

SCS Equipment

You have been given this leaflet because you have been given spinal cord stimulator (SCS) equipment as part of your chronic pain management plan. If you have any further questions, please speak to a doctor or nurse caring for you.

The equipment given to you as part of your chronic pain management plan has been loaned to you by St George's Hospital. Should you no longer require the treatment please ensure that all equipment is returned.

The Pain Neuromodulation team will have explained how to use the equipment prior to you leaving hospital but if you have any questions or queries please contact your Neuromodulation nurse.

It might take a day or two before the full effects of the therapy are witnessed. During this time, please try to not 'increase' the therapy as over stimulation can irritate the nerves causing additional pain.

If you have been given 'SCS trial' equipment please ensure that this is returned at the end of the trial period.

If you have had the full implant you will have been given equipment to keep for as long as you need it. This equipment is expensive to replace and should be added to your home insurance with a value of £1,200. We will replace any faulty equipment but unfortunately we are unable to replace any equipment that has been lost or stolen.

Reprogramming of permanent SCS equipment

From time to time, your equipment might need reprogramming to ensure you are receiving optimal pain relief. If you feel that this is the case, please do not hesitate to get in contact with your Neuromodulation nurse and an appointment will be arranged for you to come in for reprogramming.

Replacing the internal battery for your permanent implant

Your consultant will have discussed how long the battery is expected to last and when a replacement is due. We will also check the battery life at any follow up appointments or reprogramming appointments and will let you know when it requires changing.

Contact us

If you are unsure or need further advice please contact the Chronic Pain Service, in office hours (Monday to Friday 9.00am to 5.00pm) by phoning **the Pain Secretaries** on **020 8266 6577** or **020 8266 6524** and asking them to bleep the SCS pain nurse who will then call you back. For appointment queries please contact the patient pathway coordinator on **020 8725 0226**.

For more information leaflets on conditions, procedures, treatments and services offered at our hospitals, please visit www.stgeorges.nhs.uk

Additional services

Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS)

PALS can offer you on-the-spot advice and information when you have comments or concerns about our services or the care you have received. You can visit the PALS office between 9.30am and 4.30pm, Monday to Friday in the main corridor between Grosvenor and Lanesborough wings (near the lift foyer).

Tel: 020 8725 2453 **Email:** pals@stgeorges.nhs.uk

NHS Choices

NHS Choices provides online information and guidance on all aspects of health and healthcare, to help you make decisions about your health.

Web: www.nhs.uk

NHS 111

You can call 111 when you need medical help fast but it's not a 999 emergency. NHS 111 is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Calls are free from landlines and mobile phones.

Tel: 111

AccessAble

You can download accessibility guides for all of our services by searching 'St George's Hospital' on the AccessAble website (www.accessable.co.uk). The guides are designed to ensure everyone – including those with accessibility needs – can access our hospital and community sites with confidence.



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