

# ***SInergy*<sup>™</sup> System Refresher Course**

**Sept, 2008**

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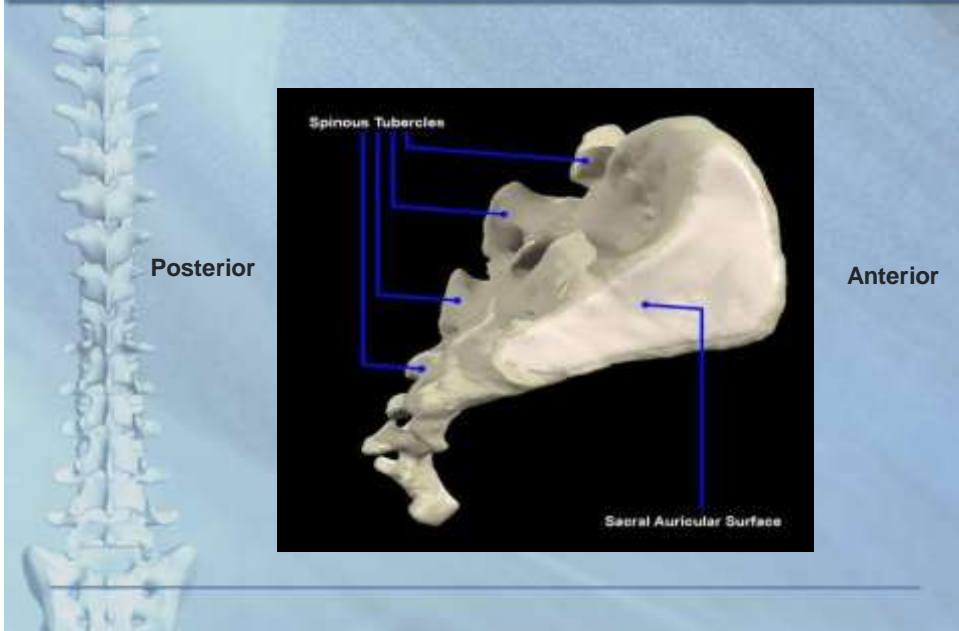
# ANATOMY



## A/P View - Sacrum



## Lateral View - Sacrum



## AP View of Superficial SI Ligaments



## Sacroiliac Joint



- Often referred to as the SIJ
- Largest axial joint in the body with an average area of 17.5 cm<sup>3</sup>. Rotates around three axes <sup>2</sup>
- Synovial joint meaning the surface between the ilium and sacrum is lubricated for smooth movements <sup>2</sup>
- However these movements are very small with the total range of motion of the joint rarely exceeding two degrees

## Sacroiliac Joint



- Its functions include:
  - Providing support and stability to the vertebral column<sup>1,2</sup>
  - Strength and stability to the pelvis <sup>1,2</sup>
  - Transferring weight from the upper body to the lower body <sup>1,2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Cohen S. *Anesth Analg.* 2005; 101: 1440-1453

<sup>2</sup>Yin W. et al. *Spine.* 2003; 28(20):2419-2425

## Sacroiliac Joint



- Extensive ligamentous structures function to connect the ilium to the sacrum and to limit motion in all movement planes <sup>1,2</sup>
  - Interosseous Ligament: thick ligament connects the ilium to the sacrum in an area directly above the joint posteriorly
- Network of muscles in the area help to deliver muscular force to the pelvic region <sup>2</sup>
- Some attach directly to the SIJ ligaments and affect mobility.
  - e.g. Gluteal muscles

