



For more information, please
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Fibromyalgia, CES, and What's Going on in Your Brain?

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U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Atlanta VA Health Care System

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If you are a Veteran between 20 and 60 years old who suffers from Fibromyalgia, please consider participating in the research study, "Randomized Double-Blind Placebo-Controlled Trial: fMRI Assessment of Cranial Electrical Stimulation for Fibromyalgia in Veterans."

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. CES (cranial electrical stimulation) is a FDA-approved, non-pharmacologic therapy that is currently utilized within the military and VA system for pain.

The CES device, called the Alpha-Stim, uses electrical stimulation applied to the ear to treat pain.

- Pain-relieving effects of CES 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.

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***"I only get one life,
and I will not let
fibromyalgia take
the joy from living it."
- Morgan Freeman***

