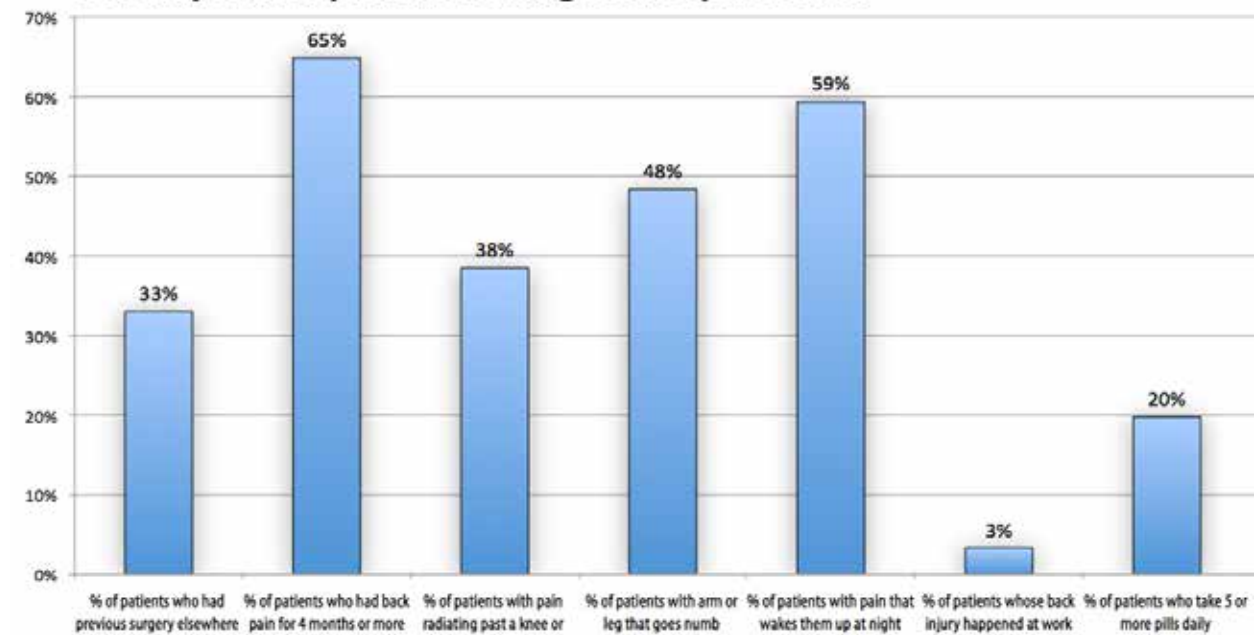


Severity of new patients coming to the spine center



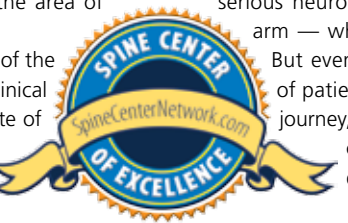
Seton Spine & Scoliosis Center is referred the most complex cases of back and neck pain from across Texas and the surrounding states. One of every three patients coming in the front door has had previous back surgery at other clinics. Additionally, 48% of new patients referred into the spine center have red flag symptoms like

numbness into a leg or arm, which implies disc-related symptoms, rather than simple acute back or neck strain. This severity of new patients presents a challenge for a spine center. Still, the spine center emphasized non-surgical options first, holding surgery as the last resort.

Centers of Excellence represent the future of medicine for complex and expensive problems like back and neck pain

The trend in medicine is to explore non-surgical solutions to various health problems. The same trend is occurring in the area of spine care.

In 2011, Seton Spine & Scoliosis Center was one of the first spine centers in the State of Texas to publish its clinical outcomes. It is also the only spine center in the State of Texas to be included in SpineCenterNetwork.com, a national listing of credentialed spine centers of excellence.



had previous back surgery elsewhere. Half of all new patients had serious neurological symptoms like numbness in a leg or arm — which typically implies a disc-related problem. But even with the most complex patient base, 82% of patients were treated without surgery. Quality is a journey, however, rather than a destination, and we are committed to continually improving. This report documents our footprints on that journey.

New patients coming into Seton Spine & Scoliosis Center completed an intake form that measured their pain level, severity of symptoms and functional status. Three months after their first visit, an outside nurse — not associated with, or employed by the clinic — called a random sample of these patients and interviewed them for functional status, current symptoms and patient satisfaction. This is the most unbiased, statistically relevant method for outcomes.