<sup>1</sup>Cohen S. *Anesth Analg.* 2005; 101: 1440-1453

<sup>2</sup>Yin W. et al. *Spine.* 2003; 28(20):2419-2425

## SI Joint Innervation



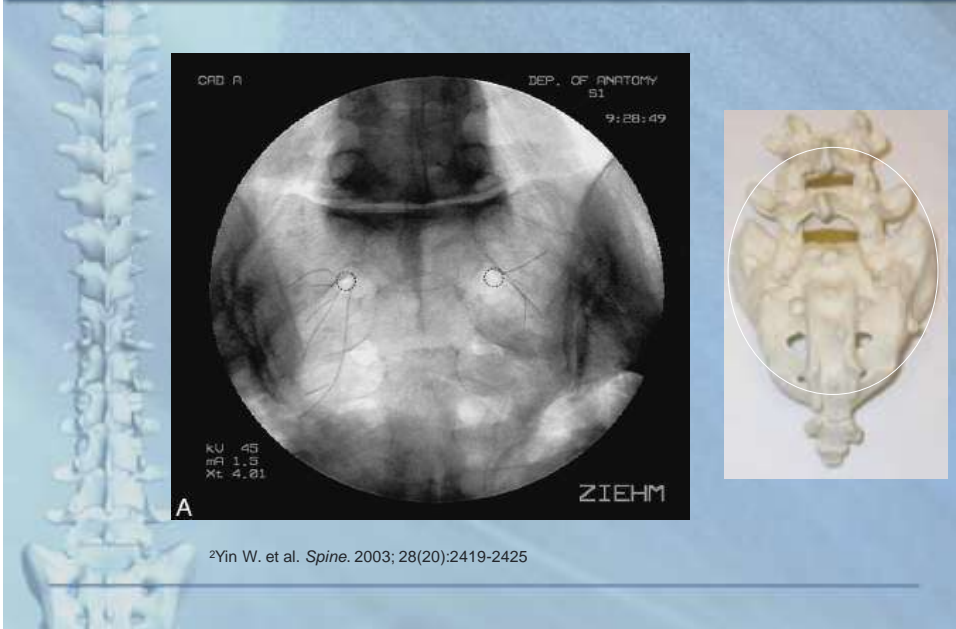
- There is no established consensus on the innervation of the SIJ. Due to a limited number of studies
- Most recent anatomic studies suggest the following:
  - Joint is predominantly, if not entirely, innervated by *posterior primary rami*<sup>1,3,4</sup>
  - Innervation is from the L5 dorsal primary ramus along the sacral ala and from the S1 – S3 lateral branches exiting the posterior sacral foraminal apertures (PSFA)<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Cohen S. *Anesth Analg.* 2005; 101: 1440-1453

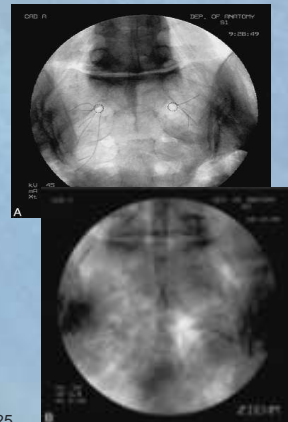
<sup>2</sup>Yin W. et al. *Spine.* 2003; 28(20):2419-2425

<sup>3</sup>Grob K. et al. *Z Rheumatol.* 1995;27:117-122

<sup>4</sup>Fortin J. et al. *Spine.* 1994;19(13):1475-1482



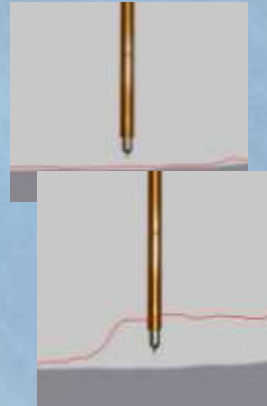
- The running course of lateral branch nerves is *variable* (like the bony anatomy of the sacrum) from individual to individual, and from an individuals left to right side <sup>2,5</sup>



<sup>2</sup>1998<sup>2</sup> Yin W. et al. *Spine*. 2003; 28(20):2419-2425

<sup>5</sup>Willard F. et al. *World Congress on Low Back and Pelvic Pain*. Vienna, Austria

- Up to 10 mm from the lateral edge of the PSFA, lateral branch nerves lie in the depth between the bony sacral surface and 8 mm superficial to that surface <sup>2</sup>



