

T A M P A B A Y ' S

Health & Wellness[®] MAGAZINE

January 2025

Tampa Bay Edition - Monthly

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Help for Alzheimer's?

Saving Your Brain is a state-of-the-art facility that offers non-drug programs that offer viable solutions for almost any neurodevelopmental, behavioral, academic, psychological, or mental health issue. Currently we are seeing people from age 2 to age 88 and every age group in between. Some of our younger school age children and young adults we help have been diagnosed with conditions such as ADHD, Dyslexia, Social anxiety, OCD, ODD, and Autism Spectrum. We help children and adults who have been diagnosed with anxiety and depression. We work with people that have auto-immune issues. We help people who have had traumatic brain injuries or strokes. We also help aging adults improve their memory and balance and other symptoms associated with Alzheimer's.

All of the above conditions except TBI, Strokes, and Alzheimer's fall under the heading of "Functional Disconnection Syndrome". There is no pathology in the brain, There is just a functional imbalance between the two hemispheres of the brain. We have found there are several common features in all the conditions that were mentioned earlier. There are some commonalities that are found in every significant academic, behavioral, psychological, or mental health issue. They are the following: retained primitive reflexes, a weakness in one or more of the three major sensory systems that develop and grow the brain – the postural/balance system, the vestibular system, or the oculomotor system, a weakness in either the left or right cerebellum, and a weakness in the opposite hemisphere. The retained primitive reflexes are associated with a hard -wired negative neurobehavior. This can make us a bit "quirky". Integrating the primitive reflexes makes us less "quirky". In the case of Alzheimer's, there has been damage done in certain areas. Even when the brain has been injured, it often can re-route pathways to compensate.

Correcting these imbalances/weaknesses changes the brain's functions and unwanted symptoms markedly reduce or go away. The corrections occur by having the person do a sensory/motor activity repetitively and frequently, while being stimulated by vibration, electrical stimulation, specific sounds, specific smells and cold laser.

Our brains are divided into some 52 Brodmann areas, named after Dr. Brodmann, who mapped them out over 115 years ago. Each area controls certain brain functions and most of these areas connect to other Brodmann areas forming networks. The network on one side of the brain could be like a 6 lane highway but the corresponding network on the opposite side of the brain may be like a farm road. This imbalance

between the hemispheres produces symptoms that we label as things like inattention, poor focus, impulsivity, anxiousness. If we do a specific sensory/motor activity (an activity that involves us seeing something, hearing something, or feeling something and then reacting to it) - for example like keeping time with our hand or foot to the sound of a cowbell. When it is coupled with sensory inputs of vibration, light, and electrical stimulation on one side of the body, it creates neuroplastic changes in the networks on the opposite side of the brain. Over time, as this sensory/motor activity is repeated the changes become "sticky", meaning they stick and are now permanent. This is how neuroplasticity in the brain works. Neuroplasticity is the creation of new pathways or expansion of existing pathways.

Think about going to the gym to work out. There are stations for your chest, stations for your back, stations for your legs, stations for your arms, and stations for cardiovascular fitness. When your muscles are fairly balanced you can use a barbell for things like bench press or curls. What happens if you are in an accident and you break one arm and it was in a cast for 8 weeks? You could not use the barbell to lift weights like before because the casted arm is too weak. You would have to build the weaker arm up using dumb bells or pulleys until it got stronger. Then you could use the bar bell again. At Saving Your Brain, we have different stations for working different networks in your brain. We intentionally work only the weaker side to help it "catch up" to the stronger side.

Most people do not realize that Alzheimer's and dementia are the same. Alzheimer's is the most common form of dementia accounting for 70% of those afflicted below the age of 71 and 90% over the age of 71. Parkinson's accounts for the next largest group of dementia.

Alzheimer's is known for its characteristic beta amyloid plaquing and Tau protein accumulation. The production of beta occurs in many cells and is protective in nature. Beta acts as an antibiotic protecting our precious neurons from infection. It also acts as a binder to heavy metals like aluminum and mercury which are both neurotoxic and accumulate in the brain. Beta production also increases when blood sugar levels exceed normal levels. Beta production is a natural protection mechanism to help protect the brain. However, problems occur when chronic infections persist, blood sugars stay too high for extended periods of time, and heavy metals accumulate in the brain.

The beta amyloid plaquing occurs in an attempt to wall off and protect areas of the brain from the above offenders. Our bodies are built for survival. It is better to die of Alzheimer's after 15 plus years of plaquing than to be overcome with infection, heavy metal poisoning, and the affects of high blood sugars.

There will never be a magic pill for Alzheimer's because it has multiple causes and pathways. The key is to make the production of the beta amyloid unnecessary. How do we do that? We do this by identifying chronic infections and correcting these, by identifying environmental toxins and eliminating them from the body, and by controlling our blood sugar levels in the blood.

Alzheimer's causes a slowing of the left hemisphere of the brain. It often affects not only the frontal cortex but the parietal area, which is the area of the brain that helps connect all the dots. This adversely affects our deductive reasoning as well as our mood. Usually the right cerebellum is adversely affected as well. The cerebellum which controls much of our balance has 51% of all the neurons in the brain! This can be helped.

