



MEET DR. MICHAEL DRELLES

When it comes to fighting pain, be sure to get the best on your team. With more than a decade of experience in pain management, Michael Drelles, D.O. joins Straith Hospital as the Medical Director of the Straith Interventional Pain Center.

Dr. Drelles has more than 14 years of experience and believes that with a thorough evaluation and a proper diagnosis, an effective and individualized treatment plan can be created.

Are you ready to enjoy a better quality of life? Put your trust in someone with expertise and experience. Put your trust in Dr. Michael Drelles.

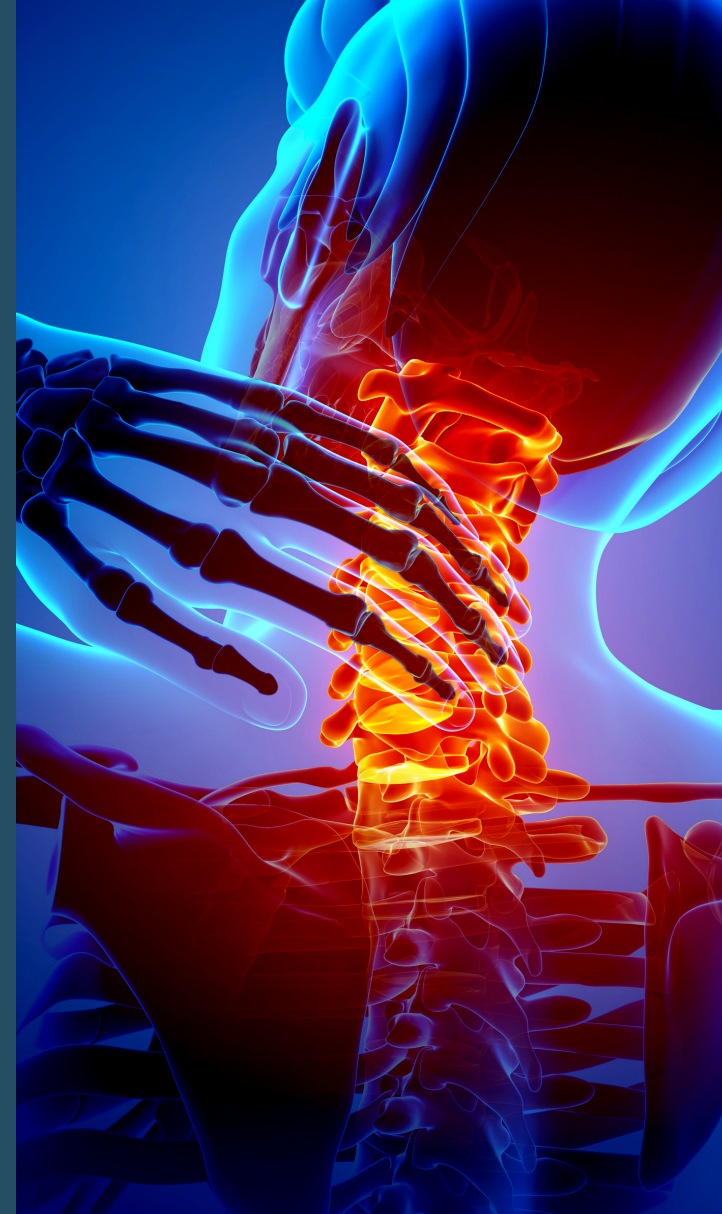
WHY INTERVENTIONAL THERAPY?

A variety of interventional procedures can be used to treat a range of pain conditions from chronic low back pain to migraine headaches. Dr. Drelles is skilled in determining the most appropriate interventional procedure for each patient and administering that procedure to achieve the greatest possible pain relief.