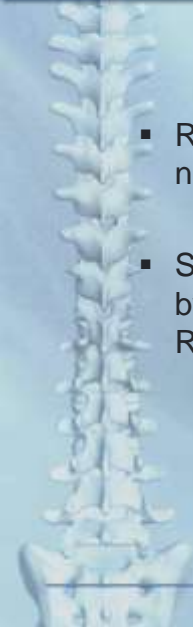
<sup>2</sup> Yin W. et al. *Spine*. 2003; 28(20):2419-2425

- Lateral branch nerves exit the S1 – S3 PSFA in windows between 2 o'clock and 6 o'clock on the right and 6 o'clock and 10 o'clock on the left <sup>5</sup>
- No other correlation linking the location of lateral branch nerves to bony landmarks on the sacrum has been reported <sup>2</sup>



<sup>2</sup> Yin W. et al. *Spine*. 2003; 28(20):2419-2425

<sup>5</sup> Willard F. et al. *World Congress on Low Back and Pelvic Pain*. Vienna, Austria, 1998

- 
- Realistically, RF procedures can only lesion nerves on the posterior side of the sacrum
  - Since the SI joint is predominantly innervated by posterior primary rami there is potential for a RF application

## PATHOLOGY



### Characteristics: SI Joint Syndrome

- Pain in the region of the SI joint with possible radiation to groin, medial buttocks and posterior thigh
- Tenderness overlying the posterior joint
- An otherwise normal joint without demonstrable abnormalities
- Made worse by sitting upright for extended periods of time

<sup>1</sup>Cohen S. *Anesth Analg.* 2005; 101: 1440-1453  
<sup>2</sup>Yin W. et al. *Spine.* 2003; 28(20):2419-2425


### Prevalence:

- Intra-articular SIJ Pain in patients with chronic low back pain is 15% to 30%<sup>6,7</sup>
  - Probably more when you include extra-articular (ligamentous) pain
- Compared to prevalence of lumbar facet joint syndrome:
  - 15-40% of mechanical low back pain<sup>8</sup>
- There is no surgical treatment option for SIJ syndrome (no fusions)
- Large patient population that is not well studied

<sup>6</sup>Maigne JY, et al. *Spine.* 1996; 21(16):1889-1892

<sup>7</sup>Schwarzer A, et al. *Spine.* 1995; 20:31-37

<sup>8</sup>Schwarzer A, et al. *Ann Rheum Dis.* 1995;54:100-106

- 
- 15-30 % of chronic low back pain is attributed to SIJ Syndrome
  - Pain originates in the SI joint and/or surrounding connective tissues

**Diagnosis and Patient Selection**

## Patient Selection


### Inclusion Criteria

- Positive clinical pain presentation
  - Pain in the SIJ region and radiating into the buttock, groin, or thigh areas
- Primary pain symptoms limiting functional capacity, preventing return to work, or interfering with activities of daily living
- All conservative therapies have been exhausted. i.e. pharmacological, exercise/physio, etc.
- Demonstrated pain relief after two controlled intra-articular anesthetic injections

## Patient Selection

### Exclusion Criteria


- Evidence of lumbar or sacral radiculopathy
- Evidence of other neurologic, vascular, or diffuse rheumatologic disease
- Spondylolisthesis at the L5/S1 level

- 
- Biggest challenge of SIJ Pain is the complexity of diagnosis
  - “Pure” SIJ Pain is very difficult to diagnose because it is frequently associated with referred pain from other structures
  - Some patients treated for SIJ Syndrome will have multiple sources of pain. i.e. Discogenic pain, Facet Joint Pain, etc.,
    - Some combination pain is generally expected by the physician
    - Comparative blocks may need to be conducted in order to rule out other sources of pain

<sup>1</sup>Cohen S. *Anesth Analg.* 2005; 101: 1440-1453

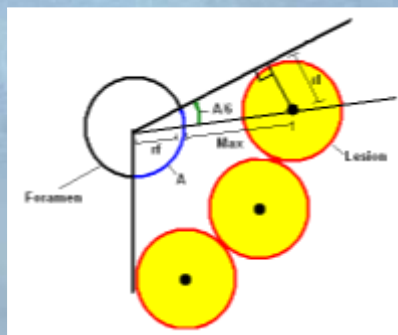
<sup>2</sup>Yin W. et al. *Spine.* 2003; 28(20):2419-2425

