

PAIN MANAGEMENT

According to the Society of Interventional Radiology, *"Many conditions that once required surgery can be treated less invasively by interventional radiologists. Interventional radiology treatments offer less risk, less pain and less recovery time compared to open surgery."* With the aid of medical imaging to guide treatment to the source of pain, interventional radiologists are able to offer patients an array of minimally invasive procedures to treat chronic pain from head to toe. Procedures such as epidural steroid injections (ESI), vertebroplasty, nerve ablation, nerve root block, neurostimulator placement, and joint injections can help minimize or eliminate pain. (www.sirweb.org/patients) Shoshone Radiology offers patients convenient access to a variety of interventional procedures. Each procedure is performed on an outpatient basis.

Interventional Radiology Procedures:

- Epidural Steroid Injections
- Hip Injections
- Lumbar Puncture
- Myelogram
- PIC Line (*not offered at this time, but soon*)
- SI Joint Injections
- Biopsies (breast, thyroid)

Preparing for an Interventional Procedure:

Clothing:

Wear comfortable, loose-fitting clothing or the technologist may ask you to wear a gown.

Allergies:

If you are allergic to any local anesthetic, such as lidocaine, novacaine, benzocaine, or any other "caine," please notify us when you schedule your appointment.

Medication:

Please notify us when you schedule your appointment if you are taking any blood thinner medications such as aspirin, Lovenox, Plavix, or Coumadin. Patients must stop taking blood thinner medication at least 5 days prior to their appt.

Bring a driver:

Patients are monitored in a recovery room or the waiting room for 15-20 minutes after their procedure. Arrange for a driver to accompany the patient home after the procedure.