Clinical outcome highlights at Seton Spine & Scoliosis Center — 2013

% of patients who had therapy as part of their care.....	63%
% of patients taking 5 or more pills daily after treatment.....	11%
% of patients receiving a Home Exercise Program.....	51%
% of patients who were satisfied with the time the doctor spent with them.....	95%
% of patients who recovered from symptoms WITHOUT surgery.....	82%
% of patients who would be likely to recommend the clinic to a friend.....	95%

Seton Spine & Scoliosis Center is committed to an educated health care consumer. As a free community service, the spine center mails out a 36-page Home Remedy Book. It also has an on-line spine encyclopedia at SetonSpineandScoliosis.com with exercises, symptom charts, videos and medical illustrations on back pain.



Combining multiple spine specialists, diagnostics and injection suite — all under one roof.

Few physicians provide hard data that document quality. Seton Spine & Scoliosis Center is one of the first spine centers in the State of Texas to publish a Clinical Outcome Report Card and distribute it to physician referral sources, managed care and workers compensation carriers. It is also the only spine center in Texas to be included in SpineCenterNetwork.com, a national listing of credentialed spine centers that combine spine surgeons with non-surgical specialists.

SPINE SURGEONS

Matthew Geck, M.D.
Board Certified Orthopedic Surgeon
Fellowship-Trained Spine Surgeon
Co-Chief, Seton Spine & Scoliosis Center

John Stokes, M.D.
Board Certified Neurological Surgeon
Fellowship-Trained Spine Surgeon
Co-Chief, Seton Spine & Scoliosis Center

Eric Truumees, M.D.
Board Certified Orthopedic Surgeon
Fellowship-Trained Spine Surgeon

NON-SURGICAL SPINE CARE

Lee Moroz, M.D.
Board Certified Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation

Enrique B. Pena, M.D.
Board Certified Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation
Fellowship-Trained in Interventional Spine,
Musculoskeletal & Electrodiagnostic Medicine

As a regional spine center, Seton Spine & Scoliosis Center distributes a free 36-page Home Remedy Book and has an on-line spine encyclopedia at www.SetonSpineandScoliosis.com. The Internet site has symptom charts, medical illustrations, educational videos in English and Spanish and exercises that relieve back and neck pain.



For Appointments & Referrals
call: **512.324.3580**

Seton Spine & Scoliosis Center

A program of the **Seton Brain & Spine Institute**
1600 West 38th St., Suite 200
Austin, Texas 78731

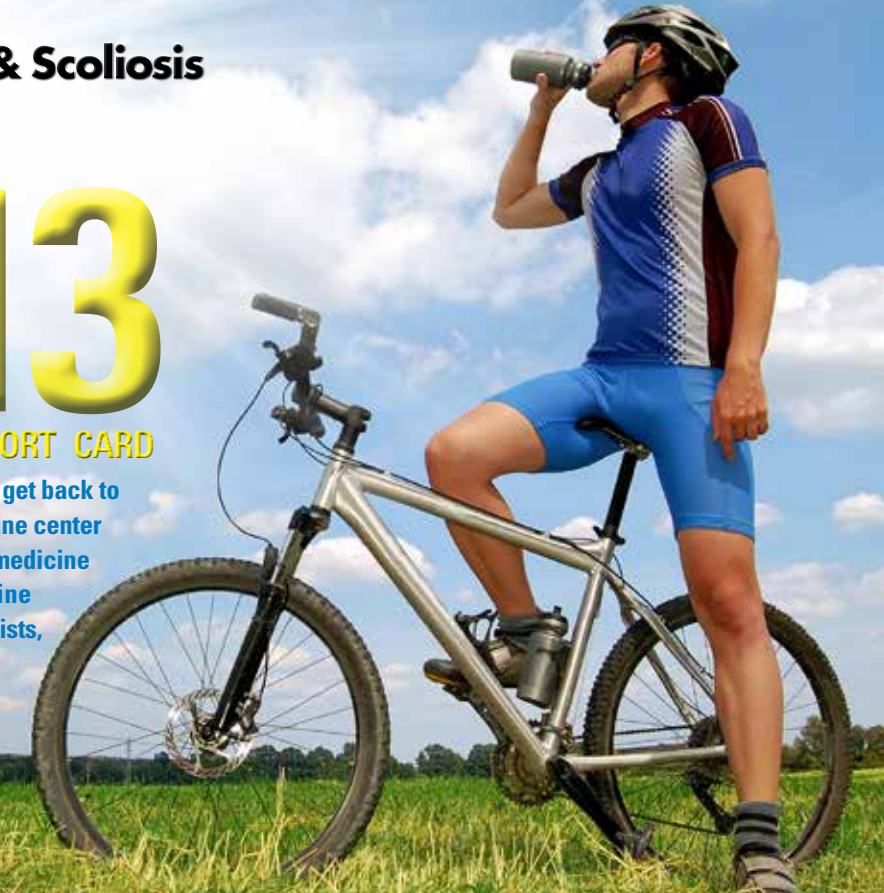
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Seton Spine & Scoliosis Center