CONTACT US

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MEDIAL BRANCH NERVE BLOCK

Cervical, Thoracic, Lumbar

 **StraithHOSPITAL**
Interventional Pain Center

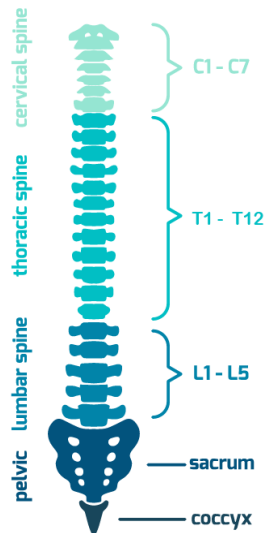
WHAT IS A MEDIAL BRANCH NERVE BLOCK?

A medial branch nerve block injection places a numbing medication (local anesthetic) near a specific set of nerves called the Medial Branch Nerves. These nerves are connected to the facet joints in your spine and carry pain signals from the facet joint to the brain. Injecting these nerves with a local anesthetic blocks the medial branch nerves from carrying pain signals. This procedure helps diagnose what is causing your pain.

WHAT AREAS OF THE BODY CAN THIS PROCEDURE BE PERFORMED?

Depending on the evaluation and region of your pain, epidural steroid injections can be performed to the following areas:

- Cervical (Neck)
- Thoracic (Mid-back)
- Lumbar (Lower-back)

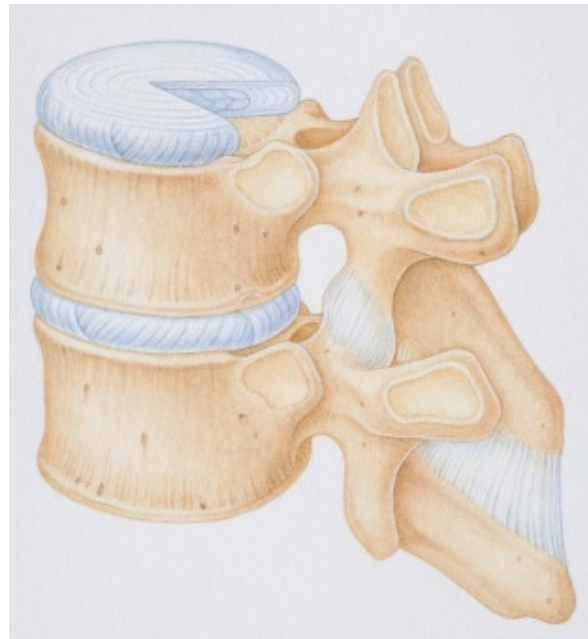


WHAT ARE FACET JOINTS?

Facet joints are a pair of small joints that are located between the vertebrae in the back of the spine. These joints allow you to bend, flex and twist.

WHAT IS FACET JOINT PAIN?

Facet joint pain can be caused by an injury, disease or “wear and tear” of the facet joints. Pain caused by the facet joints is usually located in the area around the joint(s). It is uncommon that pain from a facet joint radiates into your arm or leg.



GENERAL PRE-OP INSTRUCTIONS

- Please arrive at Straith Hospital 1 hour prior to your scheduled time if you are having sedation OR 30 minutes prior if you are having no sedation.
- Blood thinning medications (Plavix, Coumadin, Eliquis) are usually stopped before your procedure. Please follow the instructions from your doctor.
- You may take your usual prescribed medication with a sip of water unless otherwise instructed.
- If you are having sedation, a responsible adult is to drive you and must remain at Straith Hospital for the duration of your procedure.
- Sedation patients must NOT have anything to eat or drink 8-10 hours prior to their arrival time.
- You may only have clear liquids (water, black coffee with no cream or sugar, tea) 4 hours prior to arrival time.

WHAT TO EXPECT AFTER THE PROCEDURE

- The steroid medication will take at least 3-5 days to work.
- You may have a temporary increase in pain and/or soreness at the needle site. Ice can be applied to help relieve this pain.
- It may take up to 7 days before you begin to feel pain relief.
- You may return to your normal activities unless otherwise directed upon discharge.
- You may also resume any medication after the procedure.
- You are allowed to shower post procedure, but no submerging in water for 24 hours.
- If the pain becomes severe or if you experience severe numbness, fevers, or changes in mental status, call the clinic immediately.