# Coordinating your spine care



If you have a neck, back or spine problem, the Salem Health Spine Center is a service that will help expedite your care

While the Salem Health Spine Center does not personally see or treat patients, it is a service that coordinates with you, referring physicians, spine specialists and surgeons, to accelerate getting you the treatment you need.



Salem Health Spine Center received the Joint Commission Gold Seal of Approval.

# Patients come first

Salem Health Spine Center, in association with Salem Health and through collaboration with our community-based physicians, has a successful history of helping patients suffering from spinal disorders. Through our service, every year specialists treat thousands of back and spine patients with conditions that range from the simple to the complex.

# Get back into action

We focus on your specific needs with one simple goal: return you to the activities you most enjoy. Nearly 75 percent of patients are able to recover with nonsurgical treatment. Our community-based physician network operates under a common philosophy: combining a conservative approach with state-of-the art surgical procedures. We are dedicated to treating the "whole" you and getting you back into action!

If you have not used Salem Health Spine Center services and are in need of after-hours care, call your primary care provider. For emergencies, call 911.

### **Salem Health Spine Center**

Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Telephone: 503-814-BACK (2225) | Toll free: 1-866-944-2224 Fax: 503-814-5495 | E-mail: spine.center@salemhealth.org

P.O. Box 14001 | Salem, OR 97309-5014 salemhealth.org/spine





# With the help of the Salem Health Spine Center, you will:

- Enjoy a quick, easy referral process.
- Avoid unnecessary office visits.
- Experience centralized, coordinated care.
- Receive individual, timely treatment, guided by a spine specialist.

In one phone call, the Salem Health Spine Center, and its compassionate team of intake specialists and nurse navigators, will help you quickly get on the road to recovery.

#### We will:

- Complete a detailed medical history and an assessment of your neck, back or spine problem.
- Collect X-rays, MRI or other scans of your spine.
- Send this information to a spine specialist for evaluation.

# Spine specialist recommendations

Once your information is gathered, the spine specialist you have been referred to will review your studies to determine if there is a surgical problem. The specialist may ask for additional studies prior to your appointment

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#### Spine specialist recommendations

Once your information is gathered, the spine specialist you have been referred to will review your studies to determine if there is a surgical problem. The specialist may ask for additional studies prior to your appointment or may recommend nonsurgical treatment.

If you have not been referred to a specific specialist, one will be assigned to review your data. As soon as we receive the specialist's recommendations, our office will contact you to discuss the plan.

# Personalized coordination of your care

If the spine specialist recommends a surgical appointment, we'll provide information to the specialist's office and they will contact you. If the spine specialist recommends treatment prior to an appointment, a Salem Health Spine Center nurse navigator will call you to help arrange your treatment and answer any questions you may have.

Our service fosters excellent communication among caregivers. We will maintain communication with you and your referring physician throughout your

treatment program.

### Frequently asked questions

# Will I need an appointment with a spine surgeon?

It depends on what the spine specialist recommends. If you don't need an appointment with a surgeon, the spine specialist may recommend other treatments which we can help facilitate.

# How long will it take to get better?

Recovery varies greatly from patient to patient. Several things contribute to your progress, including your general health, level of fitness, lifestyle and your commitment to treatment.

# Will the spine specialist address my employment status?

If you are seen by a specialist through the Salem Health Spine Center service, he or she will address your work status during your appointment. If you have not been seen, you will need to contact your primary care physician regarding your work situation.