



Dr. Paul Chang Pain Care LLC

"When we can manage pain, we increase a patient's functionality. With increased function comes better quality of life."

Pain Management Beyond Medication

By Maggie Worth

If you've never worked with a pain management physician, there's a good chance you don't know quite what such doctors do – or that they even exist. Dr. Paul Chang of Pain Care, LLC in Fayetteville, has dedicated his career to finding the best possible way to manage pain for each of his clients. And he's very aware of the impact good treatment can have on an individual's life.

"It's very fulfilling to help people walk again," he says, "or go to the grocery again, or take long trips and family vacations when sitting in a car for an extended period would have been unthinkable a short time before. Bringing patients back to their lives, especially when the pain is chronic or long-term, that's why I do what I do."

Raised in southern California, Dr. Chang attended medical school at Loma Linda University and completed his physical medicine and rehabilitation residency at the University of California, Irvine. He also completed a pain management fellowship at Loma Linda and he is board certified in physical medicine and rehabilitation as well as pain medicine. He has been with Pain Care, LLC for two years and his specialty is very personal for him.

"My grandmother had pancreatic cancer," he explains, "and she underwent a very complicated surgery at Irvine while I was in medical school, so I was very aware of her condition and her options. She had a tremendous amount of pain and managing it became a major part of

her treatment plan. Her experience definitely influenced my interest in pursuing this line of research and field of practice."

Dr. Chang's specialties include minimally invasive spinal surgeries, discography, radiofrequency neurotomy, spasticity management, and all types of pain injections. He treats patients for a variety of occupational and sports injuries as well as back, neck, nerve, and musculoskeletal disorders. He is extremely interested in multi-disciplinary approaches to pain management and serves as co-investigator for two ongoing studies on spinal cord stimulation. As a practice, Pain Care, LLC is very focused on a multi-disciplinary approach. The centers offer a wide range of treatment options for a number of conditions and they refer out to other specialties including psychotherapists and surgeons, when appropriate.

"There's a myth that pain management is largely a matter of handing out pills," he says. "In fact, we use a range of different and specialized procedures based on the origin, type, and extent of pain, the individual client's medical history and lifestyle, and the overall health goal. Treatment is very personalized and our goal is not to medicate the patient so that he or she doesn't notice the pain, but to find and treat the source."

In addition to treating patients at the clinic and participating in cutting-edge research, Dr. Chang has a passion for giving back. He has participated in mission trips to Lima, Peru, Fiji, and South Korea, where he served the communities by teaching English and by assisting in local medical clinics.

Learn more at georgiapaincare.com or call (770) 771-6580.

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