### Controlled Diagnostic Blocks

- 
- Anesthetic intra-articular SI joint block is the best diagnostic method currently available
  - This method yields the 20% prevalence, but may underestimate total prevalence, as it only diagnoses intra-articular SI syndrome and does not account for ligament and muscle involvement
  - However, there is no “gold standard” for diagnosing SIJ Pain

- No novel diagnostic procedure required
- SIJ Syndrome is diagnosed by clinical presentation and positive response to controlled intra-articular block(s)

## Required Lesion Geometry



## Sacroiliac RF Lesion Requirements

- Level L5
  - Lesion the primary dorsal ramus at sacral ala
- Level S1, S2, S3
  - Lesion all lateral branches as they exit foramen



## Sacroiliac RF Lesion Requirements

- Spherical lesions are positioned such that all lateral branches are targeted
- At S1 and S2, lesions are made at 2 o'clock, 4 o'clock and 6 o'clock
- At S3, lesions are made at 12 o'clock and 3 o'clock
- At L5 one lesion is made along the sacral ala just lateral to the S1 SAP

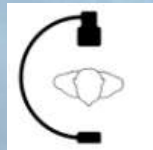


## SInergy™ Procedure Step by Step at Level S2



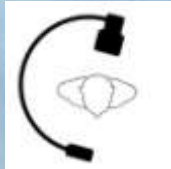
## RF Procedure- Step 1

- Image through the L5/S1 Disc

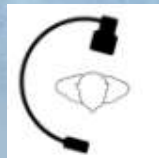


**RF Procedure- Step 2**

- Rotate the image 15° ipsilateral to identify the foramen

**RF Procedure- Step 3**

- Place a spinal needle (25Ga) along the lateral wall of each sacral foramen (S1-S3)





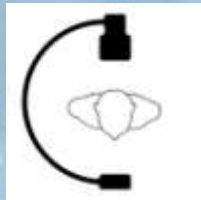
## RF Procedure- Step 4

- Confirm transforaminal needle placement with a lateral fluoroscopy image



## RF Procedure- Step 5

- Return C-arm to an A-P view. Direct the introducer “down the beam” towards the target



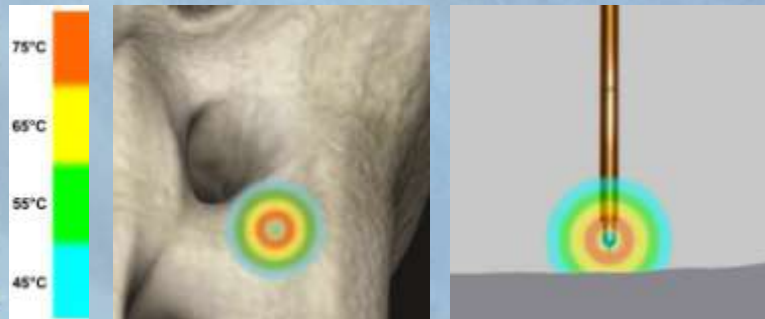
## RF Procedure- Step 6

- Remove stylet, insert probe, verify impedance reading  $< 500 \Omega$



## RF Procedure- Step 7

- Create lesion using Baylis PMG



**RF Procedure- Continued**

- Remove probe, replace stylet. Repeat steps 5-7 for the second target site.

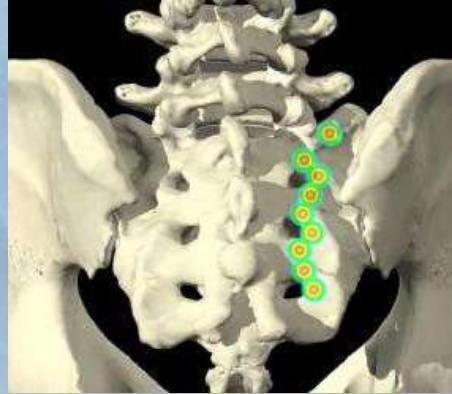
**RF Procedure- Continued**

- Remove probe, replace stylet. Repeat steps 5-7 for the final target site. Repeat for S1, S3, L5.



