 30-minute treatment
- Patients should keep advancing the intensity every few minutes throughout the entire treatment to keep the sensation at a strong but comfortable steady state level

# Operation of Device



## Intensity Range

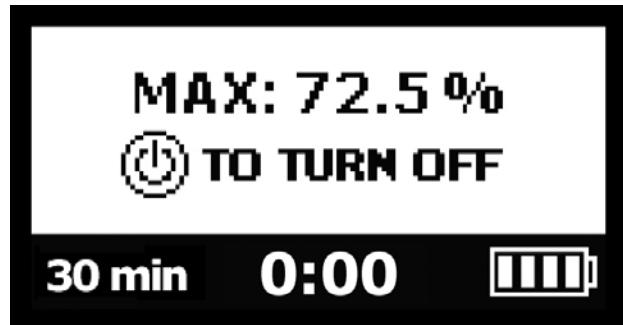


### Typical Intensity Ranges

- Knees, ankles, feet: 60% - 90%
- Lumbar and thoracic back, shoulders: 40% - 60%
- Neck, elbow, wrist: 30% - 50%

Generally patients should try to reach a minimum intensity level of 30%. Some patients may tolerate more, some less.

# End of Treatment



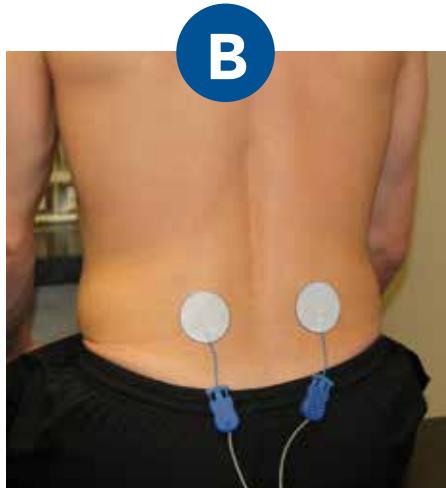
- When countdown timer reaches 0:00 min/sec intensity immediately drops to 0.0%
- Max intensity is displayed on LCD and may be noted in Doctor's notes
- Gently peel electrodes off of skin
- Place electrodes back onto either side of blue plastic liner
- Place electrodes back in ziplock bag for storage

