

## 1. What kind of doctors practice Neurology?

Neurologists are medical doctors who specialize in diseases of the nervous system, which includes the brain, spinal cord, peripheral nerves and muscle. Neurosurgeons are experts in the surgical treatment of the nervous system.

## 2. What kind of doctors practice Physiatry?

Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation specialists treat non-surgical acute and chronic musculoskeletal disorders, including sprains and strains, as well as injuries and disorders of the spine. The approach of physiatrists in diagnosis and medical treatment, combined with their training and experience with all of the rehabilitation aspects of care, offer a unique approach to these patients. Some alternative treatments may include trigger point injections, nerve blocks and steroid injections as well as acupuncture.

## 3. What kind of doctors practice Interventional Pain Treatment?

Anesthesiologists and Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation specialists who are fellowship trained in Interventional Pain Treatment. These specialists treat acute and chronic low back pain, extremity pain, headaches, and many other pain problems with a combination of medications, physical therapy and various types of injections. They are also trained in other more advanced interventional pain techniques such as placement of spinal cord stimulators.

## 4. Patient Library:

The office has a large selection of information regarding most neurologic conditions, available for patient and family use.

Information is also available regarding support groups and referral centers for a variety of neurologic conditions, both locally and nationally. Please ask your doctor or the staff about this service or **visit our website at [www.cnmri.com](http://www.cnmri.com)**.

**5. Special Tests:** MRI (Magnetic Resonance Imaging) is a revolutionary technique, which produces finely detailed pictures of the brain, spine or other body parts. It is a very helpful diagnostic aid. MRI is very safe. Unlike X-Ray or CT, no ionizing radiation is produced with MRI.

Electromyography is a special technique to study muscle function using pins. Nerve conduction studies measure response of nerves by using a stimulus. These studies are used to diagnose “pinched” nerves.

Nerve and brain function can also be evaluated with evoked potential testing. Visual evoked potentials help evaluate the visual pathways in the brain whereas auditory evoked potentials test the brainstem and nerves involved with hearing and balance

Color Flow and Transcranial Doppler Ultrasonography are technologies which use sound waves to assess blockages or atherosclerosis (hardening) of the carotid, vertebral and intracranial blood vessels.

**6. Office Hours** Office hours are from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. One of our doctors is on call 24 hours a day. If you have an emergency and cannot reach him, you should call your family doctor or go to the hospital emergency room.

**7. Appointments:** Appointments should be made in advance. For your convenience CNMRI has locations in Dover and Milford. Please call the office and tell us the problem you are having when making an appointment. If your physician referred you, be sure to mention his name. *It is very important to bring with you or have your doctor send any medical records, laboratory studies, and X-rays relating to your condition.* Please be prompt for your visit: We will make every effort to see you at the appointment time. If you have to cancel an appointment, please do so as far in advance as possible or at least within 24 to 48 hours of the appointed time. There is a \$30 fee for regular missed appointments and \$200 fee for PSG, CPAP, MSLT or MWT missed appointments.

**8. Telephone Calls** The best time to call the office is between 8:00 am and 3:00 pm. Dover (302) 678-8100 and Milford (302) 422-0800. All calls are routed through our Dover office regardless of which number you dial. Please call the office if you are having any side effects from your medications or if you feel your condition is worsening, so that any necessary action may be taken. The office staff will relay your message to your doctor and you will be contacted in return if need be.

**7. Refills for Prescriptions** Refills will only be given during office hours. To ensure you don't run out of your medication, you should give 24 hours notice for refills and generally don't call for refills on Friday. Refills will not be given if you are not being followed in our office. No refills are given after office hours, over weekends or holidays. Sometimes, your pharmacist will give you a small refill to last until the office opens.

**9. Test Results** Results of studies will be called in to you or your doctor if they require immediate attention. Usually, the results of these tests will be sent to your doctor

or they will be discussed with you in detail if you have a return appointment.

**10. Fees:** We have set our fee schedule according to the amount of time and skill required and the complexity of the problem you have.

The fee for the initial visit is usually between \$273 and \$357 and includes a detailed history and neurologic examination, review of records and tests, and preparation of a detailed typed report to your doctor. Follow up visits are usually \$82.

Specialized testing is additional: MRI averages about \$1300-2500; EMG \$800-1000; Color Flow and Transcranial Doppler \$400-900. We encourage you to openly discuss our fees or your bill with the doctor or office staff.

**11. Insurance:** Insurance will usually cover office visits and testing if you have paid your deductible and obtained the appropriate referral authorization. Your co-payments and coinsurance should be paid at the time of your visit. The staff will bill your insurance company for you and help you in your dealings with them whenever possible. If you do not have your co-payment with you at the time of service you will be charged an additional \$15. We are "Participating" physicians in Blue Cross/Blue Shield, Medicare, Tricare, Coventry and most HMOs. We accept Medicaid patients only upon physician referral.

**12. Medical Records** Office medical records are strictly confidential. All of CNMRI's policies and procedures are in conformance with HIPAA regulation. You are given our notice of privacy practices upon check in at your initial visit to our office. Upon request, you can receive another copy at any time.