

Tips for Spinal Cord Stimulators

Spend time on positioning, use pillows or bolsters.

Map your expected needle path with a 22 G spinal needle. Check your angle in a lateral (or contralateral oblique) view to ensure your entry is as flat as possible. Inject local anesthetic as you do this. Ensure you have injected ample local anesthetic on the lamina.

To increase efficiency, place both needles on lamina before checking lateral (or contralateral oblique). Efficiency increases when your time changing views is minimized.

Tips for Intrathecal Pump Implants

Positioning is the most important step! Use a hip grip system to maintain the lateral position. Drape with a 4 piece universal drape to cover all of the angles appropriately. loban will hold the 4 piece drape together.

Draw your pump placement pre-procedure. Tissue movement intra-operatively can distort the final location.

Use the lowest concentration possible. The minimum flow and concentration will determine the lowest dose that can be delivered.