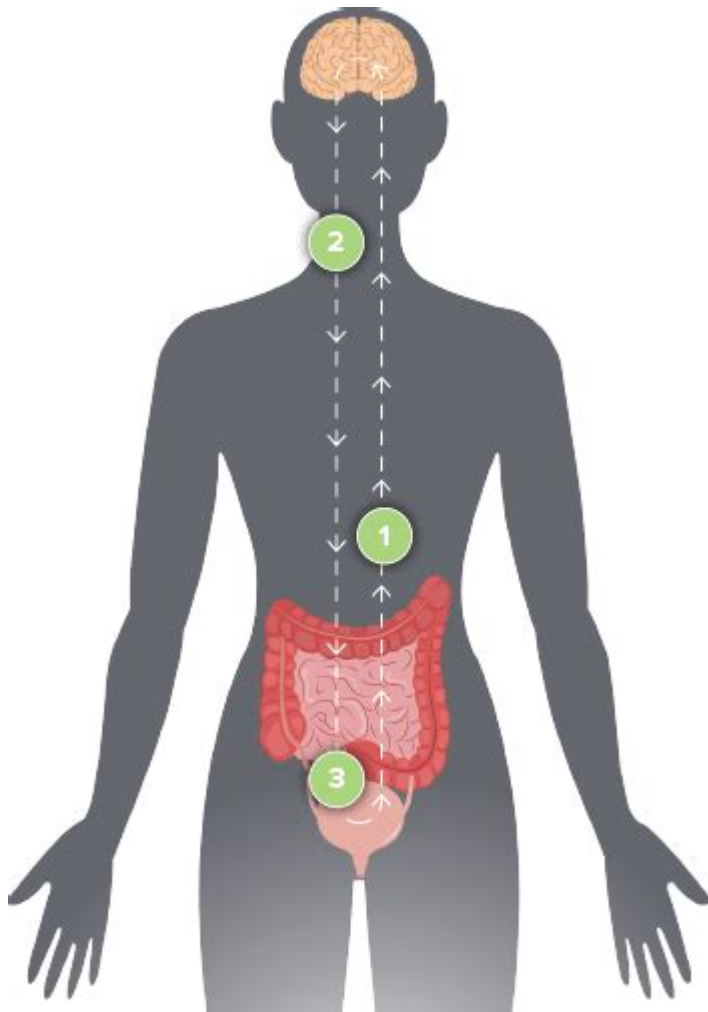


How Is Axonics Therapy Done



AXONICS THERAPY IS AN INNOVATIVE TREATMENT OPTION FOR INDIVIDUALS SUFFERING FROM VARIOUS TYPES OF BLADDER AND BOWEL CONTROL ISSUES, INCLUDING OVERACTIVE BLADDER (OAB) AND FECAL INCONTINENCE. THE THERAPY INVOLVES THE USE OF A SMALL DEVICE THAT ALTERS THE SIGNALS BETWEEN THE BRAIN AND THE NERVES CONTROLLING THESE ORGANS, THEREBY IMPROVING THEIR FUNCTION. THIS ARTICLE EXPLORES HOW AXONICS THERAPY IS PERFORMED, ITS BENEFITS, AND WHAT PATIENTS CAN EXPECT THROUGHOUT THE PROCESS.

UNDERSTANDING AXONICS THERAPY

AXONICS THERAPY, ALSO KNOWN AS SACRAL NEUROMODULATION, IS A MINIMALLY INVASIVE PROCEDURE THAT USES A SMALL IMPLANTABLE DEVICE TO STIMULATE THE SACRAL NERVES. THESE NERVES PLAY A CRUCIAL ROLE IN BLADDER AND BOWEL CONTROL. BY SENDING MILD ELECTRICAL IMPULSES TO THESE NERVES, THE THERAPY CAN HELP REGULATE BLADDER AND BOWEL FUNCTION, REDUCE URGENCY, AND IMPROVE OVERALL QUALITY OF LIFE FOR PATIENTS.

INDICATIONS FOR AXONICS THERAPY

BEFORE PROCEEDING WITH AXONICS THERAPY, IT IS ESSENTIAL TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE TREATMENT IS APPROPRIATE FOR THE PATIENT. THE THERAPY IS TYPICALLY RECOMMENDED FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO:

1. EXPERIENCE SYMPTOMS OF OVERACTIVE BLADDER, SUCH AS:
 - FREQUENT URINATION
 - URGENCY
 - INCONTINENCE
2. SUFFER FROM FECAL INCONTINENCE, CHARACTERIZED BY:
 - INVOLUNTARY LEAKAGE OF STOOL
 - URGENCY TO HAVE A BOWEL MOVEMENT
3. HAVE NOT FOUND RELIEF FROM OTHER CONSERVATIVE TREATMENTS, SUCH AS:
 - LIFESTYLE CHANGES
 - MEDICATIONS
 - PHYSICAL THERAPY

