

Central Texas
PAIN INSTITUTE, P.A.

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Central Texas Pain Institute, P.A.

Pain Management Services • Interventional Pain & Spine Care • Behavioral Health Services

TAKE **PAIN**
MANAGEMENT
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Vivek Mahendru, M.D.
Medical Director
Board Certified Anesthesiologist
Added Qualifications in Pain Management

Hui Kang, M.D.
Fellowship Trained Pain Management
Board Certified Anesthesiologist

Austin • Bastrop • Georgetown
South Austin Location Coming Soon

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Cervical Discogram

Overview

Cervical discography, cervical discogram, or provocative discography are inter-changeable terminologies that are used to describe a procedure which is a diagnostic tool used to establish the structural integrity of a cervical disc (or discs) and to determine if a particular disc is responsible for a patient's cervical spine pain. The pain can be described as axial in nature (along the spine) or radicular in nature (along the extremity).

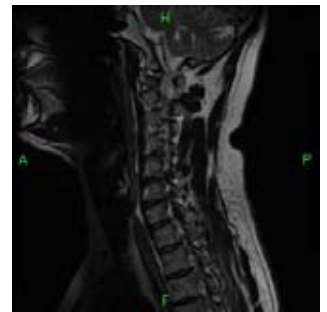
MRI and CT scans of the cervical spine show anatomical changes and when multiple discs are shown to be abnormal on imaging studies, cervical discogram can be helpful in isolating the problem disc. Spine surgeons use discography before surgery to map out a surgical treatment modality when the painful condition persists despite conservative treatment.

Procedure

The test is performed on an outpatient basis in a hospital or medical facility. A local anesthetic is used to numb the target area. Fluoroscopy (X-ray) is used to guide the needle into the suspected cervical disc. A radiopaque dye is then injected through the needle into the nucleus (center) of the disc. The doctor then looks for the following:

1. Concordance of pain reproduction.
2. Fluoroscopic images of the disc that may show a disc tear, disc herniation, loss of disc height, etc.
3. Injecting the painful disc with local anesthetic to see if the pain diminishes.
4. Sending the patient for post-discography CT scan to evaluate the disc anatomy.

Discography technique helps localize the exact location of discogenic pain and provide a detailed anatomical picture of the disc. This allows the development of a more comprehensive treatment plan and may change the outcome of the patient's painful condition.



Hui Kang, M.D.

Board Certified Anesthesiologist
Fellowship Trained in Pain Management

Hui Kang, M.D., completed his Anesthesia and Pain Management Fellowship training at University Hospitals of Cleveland. During his training he presented at numerous

national and international conferences. Dr. Kang was honored with the Outstanding Resident Award in his final year of residency. He has attended medical school at Texas Tech School of Medicine. He completed his undergraduate studies at Texas A & M where he received the Faculty Achievement Award.

What makes Dr. Kang stand out is his kindness towards patients, his utmost concern about alleviating pain and his contagious smile. He enjoys spending time with his family and traveling. The Central Texas Pain Institute is privileged to have Dr. Kang join our practice.

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