



## **INSTRUCTIONS AFTER SPINAL CORD STIMULATION TRIAL**

After the trial implantation procedure is complete, the best electrical strength for your pain management will be determined. You will then be given instructions for using the stimulator at home. This temporary trial period ends in about 3-7 days, when the lead is removed. If this spinal cord stimulation trial is successful, you will then be referred for a permanent implantation.

During this trial phase, there will be a small wire lead exiting the skin in the back, which will be covered with a dressing. This should be kept clean and dry while the lead is in place (3-7 days), and for another two (2) days after the lead is removed. Therefore, you should not bathe, shower or swim while the lead is in place, and continue these restrictions for an additional two (2) days after removal. Sponge baths are allowable. Your physician may prescribe an antibiotic medication to take during the trial period as well.

Please do not drive or operate machinery for 12 hours after your procedure. Please call our office at (757) 422-2966 for any concerning symptoms, such as bowel or bladder problems, weakness, numbness, headache, fever, redness or exacerbation of pain.