Fibromyalgia, PENFS, and What's Going on In Your Brain?

If you are a veteran between 20 and 60 years old who suffers from Fibromyalgia, please consider participating in the research study, "Feasibility Study: fMRI Evaluation of Auricular PENFS for Fibromyalgia (fMRI)."



- Fibromyalgia symptoms are increased among veterans returning from the gulf war and already affect senior veterans who may have suffered with chronic pain for decades.
- Many treatment options for fibromyalgia carry intolerable side effects.
- PENFS (percutaneous electrical neural field stimulation) is a FDA-approved, nonpharmacologic therapy that is currently utilized within the military and VA system for pain.

- The PENFS device is externally attached to the ear via a battery pack and acupuncturelike needles, worn for 5 days, and then removed and replaced every 5 days for 4 weeks.
- Pain-relieving effects of PENFS may be long-lasting, though it is unclear at this time to what extent and for how long relief lasts.
- Participants will be followed closely by a pain management physician and monitored for pain relief and improvements in function.
- Participants will undergo a fMRI of the brain before and after treatment to evaluate changes in the brain that occur in chronic pain. Any abnormalities seen will be reported to the patient.



Picture shows PENFS battery and electrodes placed around ear, with theoretical depiction of its effects on brain's pain perception

For more information, please contact the study Principal Investigator:

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Registered on ClinicalTrials.Gov

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