Title: Pulsating Electromagnetic Therapy For Treatment Of Pain

Author: Aletha W. Tippett, M.D.

Electromagnetic therapy, such as electrical stimulation and magnet therapy, has been tried for many years for pain relief [1]. Electromagnetic therapy that produces a pulsating electromagnetic force field increases oxygen tension in the treated tissue[2] and is reported to enhance healing of various tissues, as well as increasing arterial circulation. Based on reports of improved circulation, this treatment was tried as primary or adjunctive therapy in a physician pain management practice. Over a two year period conditions treated included: painful joints from arthritis; myalgia from chronic myofascial pain syndrome; gout; back pain; sprains and strains; contractures and stiffness; shoulder, knee, and hip pain; post-surgical pain and stiffness; carpal tunnel; rotator cuff syndrome. Treatment involves a 45 minute session of stimulation therapy, conducted one or two times per week until syndrome resolves. In a two year period, over one hundred patients have been treated with over 75% of patients responding to the therapy after 1-12 treatments. Positive results have been maintained with no recurrence. Typical cases include: 48 year old racquetball player with gout in his foot, with complete resolution of pain and return to competitive play after one treatment; 85 year old woman with stiff and painful rotator cuff, with complete relief of pain and return to full range of motion and function after 7 treatments; 72 year old male with chronic ankle pain from a prior injury, with complete relief of pain and return to full weight bearing, and avoidance of reparative surgery after 13 treatments; 65 year old woman with carpal tunnel symptoms resolved after 8 treatments. This non-invasive therapy has demonstrated significant benefit in treating a wide variety of painful syndromes in this series, and deserves to be considered for primary or adjunctive therapy used in addition to exercise therapy, medications, and other interventions.

1. Magnetic and Electromagnetic Therapy. Ramey, David W., DVM. http://jeromekahn123.tripod.com/quackery/id4.html. Nov. 26, 2005.
2. Unpublished data from University Health Science Center, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Effective Wound Treatment: The Importance of Tissue Oxygenation in Wound Healing. MicroVas Technologies, Inc. 2003.