# Noninvasive **Electrode Placement Examples**

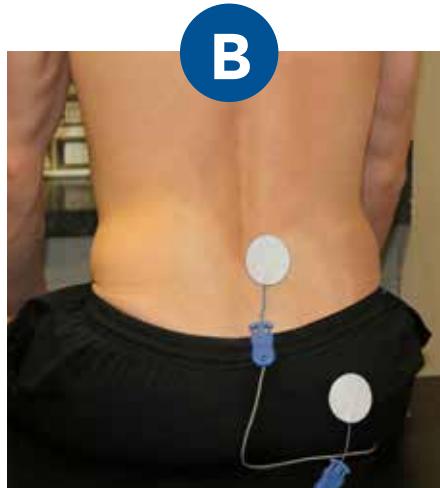


# Noninvasive Electrode Placements

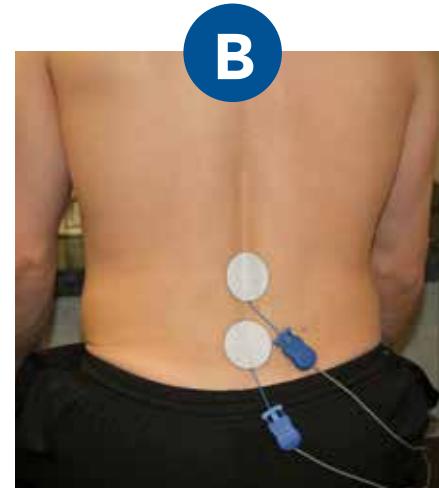
## Lumbar Back



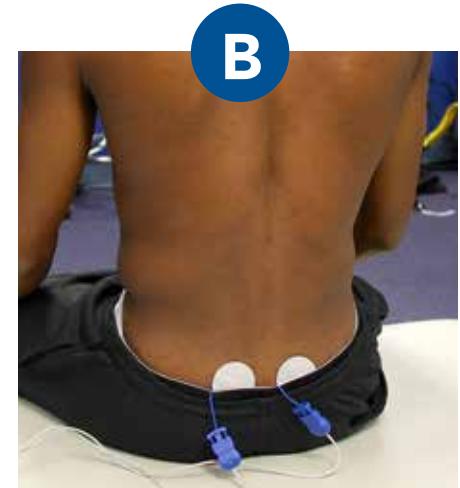
Bilateral Low Back Pain



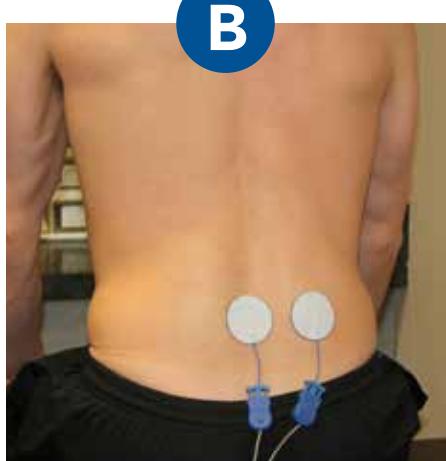
Radiculopathy –  
Electrodes Over Source  
and Proximal Pain Site



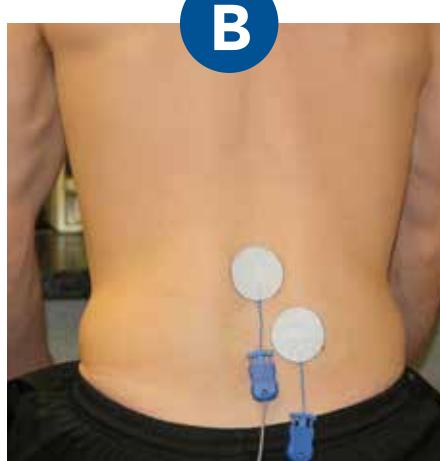
Low Back Pain  
Focused Over Multiple Discs



