Neural Therapy for Pain, Musculoskeletal Imbalance and Nervous System Dysfunction

-- Dr. A.K.Gaul ND

Neural therapy is a comprehensive healing system that focuses on the relief of chronic pain and long-term illness. These symptoms can be stopped by injecting local anesthetics into painful areas or at the site of previous injury such as a scar. This corrects "short circuits" and restores electrical conductivity in the body.

Benefits
Neural therapy has been used in the treatment of hundreds of conditions. These include depression, hormonal imbalances, dizziness, allergies, asthma, skin diseases, hemorrhoids, ulcers, chronic bowel problems, prostrate and bladder problems, headache (including migraine), kidney disease, arthritis, back pain, as well as whiplash and other soft-tissue injuries.

Origins
The earliest known use of neural therapy was in 1925, when two German doctors treated migraine headaches by injecting a local anesthetic into the veins. The injections immediately aborted not only the headaches but also a number of other symptoms (dizziness, nausea, a visual "flashing" sensation) also associated with migraine. In 1940, Dr. Ferdinand Huneke, a German physician, found that injecting procaine into an osteomyelitis scar on a patient's leg seemed to instantly cure chronic pain in her shoulder. Now called the lightning reaction or Huneke phenomenon, it showed that injuries in one part of the body may cause symptoms elsewhere in the body. Although it is still not fully understood, neural therapy has been widely practiced since the 1940s in both Europe and South America.

How it Works
Neural therapy is the therapeutic normalization of the autonomic nervous system. The autonomic nervous system controls all the non-conscious aspects of body function. Breathing, blood flow, heart rate, skin temperature, etc. are all under the control of the autonomic nervous system. The most relevant portion of the autonomic system to neural therapy, however, is located in the skin. The Chinese first recognized the importance of the autonomic nervous system and mapped the acupuncture points that control various phases of the autonomic nervous system on the surface of the body. They organized the autonomic nervous system into a series of meridians, still used today. Injuries and other trauma may disrupt or put pressure on the autonomic nervous system resulting in dysfunction of organs controlled by that part of the autonomic nervous system. For example a bad tooth located in the same acupuncture meridian as the gall bladder can cause the gall bladder to dysfunction.

Scars are one of the most common causes of autonomic dysfunction because they can generate a small electrical signal which sends false signals to the autonomic nervous system causing dysfunction. A scar on the abdomen can cause pain in the leg or refer pain to the shoulder.

Local anesthetics injected into the scars of old injuries or in painful areas can restore normal function and current flow in the autonomic nervous system. Sometimes the results are quite profound. Injecting a small area may result in complete clearing of long standing leg or hip pain, headaches, etc. If the relief from an injection lasts more than twenty hours then re-injecting the area will usually result in more long lasting relief of pain. With each successive injection the pain relief becomes more enduring. On average neural therapy works about 70% of the time, when it works the results are usually quite dramatic.
The Procedure
The most common procedures used by practitioners of neural therapy involve injections of local anesthetics or saline solution into the skin over a painful area or scar. These injections are intended to correct abnormal electrical signaling caused by injuries, or to detoxify tissues or enhance the effectiveness of drugs or nutrients.
It is argued that all scars cause problems and must be injected at least once.
A typical course of treatment may involve between one and six sessions at a frequency of once every three to four weeks. The number of injections varies, as does their location. The treatment is done either sitting or lying down. Loose fitting clothes make the treatment process easier while maintaining modesty.

Precautions
We use a preservative free solution made for neural therapy. Neural therapy can usually safely be done for patients with allergies to local anesthetics. Anyone with serious illness should avoid using neural therapy as a sole method of treatment.
Even those patients with an intense fear of needles come back for this treatment, as it is so effective. Tell us ahead of time if you really are uncomfortable around needles.

Side Effects
Neural therapy is considered generally free of adverse side effects. You will feel relaxed and tired after a session, and most patients prefer to go home for a nap after the first treatment. Subsequent treatments may also require a relaxation period afterwards. Seriously ill patients may want to have someone drive them home.

Proximity to Other Treatments
Neural therapy should not be followed by any other manual therapy for at least 3 days. This includes chiropractic, massage, acupuncture, craniosacral etc. This allows the body to find a new place with the treated traumas removed. You may, however, have these treatments prior to neural therapy, even on the same day.
If you are going for a recommended adjunct therapy such as visceral manipulation, craniosacral or physiotherapy, please leave at least 3 days between treatments.

If you have had a CRT2000 thermogram
Please bring the thermogram with you. We can only issue an insurance letter where we have the results on file.

Training
In Germany, neural therapy is available from many orthodox medical practitioners. Elsewhere in the world, a variety of health professionals have undergone training in the discipline.
Dr. Gaul has had training with the American Academy of Neural Therapy and has also been trained overseas in Rehabilitative Medicine.