PRE-PROCEDURE ASSESSMENT

BEFORE UNDERGOING AXONICS THERAPY, PATIENTS MUST UNDERGO A COMPREHENSIVE EVALUATION TO ENSURE THEY ARE SUITABLE CANDIDATES. THIS ASSESSMENT TYPICALLY INCLUDES:

- MEDICAL HISTORY REVIEW: THE PHYSICIAN WILL REVIEW THE PATIENT'S MEDICAL HISTORY, INCLUDING ANY PREVIOUS TREATMENTS AND CURRENT SYMPTOMS.
- PHYSICAL EXAMINATION: A PHYSICAL EXAMINATION WILL HELP IDENTIFY ANY UNDERLYING HEALTH ISSUES THAT MAY IMPACT THE PROCEDURE'S SUCCESS.
- DIAGNOSTIC TESTS: PATIENTS MAY UNDERGO URODYNAMIC STUDIES OR OTHER TESTS TO ASSESS BLADDER FUNCTION AND DETERMINE THE SEVERITY OF THEIR CONDITION.

THE AXONICS THERAPY PROCEDURE

THE AXONICS THERAPY PROCEDURE INVOLVES SEVERAL KEY STEPS, FROM INITIAL CONSULTATION TO DEVICE IMPLANTATION.

1. CONSULTATION WITH A SPECIALIST

THE FIRST STEP IS TO CONSULT WITH A HEALTHCARE PROVIDER SPECIALIZING IN BLADDER AND BOWEL DISORDERS. THIS SPECIALIST WILL PROVIDE INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROCEDURE, DISCUSS POTENTIAL RISKS AND BENEFITS, AND ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS THE PATIENT MAY HAVE.

2. TRIAL PERIOD

BEFORE IMPLANTATION, MOST PATIENTS UNDERGO A TRIAL PERIOD TO ASSESS HOW WELL THE THERAPY WORKS FOR THEM. THIS TRIAL INVOLVES:

- TEMPORARY LEAD PLACEMENT: THE PHYSICIAN WILL INSERT A TEMPORARY LEAD (A SMALL WIRE) NEAR THE SACRAL NERVE IN THE LOWER BACK, TYPICALLY DONE UNDER LOCAL ANESTHESIA. THIS LEAD IS CONNECTED TO AN EXTERNAL STIMULATOR THAT THE PATIENT WILL WEAR FOR A FEW DAYS.
- MONITORING SYMPTOMS: DURING THE TRIAL PERIOD (USUALLY 3-7 DAYS), PATIENTS WILL MONITOR THEIR SYMPTOMS, KEEPING TRACK OF ANY IMPROVEMENTS IN BLADDER OR BOWEL CONTROL.
- EVALUATION OF RESULTS: AFTER THE TRIAL PERIOD, THE PHYSICIAN WILL EVALUATE THE RESULTS. IF THE PATIENT EXPERIENCES SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT, THEY CAN PROCEED TO THE PERMANENT IMPLANTATION OF THE AXONICS DEVICE.

3. PERMANENT DEVICE IMPLANTATION

IF THE TRIAL IS SUCCESSFUL, THE NEXT STEP IS THE PERMANENT IMPLANTATION OF THE AXONICS DEVICE. THIS PROCEDURE INVOLVES:

- PREPARATION: THE PATIENT IS TAKEN TO A SURGICAL SUITE, WHERE THEY RECEIVE EITHER LOCAL ANESTHESIA WITH SEDATION OR GENERAL ANESTHESIA, DEPENDING ON THE PHYSICIAN'S RECOMMENDATION AND THE PATIENT'S PREFERENCE.
- INCISION AND PLACEMENT: THE SURGEON MAKES A SMALL INCISION IN THE LOWER BACK TO ACCESS THE SACRAL NERVE. A SMALL DEVICE, ABOUT THE SIZE OF A MATCHSTICK, IS THEN IMPLANTED UNDER THE SKIN IN THE UPPER BUTTOCK AREA.
- CONNECTING THE LEAD: THE LEAD IS CONNECTED TO THE IMPLANTED DEVICE, WHICH WILL STIMULATE THE SACRAL NERVE WITH MILD ELECTRICAL IMPULSES.
- CLOSURE: THE INCISION IS CLOSED, AND THE PATIENT IS MONITORED IN A RECOVERY AREA BEFORE BEING DISCHARGED.

