

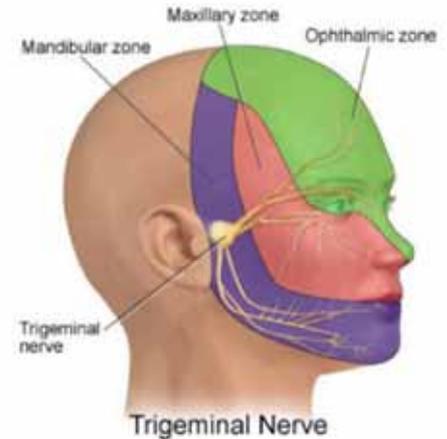
# Acupuncture management of Neurological pain

## Introduction

Neuropathic pain, one of the most difficult kinds of pain for people to tolerate, is a complex, chronic pain state that usually is accompanied by tissue injury. Nerve pain usually presents as a sharp shooting pain or a constant burning sensation. It will generally present in the same location with each episode and can often be traced by the patient along the nerve pathway. There may also be weakness or impaired function in the affected area and the skin may be either overly sensitive or numb, which is incredibly frustrating for the individual experiencing the pain.

## This seminar will cover the following structures and contents:

- Possible causes neuropathic pain
- Symptoms of neuropathic pain
  - Shooting and burning pain
  - Tingling and numbness
  - Weakness of affected limbs
  - Limited function of limbs
  - Muscle atrophy
  - Weakness of the affected parts
- Diagnosis of neuropathic pain: An interview and physical exam will be carried out to ask questions about how the patients would describe the pain, when the pain occurs, or whether anything specific triggers the pain.
- General treatment in modern medicine



- Acupuncture management
  - Acupuncture; often used with electrical stimulation in treating nerve conditions, is very effective at relieving the pain and restoring normal function.
  - There are several ways this is thought to work, all of which have been carefully researched.
  - Acupuncture stimulates the brain to release chemicals (neurotransmitters and ovoids) into the body that reduce sensitivity to pain and normalize the nervous system.
  - Acupuncture activates nerve receptors that decrease or “gate-out” (like gate being closed) pain signals.
  - Acupuncture with electrical stimulation interrupts the pain signal allowing the nerve to calm down thereby reducing pain.



## *Pain relief Acupuncture*

- Acupuncture increases the amount of endorphins in the body and focuses them on the affected areas. These natural chemicals reduce inflammation that can cause, or be a result of, nerve pain.
  - Acupuncture promotes actual healing by altering the body's electrical system and electrical energy between normal and injured tissue thereby reducing the amount of recovery time
- Trigeminal neuralgia
  - Migraine headache
  - Intercostal Neuralgia
  - Post-traumatic Dystrophy
  - Fibromyalgia
  - Postherpetic neuralgia
  - Sequelas
  - Whiplash
  - Sciatica
  - Diabetic neuropathy
  - Multiple sclerosis
  - Neuralgia due to chemotherapy and alcoholism
  - Carpal tunnel syndrome
  - Phantom pain