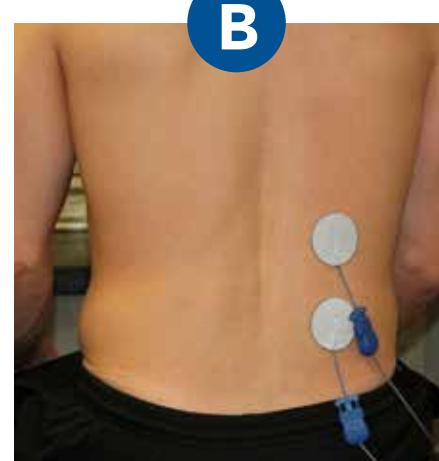
Sacroiliac (SI) Joint Pain



Unilateral Low Back Pain  
Focused One Side of Spine



Unilateral Low Back Pain  
Focused Over Facet Joint



Rotational Strain  
Over Large Area

# Noninvasive Electrode Placements

## Hips, Ribs, Obliques, Groin, Quadriceps, Hamstring



Hip Pain in One Location



Rib or Oblique Pain in One Location



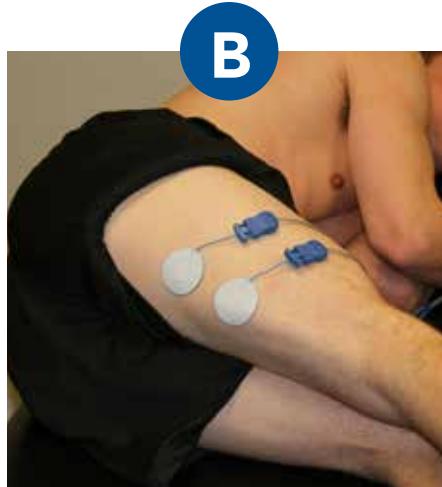
Groin Pain in One Location



Quadriceps Pain in One Location



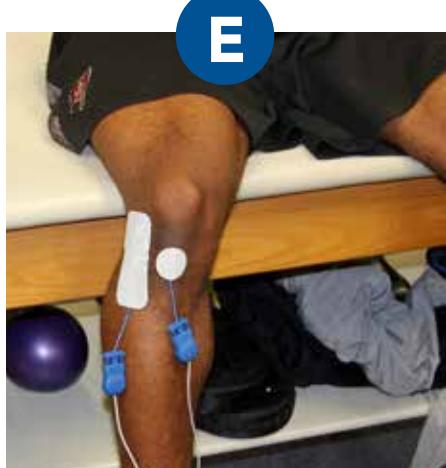
Hamstring Pain in One Location



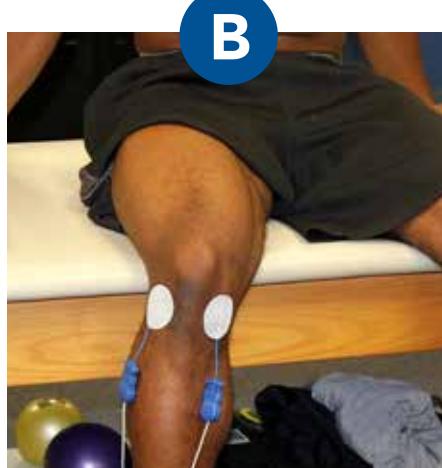
Hamstring Pain Over Large Area

# Noninvasive Electrode Placements

## Knees



Patellar Tendinitis



Pain Throughout the Knee  
(e.g. OA, TKR, ACL)



Medial Knee Pain  
(e.g. MCL Sprain, Bursitis, OA)



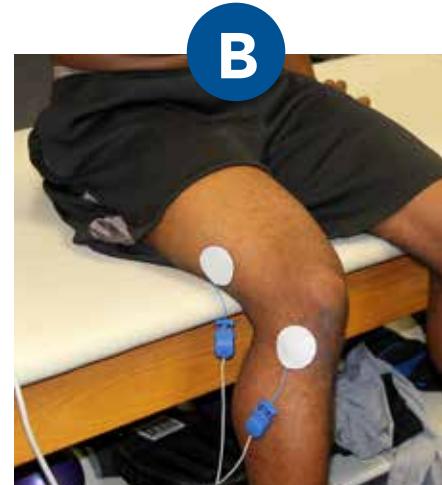
Quadriceps Tendinitis



Lateral Knee Pain  
(e.g. LCL Sprain, Bursitis, OA)



