

Maximum Results

# Newsletter

ISSUE 1 | DECEMBER 2012/JANUARY 2013

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# **PATIENT LETTER**

XLIF procedure performed by Dr. Khajavi has most assuredly given me my life back.

After years of suffering an excruciating pain, my biggest regret is that I waited so long. I tried every other nonsurgical treatment but ultimately needed surgery.

I am very physically active and can do anything now. I literally feel 200% better. The surgery and recovery were much easier than I thought. I am so grateful to Dr. Khajavi and the entire team at Georgia Spine!

-Amy G.

If would like to see your story featured here, please email:

contact@gaspine.com

#### **NEWS & NOTEWORTHY**

Welcome to the first of many Georgia Spine and Neurosurgery Center newsletters! These quarterly issues will be packed with educational info for both patients and providers, along with updates on exciting things going on in our practice. Be on the lookout for new issues arriving quarterly.

We are very excited to welcome back from a leave of absence, Dr. Gullick's physician assistant (PA), Erin Mihelic, PA-C. Erin is a board-certified PA and received her Master of Medical Science from Emory University. She brings with her almost 9 years of clinical neurosurgery experience. You can call our office to schedule an appointment with Erin.



- Congratulations to our clinical research intern, Kamron, on his acceptance to the graduate program at Boston University School of Public Health! Kamron will begin his Master of Public Health with a concentration in Health Policy & Management in January of 2013.
- We are also welcoming aboard our new clinical research intern, Maddie, a recent graduate of Emory University. Maddie will be starting medical school next fall.

# **OFFICE & CONTACT INFORMATION**

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### **TIP OF THE MONTH**

# Remember the "Red Flags"

Most individuals with low back pain can experience a significant improvement in their symptoms just from conservative treatments such as rest, activity modification, pain management, physical therapy, or chiropractic care.

However, it is always important to remember that there are a few "red flags" to look out for that may indicate a condition requiring immediate surgical consultation. These include:

# **Cancer**

History of cancer, age > 50, "night pain," and weight loss

### Infection

Risk factors (renal dialysis, diabetes, HIV, etc.), fever, chills, exquisite back pain, and tenderness

# ▶ Fracture

History of trauma, prolonged steroid use, and osteoporosis

# Cauda equina syndrome

Significant leg weakness and new problems with bowel or bladder control

In the absence of these "red flags," surgical treatment for chronic low back pain should be regarded as a last resort.

# **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### **Holiday Office Hours**

Dec. 24th: Closed

Dec. 25th: Closed

Dec. 31st: Closed at 12 PM

Jan. 1st: Closed

#### Chiropractic & Beyond

December 1-2, 2012

Dr. Kaveh Khajavi will be giving a

lecture on concussions and

minimally invasive spine surgery at

this multi-disciplinary program.

#### **CHIRO CORNER**



Dr. Steve Barnett graduated from Palmer Chiropractic College in 1979 and opened his practice in Stone Mountain soon after.

Dr. Barnett recognized early on the importance of an integrated approach to patient care, and in October 2009, joined DeKalb Medical Center as Director of Chiropractic Relations. In this role, he has worked to create and foster collaborative relationships between medical doctors and doctors of chiropractic, leading to great benefits for patients.

Dr. Barnett has been married to Shelley for 36 years and has 3 adult children and 2 granddaughters. He is a former high school physical education teacher and college basketball standout.

For more information about the Chiropractic Program at DeKalb Medical Center, please contact Karen Marsh at 404-259-2407 or at mrmjr69@bellsouth.net.