

# Spinal cord stimulation may reduce neuropathic pain

November 20 2017

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(HealthDay)—Spinal cord stimulation (SCS) effectively reduces chronic

pain symptoms in individuals with painful diabetic polyneuropathy (PDPN), according to a study published online Nov. 6 in *Diabetes Care*.

Maarten van Beek, from Maastricht University Medical Center in the Netherlands, and colleagues performed a prospective multicenter study to examine the long-term effect of SCS on pain ratings, [treatment success](#) and failure, and complications in 48 patients with PDPN.

The researchers found that after five years, 55 percent of patients had experienced treatment success and 80 percent of patients with a permanent implant still used their SCS device. The median duration of SCS treatment was 60 months. Higher Michigan Diabetic Neuropathy Score was associated with treatment failure during the five-year follow-up (hazard ratio, 3.9).

"SCS is successful in reducing chronic pain symptoms in the lower extremities of patients with PDPN up to five years after initiation of [treatment](#)," the authors write.

The study was funded by Medtronic.

**More information:** [Abstract/Full Text \(subscription or payment may be required\)](#)

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Citation: Spinal cord stimulation may reduce neuropathic pain (2017, November 20) retrieved 11 May 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2017-11-spinal-cord-neuropathic-pain.html>

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