POST-PROCEDURE CARE

AFTER THE AXONICS THERAPY PROCEDURE, PATIENTS WILL RECEIVE SPECIFIC POST-OPERATIVE CARE INSTRUCTIONS TO ENSURE A SMOOTH RECOVERY:

- ACTIVITY RESTRICTIONS: PATIENTS SHOULD AVOID STRENUOUS ACTIVITIES, HEAVY LIFTING, AND SWIMMING FOR A FEW WEEKS FOLLOWING THE PROCEDURE.
- FOLLOW-UP APPOINTMENTS: REGULAR FOLLOW-UP APPOINTMENTS ARE ESSENTIAL TO MONITOR THE DEVICE'S FUNCTION AND THE PATIENT'S SYMPTOMS. THE PHYSICIAN MAY ADJUST THE SETTINGS OF THE DEVICE TO OPTIMIZE RESULTS.
- SIGNS OF COMPLICATIONS: PATIENTS SHOULD BE AWARE OF SIGNS OF INFECTION OR COMPLICATIONS, SUCH AS INCREASED PAIN, SWELLING, OR FEVER, AND REPORT THESE TO THEIR HEALTHCARE PROVIDER IMMEDIATELY.

BENEFITS OF AXONICS THERAPY

AXONICS THERAPY OFFERS SEVERAL BENEFITS FOR THOSE SUFFERING FROM BLADDER AND BOWEL CONTROL ISSUES:

- MINIMALLY INVASIVE: THE PROCEDURE IS LESS INVASIVE THAN TRADITIONAL SURGICAL OPTIONS, RESULTING IN SHORTER RECOVERY TIMES AND LESS POSTOPERATIVE PAIN.
- REDUCED SYMPTOMS: MANY PATIENTS EXPERIENCE SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENTS IN SYMPTOMS, SUCH AS REDUCED URGENCY AND INCONTINENCE, LEADING TO A BETTER QUALITY OF LIFE.
- REVERSIBLE: IF NECESSARY, THE DEVICE CAN BE TURNED OFF OR REMOVED WITHOUT LONG-TERM CONSEQUENCES.
- LONG-LASTING RESULTS: MANY PATIENTS ENJOY LONG-TERM RELIEF FROM THEIR SYMPTOMS, WITH THE DEVICE'S BATTERY LASTING UP TO 15 YEARS BEFORE NEEDING REPLACEMENT.

CONCLUSION

IN SUMMARY, AXONICS THERAPY IS AN EFFECTIVE TREATMENT OPTION FOR INDIVIDUALS STRUGGLING WITH OVERACTIVE BLADDER AND FECAL INCONTINENCE. THE PROCEDURE INVOLVES A COMPREHENSIVE EVALUATION, A TRIAL PERIOD, AND A MINIMALLY INVASIVE IMPLANTATION OF A DEVICE THAT STIMULATES THE SACRAL NERVES. WITH ITS NUMEROUS BENEFITS AND POTENTIAL FOR LONG-LASTING SYMPTOM RELIEF, AXONICS THERAPY PRESENTS A PROMISING SOLUTION FOR THOSE SEEKING TO REGAIN CONTROL OVER THEIR BLADDER AND BOWEL FUNCTIONS. IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW IS CONSIDERING THIS THERAPY, CONSULTING WITH A SPECIALIZED HEALTHCARE PROVIDER CAN PROVIDE VALUABLE INSIGHTS AND GUIDANCE ON THE BEST COURSE OF ACTION.

1st UMC JC - 1st UMC JC

Are You Getting Ready to Visit First Church? In addition to coming in person, you are invited to a virtual visit either by exploring the website, our Facebook page, or our YouTube channel.

Streaming Worship - 1st UMC JC

AT ABOUT 10:30 EACH SUNDAY, THE MOST CURRENT ONLINE WORSHIP WILL BE READY TO VIEW HERE "LIVE" . THEN THIS WILL SHOW THE RECORDED VERSION FOR ...

Church Staff - 1st UMC JC

Office: 423.928.9222 Bree Rhea, Director of Youth Ministry General Church Office: leave message 423.928.9222 Assistant Director, Youth Ministries, Jaliyah Woods ...

About Us - 1st UMC JC

We are a local congregation of the United Methodist Church. This church has a long history of an active, Christian presence in Johnson City which has been and continues to be involved in our ...

Early Learning Center - 1st UMC JC

The Early Learning Center of First United Methodist Church provides high quality, affordable childcare with preschool and education in a safe, loving environment that provides stimulating ...

Contact Us - 1st UMC JC

E-Mail for Church Office: E-Mail for Early Learning Center: E-Mail (when available) for Staff is listed on the Church Staff Tab Postal Mailing Address: First ...

About 1st Church - 1st UMC JC

If you have an interest in learning more about 1stChurch membership, or The United Methodist Church in general, please consider attending our Explore 1stChurchJC classes.

Worship Services / Times - 1st UMC JC

Carter Prayer Chapel Available just off t he "Narthex" which is the large open area in back of the sanctuary, there is a set of rooms; in addition to the restrooms, there is a quiet place with ...

FUMC Food Pantry - 1st UMC JC

You will need to make an appointment (it's not like going to Food City!) but you can set your own schedule. Shoppers will have to attend training at Second Harvest before shopping by ...

BROTHER'S KEEPER, JOHNSON CITY, TENNESSEE - 1st UMC JC

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