Iliotibial (IT) Band Pain  
in One Location



Iliotibial (IT) Band Pain  
in Two Locations



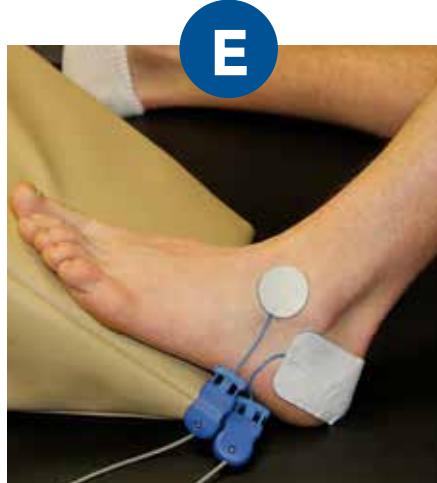
Posterior Knee Pain

# Noninvasive Electrode Placements

## Ankles and Feet



Foot or Ankle Pain in  
Two Locations



Lateral Low Ankle or Foot  
Pain in One Location



Medial Low Ankle or Foot  
Pain in One Location



Lateral Posterior Foot Pain



Plantar Fasciitis



Achilles Tendinitis



Achilles Tendinitis with  
Primary Pain at Insertion Point



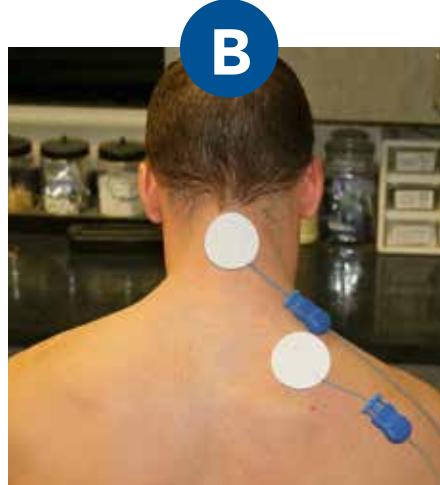
Neuroma Pain, Metatarsal  
Joint Pain or Turf Toe Pain

# Noninvasive Electrode Placements

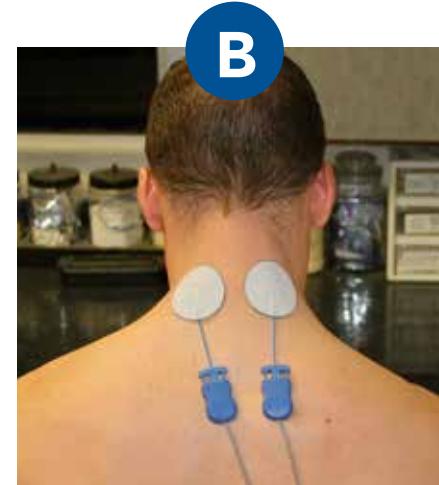
## Neck



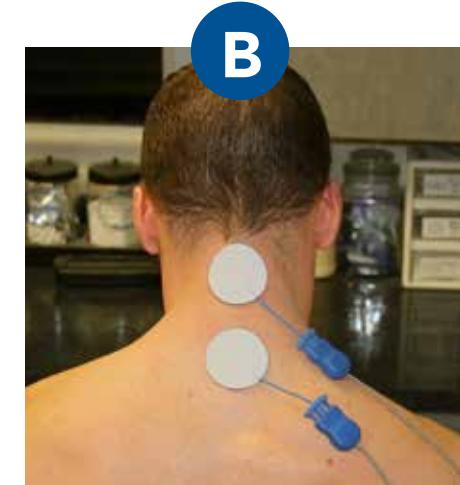
Cervical or Neck Pain  
in One Location



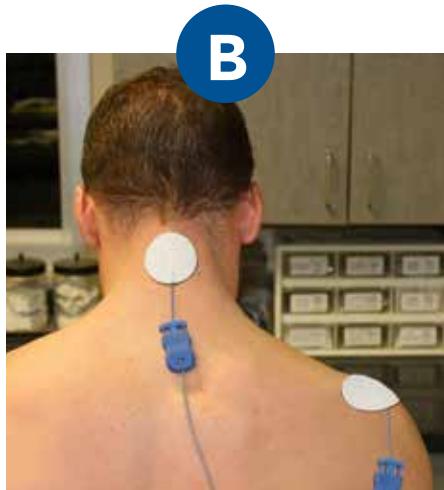
Cervical or Neck Pain  
in Two Locations