2013

CLINICAL OUTCOME REPORT CARD

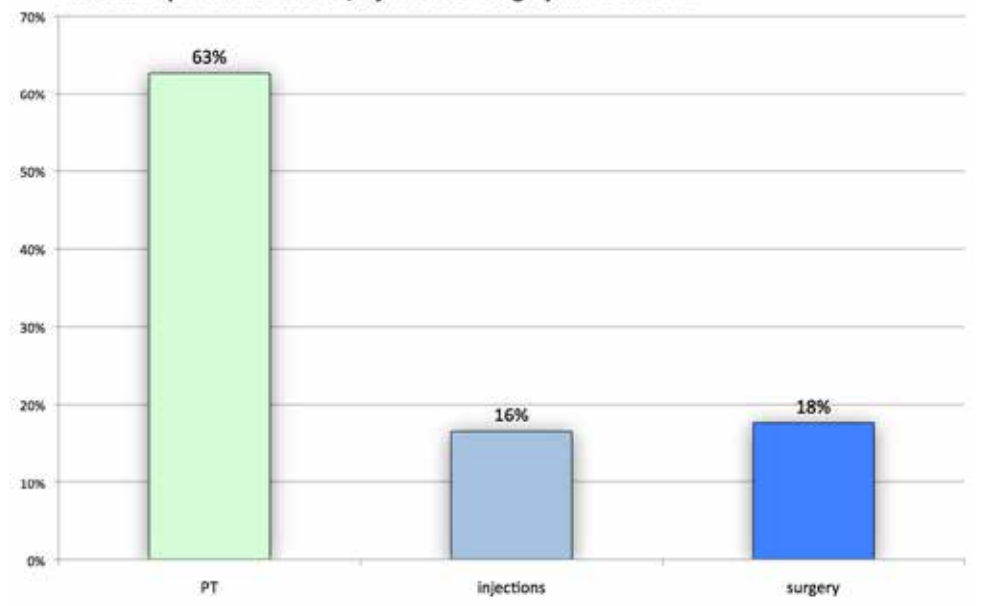
Helping those with spine problems get back to activity with a multidisciplinary spine center approach that combines physical medicine physicians, fellowship-trained spine surgeons, spine-specialized therapists, diagnostics & injection suite — all under one roof.





Aspects of patient care

What % of patients receive PT, injections or surgery in 3-6 months



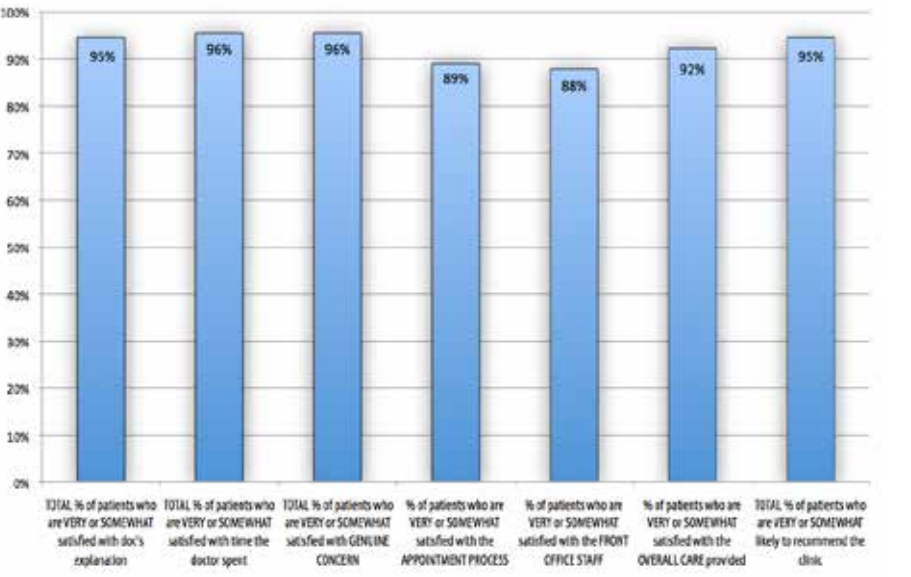
Emphasizing conservative options first

A true multidisciplinary spine center should emphasize conservative treatment options first like therapy and pain-relieving spinal injections to lessen the need for spine surgery. Single specialty practices however are biased to either injections or surgery and the patient is funneled to one or the other. At Seton Spine & Scoliosis Center, a spine center team of physical medicine specialists, spine surgeons and spine therapists emphasized non-surgical options first, holding surgery as the last resort. Consequently, 82% of patients recovered from pain symptoms without surgery.