## RF Procedure- Summary

- Nine lesions required to capture all lateral branches and the L5 dorsal ramus

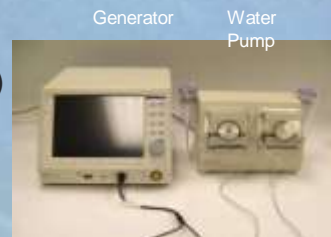


## Pain Management Snergy™ System Components

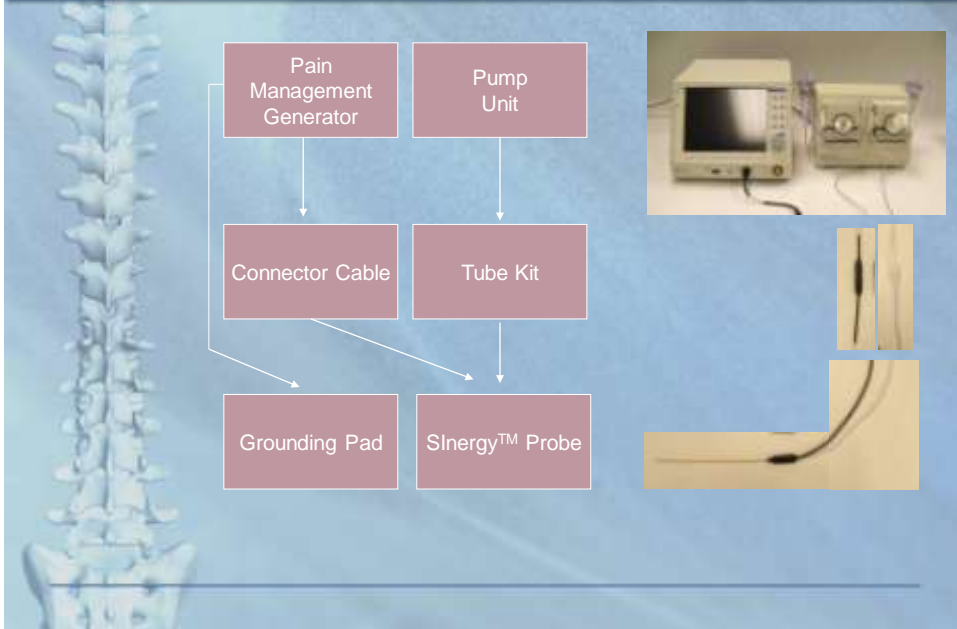
## SI Kit Catalogue Numbers

- SIK-17-75-4
  - 1 Pain Management SI Probe (SIP-17-75-4)
  - 2 Pain Management SI Introducers (SII-17-75)
  - 1 Pain Management Tube Kit (TDA-TBK-1)
  - 1 Dispersive Electrode (PMA-GP-BAY)
- SIK-17-150-4
  - 1 Pain Management SI Probe (SIP-17-150-4)
  - 2 Pain Management SI Introducers (SII-17-150)
  - 1 Pain Management Tube Kit (TDA-TBK-1)
  - 1 Dispersive Electrode (PMA-GP-BAY)

- Pain Management Generator (V2.2 Advanced)
  - PMG-115-TD
- Pain Management Pump Unit
  - TDA-PPU-1
- Cooled RF Connector Cable
  - CRX-BAY-CRP
  - PMX-19-14 (V3.0)