Bilateral Neck Pain



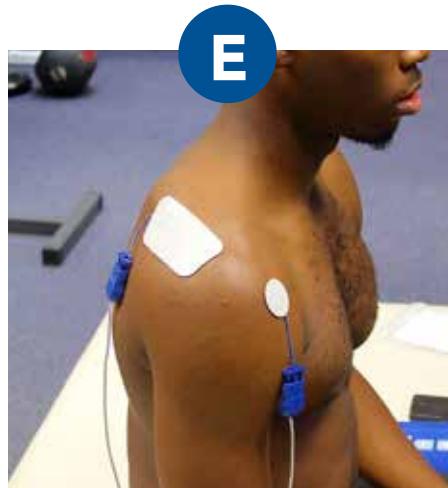
Neck Pain Over Several  
Cervical Discs



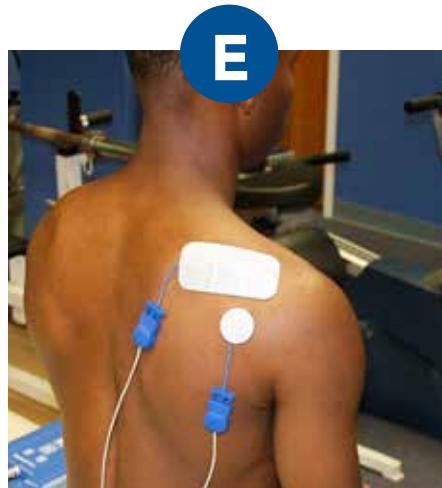
Cervical Radiculopathy

# Noninvasive Electrode Placements

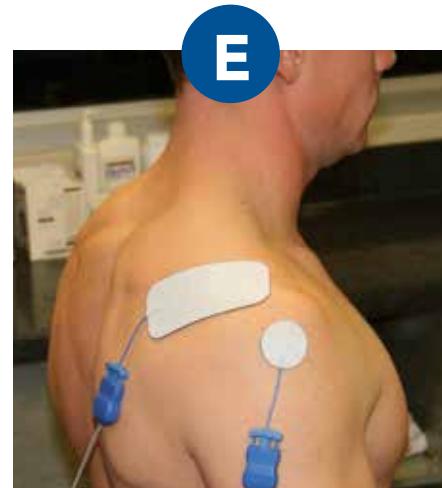
## Shoulders



Anterior Shoulder Pain  
(e.g. Biceps Tendinitis)



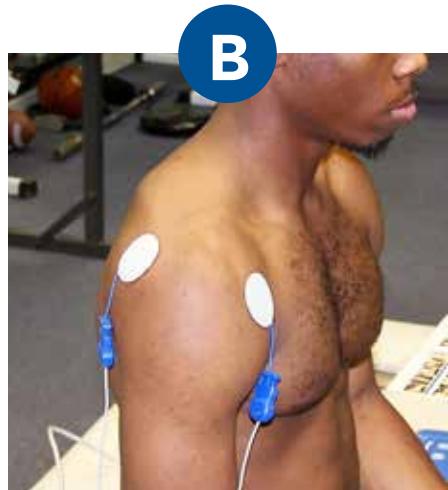
Posterior Shoulder Pain  
(e.g. Infraspinatus Sprain,  
Posterior Rotator Cuff)



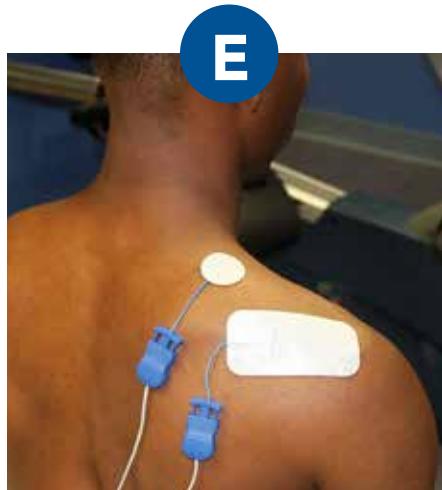
Pain at Edge of Shoulder (e.g.  
Rotator Cuff Tendinitis)



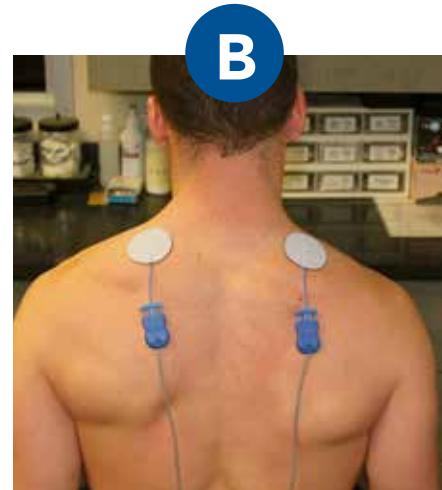
Pain at AC Joint or Inside the  
Shoulder (e.g. AC Sprain)



