Evolving Clinical Developments in Interventional Pain Management, The *mild* Procedure

> Mark Coleman, M.D. Director of Advanced Therapies National Spine and Pain Centers, LLC Baltimore, MD

# Earl's Story

- 81 y/o male presented 7/1/08 with decreasing ability to walk due to sensation of heaviness and pain from the hamstrings to the ankles.
- Can only walk 30-40 yards before having to stop
- Could mow the entire lawn last year in one session, now it takes him 3 days
- Minimal back pain
- No pain at rest





# **Treatment Timeline**

8/1/08 Lumbar ESI 100% pain relief for until June 2009 9/2009 L4/5 TESI X2 50% pain relief until January 2010 Patient told to seek surgical opinions L2-L5 Fusion, L3-L5 Fusion. Summer 2011 injections stop working. Now Takes 3 days to mow the lawn...



# Current LSS Therapeutic Algorithm

## Revolution in Interventional Pain Management

Imagine a spine procedure that...

- Therapeutically treats the underlying cause of LSS.
- Is performed primarily by the Interventional Pain Physician.
- Is safe by design since the most invasive part of the procedure is the epidurogram.
- Provides long term relief of neurogenic claudication symptoms.
- Has an extremely low complication rate and can be performed in ASC.

# Percutaneous Decompression Laminotomy

- FDA cleare
- Treats Lumbar Spinal Stenosis (LSS) No stitches required
- caused by neurogenic claudicationOutpatient procedure
- Fluoroscopically-guided
- No implants left behindApprox. 10,000 patients treated in

No general anesthesia required

over 45 states

# Complications & Biomechanical Change



## Opportunity

- 1.2M<sup>+</sup> LSS patients diagnosed & in active treatment.<sup>1</sup>
- Painful, degenerative, age-related narrowing of the lumbar spinal canal.
- Patients are limited due to pain & immobility.
- Limited therapeutic options, short of open surgery.
- No existing surgical procedures to treat neurogenic claudication in the outpatient setting except *mild*.
- 94% of LSS patients have neurogenic claudication.<sup>2</sup>

# Identifying Neurogenic Claudication

#### **Clinical Presentation**

- Uni or bilateral lower
   extremity pain post walking
   short distance or standing
- Relieved by short rest and forward flexion (reduces ligament compression)





Different pathophysiological causes<sup>1</sup> require different treatments

Epidural Steroid Injections treat <u>inflammation</u>...NOT ischemia.
<u>Decompression is required</u> to treat thecal sac compression/ischemia.



# mild Device Kit

# mild Procedure Steps



# Visual Confirmation of Decompression

Pre mild

















mild vs. Open Surgery							
	Percutaneous Decompression Laminotomy	vs.	Traditional Decompression Surgery				
Visualization	Fluoroscopic guidance		Direct posterior				
Working Area in Relation to the Dura	Fluoroscopic visualization provides depth to accurately view location of the of dura.		No direct visualization of dura until tissue/bone has been removed.				









Greater Cost Savings & Lower Utilization of Health Care Resources								
	Percutaneous Decompression Laminotomy	vs.	Traditional Decompression Surgery					
Hospital Stay	Less than 24 hours		3-5 Days					
Anesthesia	MAC/Light		General					
Procedure Cost	\$3,536*		\$23,724**					

Lack of overnight hospital stay & no general anesthesia equates to much lower hospital charges.

Cost savings= \$20,188 or 85.1%

#### Current Status of Medicare Coverage & Payment

#### • AMA CPT<sup>®</sup> Category III code 0275T

Percutaneous laminotomy/laminectomy (interlaminar approach) for decompression of neural elements, (with or without ligamentous resection, discectomy, facetectomy and/or foraminotomy), any method, under indirect image guidance (e.g., fluoroscopic, CT), with or without the use of an endoscope, single or multiple levels, unliteral or bilateral; lumbar.

