

MEDIA RELEASE

Revolutionary new technique reducing back pain for sufferers at Gosford Private

Esteemed Gosford Private Hospital Neurosurgeon, Dr Marc Coughlan, has once again led the way for Neurosurgery in Australia, introducing minimally invasive endoscopic radio frequency denervation for the treatment of back pain in patients on the NSW Central Coast.

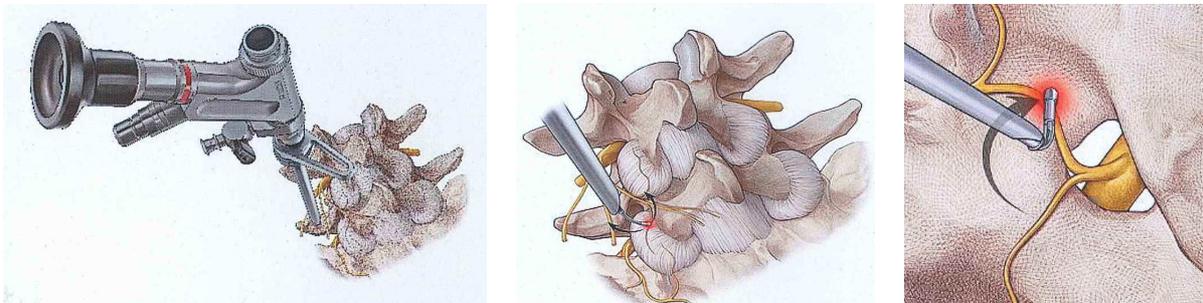
Under the revolutionary technique, radio waves are channeled through a needle inside a long, thin, flexible tube less than the width of a pencil. The needle is guided directly into the affected facet joints of the spine and the radio waves produce small, targeted areas of heat which desensitise the affected joints, thus alleviating the patient's pain.

Unlike traditional radio frequency techniques, the revolutionary endoscopic approach includes a video camera, allowing the surgeon greater vision and control, ensuring effective treatment, whilst also allowing the patient to be sedated throughout the procedure.

"This new approach is a win-win for patients. It allows greater control and vision of what is happening during the procedure, providing more accurate treatment and potentially better outcomes for this common source of neck and back pain," said Neurosurgeon, Dr Marc Coughlan.

Developed overseas by Richard Wolf Spine, the endoscopic day procedure usually takes between 60-90 minutes, depending on the patient's overall health, the extent of the pain and the number of joints involved. Denervation procedures are typically used after less invasive treatments, including medication, physiotherapy and the use of a transcutaneous nerve stimulation (TENS) machine.

"We're proud to be leading the way in the provision of high end, innovative Neurosurgical procedures for patients here on the Central Coast. Our team of specialist Neurosurgeons and experienced staff at Gosford Private are second-to-none, providing world class services locally and allowing patients to remain close to home and their family," said Gosford Private Hospital CEO, Matt Kelly.



See International footage of the procedure at www.youtube.com/watch?v=7klpSb5BmZ4. Note: Further media opportunities are available, including interviews with the first patient and photography/filming of Neurosurgery procedures at Gosford Private Hospital. Please contact for more details.

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About Healthe Care

Healthe Care Australia is a subsidiary of Luye Medical, the health care service division of Luye Group. As a leading pan-Asian health care services group, the Healthe Care management team continues to work with other Luye Executives to explore growth opportunities across South East Asia and China. The company is the third largest corporate private hospital operator in Australia and one of the country's largest privately owned health care organisations. Healthe Care employs near 7000 people and operates a portfolio of 34 hospitals located in major cities and key regional areas across Australia and one in New Zealand. These include around 2,500 beds and 70 operating theatres. The company also provides a range of outpatient services including workplace rehabilitation and community nursing which offer patients flexibility and continuity of care beyond their hospital stay. Healthe Care is also one of the largest private providers in the mental health sector, offering over 600 beds across Australia.