



The Dickson Herald

September 26, 2007

Dickson doctor offers non-invasive nerve test

Dr. J. Stacy Dinkins at Dickson Medical Associates is now offering a non-invasive nerve conduction test to determine if pain in the legs, back, arms or neck indicates more serious nerve damage. The NC-stat System is an FDA-cleared test designed to perform standard nerve conduction.

For Diane Trotter of Nunnelly, like many people suffering from back pain, the idea of “just living with” the pain day to day was easier than confronting a back surgery.

For Trotter, one of the major obstacles to getting the confidence to even have surgery was getting over her fear of needles – specifically an invasive nerve conduction test that she thought was necessary before the surgery. Diane was delighted when she learned Dr. Dinkins had recently begun using a less invasive nerve test in his office.

Trotter had the test performed, and she is glad she did.

“It didn’t hurt, and it was over in a few seconds. It was definitely worth the weird sensation to know more about my injury before going into surgery,” Trotter said.

Historically, nerve conduction tests were performed in a neurologist’s office and included an additional needle electromyogram (needle EMG) procedure that can be painful for patients.

The NC-stat works by placing biosensors on the skin along the known course of the nerves. These biosensors stimulate nerves to test the speed of transmission and signal strength.

Peripheral neuropathy, a condition affecting approximately 20 million Americans, often causes unusual or unpleasant irritations including tingling, burning, itchiness, dizziness and clumsiness.

Dr. Dinkins is able to accurately and quickly evaluate peripheral nerve function at his office and provide recommendations for treatment during an office visit. For some neuropathies like sciatica, early testing can expedite treatment and alleviate prolonged pain.

For more information about this new nerve conduction test, please call Dickson Medical Associates at 615-441-4510.

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