

Effectiveness Of Pulsed Radiofrequency Of Dorsal Root Entry Zone In Chronic Lumbar Radiculopathy

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Purpose:

Chronic lumbar radicular (CLR) pain is one of the commonest types of chronic low back pain. There is no high level evidence such as RCT to support the use of pulsed radiofrequency (PRF) in the treatment of CLR pain. The purpose of this study is to evaluate the effectiveness of PRF applied to Dorsal Root Ganglion (DRG) to treat CLR pain.

Methods:

20 patients with CLR pain received PRF treatment from 2017-2018. The objective is to measure the pain reduction after PRF. More than 50% pain relief for 2 months or more are considered as primary end point.

Results:

60% subjects achieved primary end point. This group of patients have spinal stenosis or herniated intervertebral disc. The need of pain medication in this group of patient is significantly reduced. The 40% of patients who failed to respond to PRF intervention have failed back surgery syndrome (FBSS). No side effect reported

Conclusion:

PRF intervention should be considered as therapeutic option of CLR pain. There is a need for a RCT to ascertain the effectiveness of PRF in CLR pain. Our study shows that it is efficacious to treat Herniated intervertebral disc and spinal stenosis, but not FBSS.