- Current coverage is dependent on local Medicare Administrative Contractors (MAC) decision. Some are covering the procedure and some are not.
- The code is <u>not</u> currently approved for Medicare reimbursement in the ASC
- Facility payment maps to APC 0208, which averages \$3,536
   Physician payment: The clinical work associated with mild would be most clinically-similar to that of CPT code 63030, which had a national average payment of \$962 in 2011
- mild has been performed in ASC for cash pay patients

#### What is Next for Coverage & Payment?

- Coverage in all MAC Jurisdictions
- Code modification to allow for modifiers
  - Category III code changes are announced every July and January and implemented 6 months later
- Request for an ASC ready code
  - Would be the first ASC ready laminotomy procedure
    Time to achieve an ASC ready code is variable
- Category I
  - Earliest approval would be in 2013 with implementation in 2014 based on CPT cycle
- Widespread commercial insurance coverage

# How Long Does It Take to Get From Category III

Category II			Category 1		Cat III Release to Cat I Effective
Code	Release Date	Descriptor	Code	Effective Date	(Years)
0056T	201-03	Computer-assisted musculoskeletal surgical navigational orthopedic procedure	20985	Jan-08	4.5
ODEST	241-04	Ocular photoscreening, with interpretation and report, bilateral	99174	Jan-08	3.5
0082T	241-04	Stereotactic body radiation therapy, treatment delivery, one or more treatment areas, per day	77272	ian-07	2.5
0084T	241-04	insertion of a temporary prostatic unethral stent	\$3855	lan-10	5.5
0090T	Jan-05	Total disc anthroplasty (antificial disc), anterior approach, including discectory to prepare interspace (other than for decompression) cervical; single interspace	22856	Jan-09	4.0
0093T	Jan-05	Removal of total disc arthroplasty, anterior approach cervical; single interspace	22864	ian-09	4.0
0096T	Jan-05	Revision of total disc arthrophyty, anterior approach cervical; single interspace	22861	ian-09	4.0
01157-01177	241-05	Medication therapy management service(s) provided by a pharmacist, individual, face-to- face with patient, initial SS minutes, with assessment, and intervention,	99605-99607	Jan-08	2.5
0120T	241-05	Cryabilation of breast fibroadenomas	19105	ian-07	1.5
0125T	241-05	Ablation, renal tumor(i), unilateral, percutaneous, cryotherapy	50593	Jan-08	2.5
0140T	241-05	Sahaled breath condensate pH	83987	ian-10	4.5
0144T-0151T	241-05	Computed tomography, heart, without contrast material, including image postprocessing and quantitative evaluation of coronary calcium	75571-75574	ian-10	4.5
01537	201-05	Transatheter placement of wineless physiologic sensor in aneurysmal sac during endowascular regult, including radiological supervision and interpretation and instrument calibration	34806	Jan-OR	2.5
0154T	241-05	Noninvasive physiologic study of implanted wireless pressure sensor in aneuryomal sac following endowascular regair, complete study including recording, analysis of and waveform tracings, interpretation and report pressure	93982	Jan-08	2.5
0162T	Jan-05	Electronic analysis and programming, reprogramming of gastric neurostimulator (i.e., morbid obesity)	95980-82	ian-08	3.0
0170T	241-05	Repair of anorectal fistula with plug (eg, porcine small intestine submucosa (SS))	46707	ian-10	3.5
0194T	b-1.09	Procalcitanin (PCT)	84145	145-10	1.5

Time May Vary Dramatic to Category I Effective

## Therapeutically Treat LSS in the ASC

#### mild perfect fit for ASC

- Favorable safety profile & low complication rates
- High efficacy & patient satisfaction
- Lower utilization of health care resources
- Outpatient procedure with no general anesthesia

#### ASC Market Opportunity

- LSS patients:
  - Elderly population with multiple co-morbidities
     High users of healthcare
- Patient satisfaction generates repeat customers and positive referrals to the ASC.
- Only decompression procedure on the horizon to treat LSS that has potential to be performed in ASC.

# Success

- 10/2011 L3/4 and L4/5 Mild procedure
- Complete relief of pain, leg fatigue
- Regular 2-3 mile walks
- Back to mowing the lawn

# Earl May 2012

# Mark H. Coleman, MD

- National Spine and Pain Centers
- mcoleman@myspinedoctors.com