

Central Texas
PAIN INSTITUTE, P.A.

4100 Duval Road
Building 3, Suite 200
Austin, Texas 78759

Central Texas Pain Institute, P.A.

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

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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

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Occipital Stimulation

OVERVIEW

Research is growing in the area of occipital nerve stimulation (ONS) for the relief of migraine headaches, particularly in the population of patients whose headaches do not react to previous treatments. Many studies of ONS have been directed toward the treatment of occipital neuralgia. Some additional studies are available for gauging the effect of ONS on migraine and other types of headache. Efficacy and safety data in the literature are mostly retrospective analyses, case series, or uncontrolled trials; however, the results of systematic randomized trials to test ONS for migraine will soon be available.

SCIENCE

Occipital nerve stimulation is accomplished by using an asymmetric electrical pulse applied to the tissue surrounding the occipital nerve, a method that depolarizes the nerve and sends electrical impulses anterograde and retrograde through the nerve, with the anterograde signals ending in the trigeminocervical complex. The technique appears to alleviate the frequency and severity of migraines in some patients.

PROCEDURE

Technically, the method requires an electrical lead to be advanced through a needle until it is adjacent to the nerve. Patient perception of paresthesia (tingling) is used to optimize positioning of the contacts on the lead. The leads are fastened to the fascia after a skin incision, and tunneled to a location in the trunk where the implantable generator is placed in the subcutaneous fat. Bilateral leads generally have been found to be superior to unilateral leads in clinical practice.



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.

MAIN OFFICE
4100 Duval Road
Building 3, Suite 200
Austin, Texas 78759

GEORGETOWN
1904 Railroad Street
Georgetown, Texas 78626

BASTROP
Lakeside Professional Building
3101 Highway 71, Suite 211
Bastrop Texas 78602

SOUTH AUSTIN LOCATION
COMING SOON
Phone: 512-485-7200
Fax: 512-485-7220
www.centraltexaspain.com