Patient satisfaction

Patient satisfaction outcomes



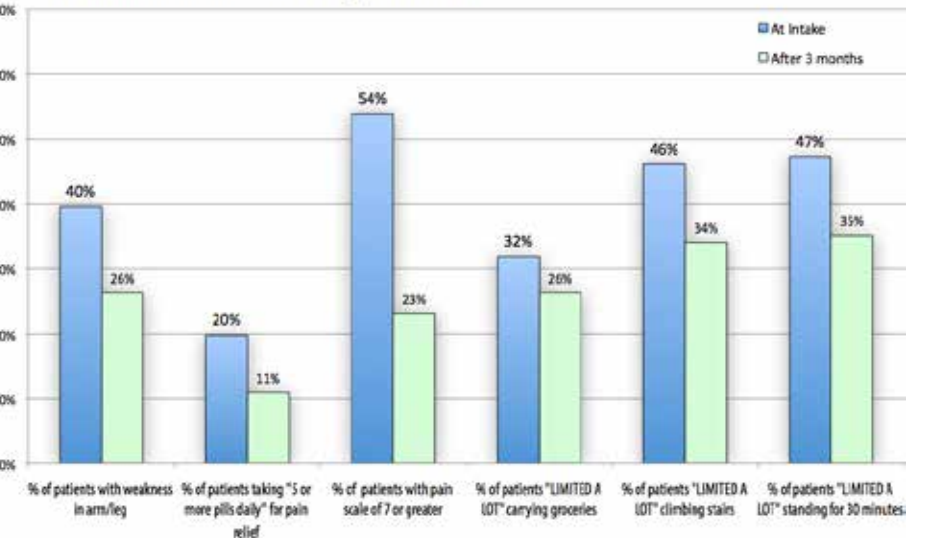
Patient satisfaction

A phone survey is used to audit patient satisfaction — the most accurate survey method possible. That's because mail surveys have an inherent sampling bias based on those who take the time to respond. Three months after the first visit an outside RN (not affiliated or employed by the center) calls a random sample of patients at home. The nurse then interviews patients on their satisfaction with the doctor seen, the time the doctor spends with the patient, the medical explanation provided, etc. In 2013, 95% of patients said they would recommend the clinic to a friend.



Return to function outcomes

Functional status of patients (all severities) 3 months after first visit to spine center



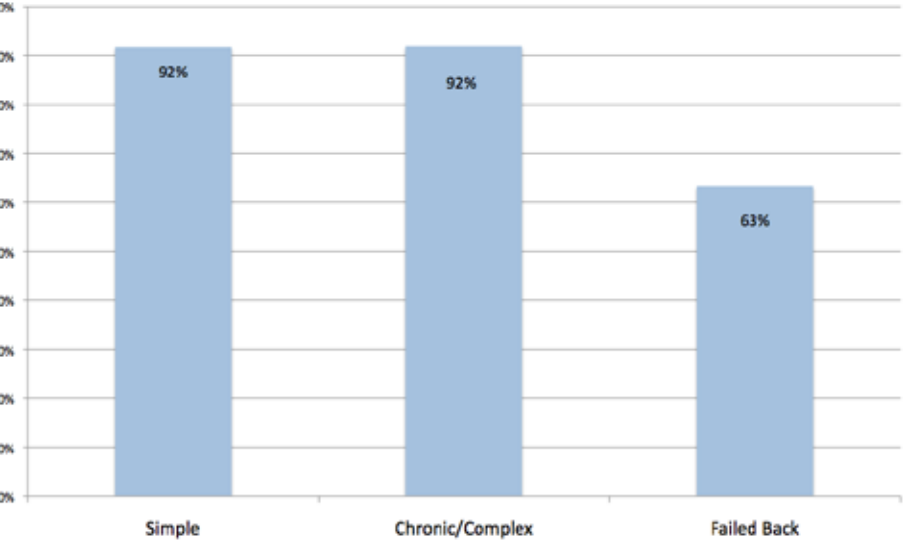
Resolving weakness & prescribing an Rx of exercise, not pills

The main reason people go to the doctor is for relief of pain. But if a spine physician focuses exclusively on pain, he can miss the target of return to function. For example, spine specialized therapists move the patient quickly into exercise, which reduced pain levels and neurological deficit symptoms. Significant improvement in functional status did not come from masking pain with pills either. At intake, 20% of new patients were taking 5 or more pills daily. After treatment, the number decreased to 11%, which correlates to the dramatic improvement in the analog pain scale scores.



Return to work & activity

% of patients who say they are back to work or activity after three months (by patient severity)



Return to work & activity

Having a more complex patient mix makes return to work more difficult than an occupational medicine clinic or primary care clinic that treats onsets of simple back pain that can go away on their own. At intake, 66% of new patients coming to Seton Spine & Scoliosis Center had back or neck pain for more than 4 months. Even so, Seton Spine & Scoliosis Center helped 92% of these chronic patients back to work or their favorite recreational activity.