# Baylis MEDICAL System Set-Up



# Baylis MEDICAL PMG V2.2



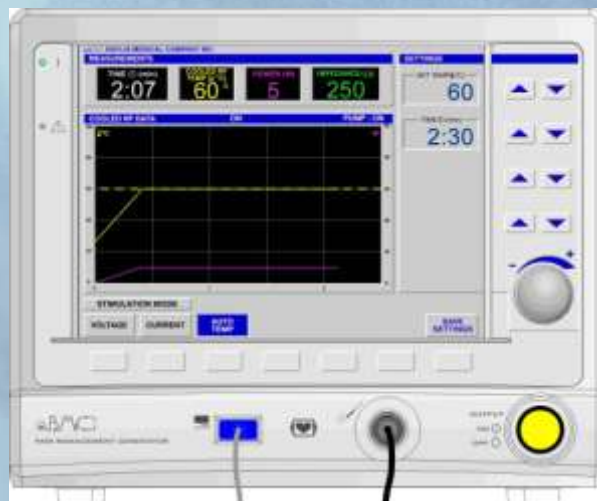
## Baylis MEDICAL Treatment Mode

The following settings should be saved in Cooled RF mode on the PMG

Auto Temp

- Set Temp (°C) = 60
- Time (min) = 2:30

## Baylis MEDICAL Treatment Mode



The following settings should be saved in the Advanced Settings on the PMG

### Cooled RF Settings

- Ramp Rate = 80°C/min
- Post Treatment Cooling = Disable
- Number of Probes = 1
- Power Limit (W) = 12

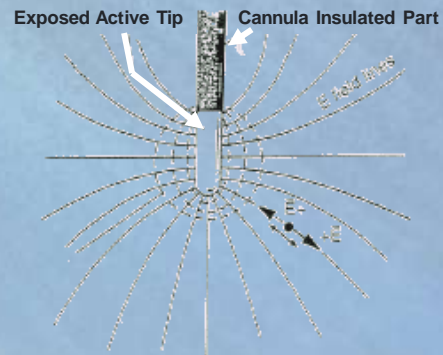




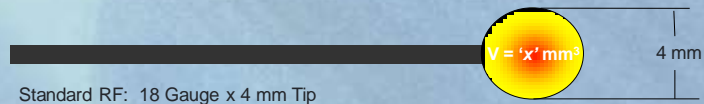
## Physics of Cooled RF

## Ionic Heating of Tissue Using RF Cannula

- RF energy is applied
- Ions in surrounding tissue move creating friction
- Friction heats surrounding tissue
- Hot tissue heats probe or electrode by conduction
- Probe thermocouple located at the tip, reads tissue temperature



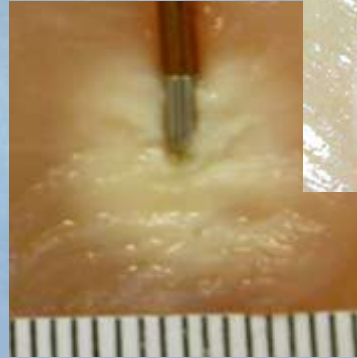
- Without cooling, the size of lesion is limited by the heat generated in the tissue adjacent to the electrode
- It is not desirable to raise tissue temperature above 95° C
- Cooling the tissue adjacent to the electrode allows effective heating at a greater distance



- Internal cooling doubles the lesion radius and increases the lesion volume by a factor of 8

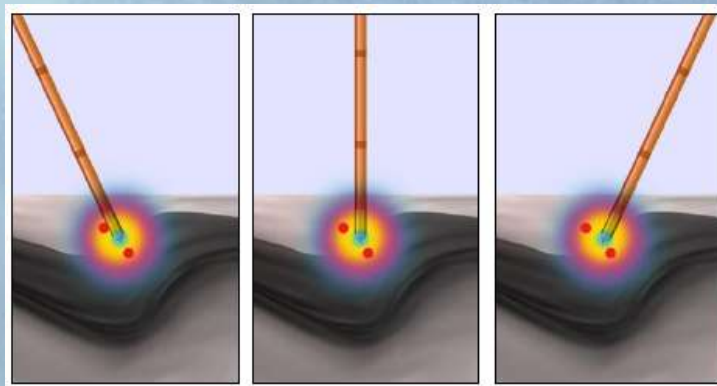
## Spherical Lesions

- Internal cooling and small (4mm) active tip size combine to project the lesions distally in a controlled and repeatable manner (8-10mm).
- Lesion will form around bony geometries and can penetrate grooves and crevices



Temperature controlled monopolar electrode produces uniform, *spherical* lesions in non-homogeneous tissue. (ie. ligaments, crevices, fascia)

## Perpendicular & Oblique Placement



- Allows for perpendicular or oblique probe placement near the treatment site, due to spherical lesion shape.