

Question for the Doctor

Posted by Becky - 27 Feb 2006 22:55

[b]

Hello, I am a new member and I am looking for answers to my recent diagnoses. First of all I had a laminectomy in 1994, everything has been fine for all these years until March of 2004. I started doing some reach for the sky excersize, then instantly I had pain. Went to my GP and he tried to treat me but could not. He sent me to an Ortho, which did an MRI and dx me with Degenerative disc disease L-4 L-5. This is where I also had my surgery years ago.I had my first epidural which was done in the office with me laying on my side. It was so painful and felt like someone was standing on my back. I ended up going to ER that wknd because I could not walk. Nothing was mentioned about this by the Ortho. A few months later he did it again this time we did it at the near surgery center.This was a far better injection with no pain. I ended up going to the original ortho that did my surgery to get his advise, once again I had another epidural, this time he ended up puncturing my dura sack, I had an instant headache when I raised my head. He attempted to do a blood patch, well that did not go well at all and we ended up not doing it because he could not get the needle in there since there was so much blockage and it was horribly painful.Maybe he should not have even tried doing that epidural to begin with huh? exactly one week later, I woke up with a horrible headache, went to work had it all day. When I got home I started vomiting horribly, and I could not stop, I couldn't even lift my head, so I was laying in all of this vomit oh boy. My boyfriend came over and called 911. They did every test there was.I was in there for 5 days still had the headache and vomiting.The ortho, nuerologist, and my own GP were all acting funny, you could tell they were all hiding something.Since they could not find anything the neurologist asked me if I wanted him to do a spinal tap. That was the only test left. I refused and went home the next day. I was off work for 2 weeks and was very sick.

After all of that they recommended me to see the surgeon, he ordered a discogram which could not be done, the Pain Managment Dr preforming the procedure said I was in horrible pain and he could not get the needle in. After all of this I was recommended to see a pain managment doc. I went to the Dr who tried to do the procedure, He put me on meds and wanted to do a caudal epidural, which I agreed to.It went fine but I did not find any relief.While he was doing this injection he injected dye so he could see why he could not do the discogram.I needed my FMLA paper work filled out and this is when he dx me with arachnoiditis. Never discussed it with me. I had to learn everything from the internet. I do have an appt with him on march 14, and I want some answers. The pain meds do not work right and they make me feel like I am a druggy in this horrible pain I would not wish on anyone. Maybe the DR who did it. Do you know Doc Sarah, when and how I got this? This has been such a horrible experience, whats next? I would appreciate any advise.

Thanks for listening

Becky

Re:Question for the Doctor

Posted by DocSarah - 24 May 2006 19:29

Hi Ang,

well it does sound as if something went awry with that ESI but it is unlikely the steroid preparation spread as far as her neck. It may be that the upper body symptoms are not a direct consequence of arach. but an indirect one: this is not uncommon in arach. We're not exactly sure why this happens as such, but it could be due to central sensitisation (the nervous system as a whole is on permanent 'red alert') and/or musculoskeletal secondary problems due to abnormal posture, muscular tension because of pain etc.etc.

Hope this helps.

Regards,

DocSarah

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Re:Question for the Doctor

Posted by Becky - 24 May 2006 23:14



Hi Doc Sarah,

I am wondering why you mentioned the meningitis? Do you think I had that and why?

I hope you are feeling pain free lately. I have finally broke down to do the pump, I am scheduled to have the trial done on June 17th. I am really excited thinking I may finally get some relief from this horrible pain.

Many Blessings,

Becky

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Re:Question for the Doctor

Posted by johnb - 26 May 2006 14:06

Hi Becky, Doc Sarah, Is the pump you are investigating the same as the one that the person at this link is using? www.arachnoiditis.info/stories/barbrak.html If it is, is it likely to allow the person I care for to get rid of the pain and get back some mobility without taking buckets full of pills and liquid opiates each

day?

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Re:Question for the Doctor

Posted by Becky - 02 Aug 2006 03:39

Hello Doc Sarah,

It has been a long time since I posted, I hope you are doing well. I hope the A isn't too bad.

Well, I went thru the pain pump trial and I only had it in for 2 days. I woke up one morning and I couldn't step down on my left leg without horrible pain. I called him early in the am and told him what was going on, he told me to get to the office first thing so we could remove it. The nurse said it wouldn't hurt that bad Whoaaaa. It hurt so bad. Now I still have pain in my left leg. I never had it before the pump. Both my legs feel like they have 100 lb weights on them. They just throb and ache constantly. I am off of work right now due to this. I can barely walk. No one from my dr's office has not told me to this day what happened. They just want to do it again. I am a little concerned about this. Since I am in so much pain still. What would you recommend. Get the trial again, or is it going to make me worse? I don't see myself going back to work again like I am, I can't hardly walk anymore without weakness and pain.

Wishing you pain free days,

Becky

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Most of the world thinks Bush sucks

Posted by Antibush - 15 Feb 2007 21:14

Well that may well be the case but he hasn't got arachnoiditis and he doesn't want to query the doc!
Anymore rubbish will just be deleted:evil: 🙄

Kim

Post edited by: Kim, at: 2007/02/16 22:33

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Re:Question for the Doctor

Posted by DocSarah - 29 Mar 2007 17:03

Hi Becky,

so sorry not to have replied sooner. I am in the middle of a lot of domestic hassle right now.

To be honest, pinpointing a specific procedure as the cause for your arachnoiditis may well be fruitless: the main thing is for you to find a way forward in managing the symptoms.

I would caution strongly against any further invasive interventions (injections) as they could possibly exacerbate the problems and in any case are highly unlikely to be effective.

Hope this helps,

Take care,

DocSarah

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