

Presentation Title	Place in Schedule
Neuromodulators: non-opioid pain relief for occupational injuries	Concurrent Session 2.6 <i>Day 2 – Wednesday</i> <i>May 9th, 2018</i> <i>2:30 – 3:45pm</i>
Description of Presentation	Presenter Name(s) And Credentials
<p>Two inter-related conditions have an important impact on worker health, first the difficult to treat condition of neuropathic pain, second the consequent excessive reliance on opioid analgesics, leading to addiction, street drug use and death from overdose. Seven million men in prime working age are not working, many are on opioids. Together, they are a major part of our National Public Health Emergency, This presentation will describe the history of two neuromodulators for pain relief : 1) a clinical device the size of a desk top computer for treating complex regional pain syndrome types I and II and 2) a wearable device for more localized chronic pain. Clinical experience has shown these devices have proven effective in relieving neuropathic pain and can be adjuncts in safe drug withdrawal, successful physical therapy and restoration of work capacity. They have FDA and EU approval, and are used at the Mayo Clinic, VA Hospitals, Cedars-Sinai Hospital, Stanford University and Johns Hopkins University.</p> <p>It is my concept that occupational medicine physicians can implement these medical devices to treat painful work injuries avoiding narcotics entirely. They can prevent absenteeism and reduce presenteeism, thereby contributing to industrial productivity while avoiding both drug therapy and invasive pain management techniques.</p> <p>The presentation will explain the nature of neuropathic pain and the technological understanding of neuromodulators. I will discuss indications, contraindications, treatment planning, and the evidence basis for effectiveness. My own experience with clinical use of neuromodulators will show they are value based, even life changing for workers.</p> <p>The presentation will conclude with a video interview after successful pain relief in a teacher who lost her job after a knee injury evolved to CRPS I.</p>	Richard Ilka, MD, MPH <i>Corporate Occupational Medicine</i>