Shoulder Pain in Two Locations  
OA or Adhesive Capsulitis



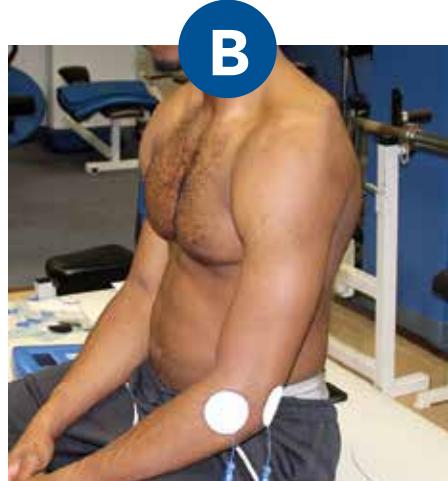
Trapezius Pain in One Location



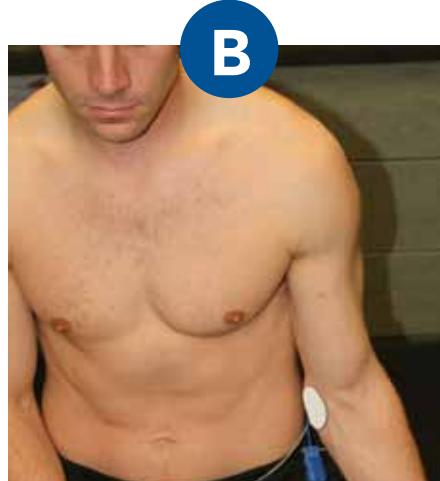
Bilateral Trapezius Pain

# Noninvasive Electrode Placements

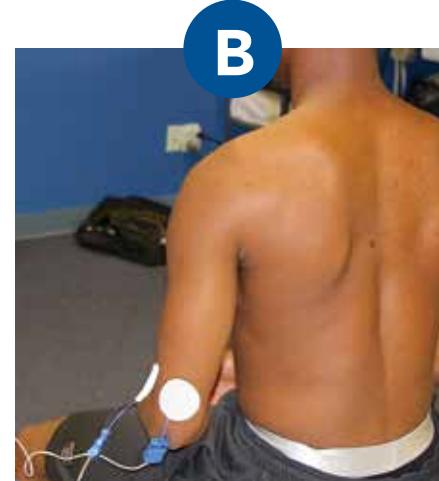
## Elbows



Lateral Elbow Pain  
(e.g. Lateral Epicondylitis)



Medial Elbow Pain  
(e.g. Medial Epicondylitis)



Posterior Elbow Pain  
(e.g. Triceps Tendinitis)



Lateral Elbow Pain  
(e.g. Lateral Epicondylitis)



Medial Elbow Pain  
(e.g. Medial Epicondylitis)



Posterior Elbow Pain  
(e.g. Triceps Tendinitis)

# Noninvasive Electrode Placements

## Wrists, Hands, Fingers



Posterior Wrist Pain  
(e.g. Sprains, Strains,  
Tendinosis)



Anterior Wrist Pain (e.g.  
Sprains, Strains, Tendinosis,  
Carpal Tunnel Syndrome)



Lateral Wrist Pain  
(e.g. TFCC Sprain, Tendinosis)



Finger Sprain at Base of  
Thumb (e.g. UCL Sprain)



Pain at Metacarpal Phalangeal  
or Interphalangeal Joint



Alternative Placement of  
Rectangular Electrode for  
Small Diameter Wrists



Alternative Placement of  
Rectangular Electrode for  
Small Diameter Wrists