The brain responds positively to specific light, sound, and vibrational frequencies. The left hemisphere can be speeded up and strengthened. Alzheimer's has 7 stages. We have seen good results when it is at stage 4 and sometimes stage 5.

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Saving Your Brain was founded by Kelly Miller NMD who has a background in Chiropractic, Acupuncture, Naturopathy and post graduate studies in Functional Medicine and Neurodevelopmental Brain, and Neurofeedback. His 44 years of experience assessing and treating over 16,000 patients make him the ideal "Brain Health Coach". His book, *Saving Your Brain: Causes, Prevention, and Reversal of Alzheimer's/Dementia* was an Amazon Best Seller.



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A NEW YEAR OF HOPE AND SUPPORT AT GENERATIONS CLUB

As we step into 2025, the landscape of senior care continues to evolve, with innovative programs and community-centered approaches leading the way. At the forefront of this evolution stands Generations Club, a 501(c)(3) non-profit senior activities center that has become a beacon of hope for families navigating the challenges of aging and cognitive decline.

The growing need for specialized senior care has never been more apparent. With an aging population and increasing awareness of cognitive health issues, families are seeking solutions that provide both dignity for their loved ones and practical support for caregivers. Generations Club answers this call by offering a comprehensive daytime program that addresses the complex needs of mature adults, particularly those experiencing cognitive challenges or dementia.

What sets Generations Club apart is its holistic approach to senior wellness. Rather than focusing solely on basic care, the center creates an environment where seniors can thrive through meaningful social interactions and purposeful activities. Members engage in carefully designed programs that stimulate cognitive function while fostering a sense of community and belonging. This dual focus on mental engagement and social connection has proven crucial in maintaining quality of life for seniors facing cognitive challenges.

For family members and caregivers, the benefits extend far beyond knowing their loved ones are in capable hands. The center serves as a vital source of respite, allowing caregivers to attend to work, personal responsibilities, or simply take a much-needed break. This support system helps prevent caregiver burnout, a critical yet often overlooked aspect of senior care.

The center's dedication to creating a safe and nurturing environment reflects the latest understanding of senior care best practices. Professional staff members are trained to recognize and respond to the unique needs of each individual, ensuring that every member receives personalized attention and support. This individualized approach helps maintain dignity and independence while providing necessary assistance when needed.



Looking ahead, Generations Club continues to adapt and expand its services to meet evolving community needs. The center's commitment to providing essential daytime support addresses a crucial gap in senior care services, offering an alternative to full-time residential care for families who prefer to keep their loved ones at home.

As we navigate the challenges and opportunities of 2025, the role of organizations like Generations Club becomes increasingly vital. Their work not only enriches the lives of senior members but also strengthens the fabric of our community by supporting families through the journey of aging. Through their dedicated service, they demonstrate that senior care can be both compassionate and empowering, ensuring that our elderly population maintains their dignity, purpose, and connection to community in their golden years.

For families seeking quality care options for their aging loved ones, Generations Club stands as a testament to what's possible when professional care meets genuine compassion. Their program proves that with the right support, seniors can continue to lead fulfilling lives while providing peace of mind to those who care for them.

At Generations Club, we pride ourselves on our distinctive and innovative approach to delivering exceptional care tailored specifically to our members while simultaneously ensuring convenience and support for their caretakers. Our commitment to enhancing the quality of life for our members is reflected in the comprehensive range of services we offer, all designed to meet diverse needs in a nurturing environment.

We have established partnerships with some of the leading medical and personal service providers in the industry. These collaborations enable us to bring a wide array of services directly to the club, allowing our members to receive high-quality care without the stress of traveling to various locations. Whether it's routine medical check-ups, specialized therapies, or personal care services, our members can access everything they need in one welcoming and familiar setting.

Services offered include:

- Audiology
- Pharmacy
- Physical Therapy
- Podiatry
- Optometry
- Dental
- Internal Medicine
- Barber/ Beauty Salon
- Manicures / Pedicures

In addition to medical and personal services, we also focus on the emotional and social well-being of our members. We host a variety of engaging activities and events that foster community and connection, allowing members to build relationships and enjoy their time at the club. This holistic approach not only enhances the physical health of our members but also nurtures their emotional and social needs, creating a balanced and fulfilling experience.

For caretakers, our model offers unparalleled convenience and peace of mind. Knowing that their loved ones are receiving top-notch care in a safe and supportive environment allows caretakers to focus on their own well-being and responsibilities. We also provide resources and support for caretakers, ensuring they have the tools and assistance they need to thrive in their caregiving roles.

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PAINFUL NERVE DAMAGE: HOW ONE PATIENT'S STORY HELPS ANOTHER FIND RELIEF

Treating Shoulder Pain Successfully with Radiofrequency

Paula Sharper and her husband had just recently moved to Florida, and she had been dealing with ongoing shoulder pain for a long time, which seemed to be getting worse. Paula was diagnosed with severe osteoarthritis of the AC joint (acromioclavicular joint) in the shoulder.

Paula told us that the pain was excruciating, keeping her up all night and disrupting her daily activities, including driving. While she was in the waiting room of another physician for her pain, she read an article about Dr. Sunil Panchal and how he helped a woman with chronic pain become pain-free.

When Paula left the office, she immediately called Dr. Panchal and scheduled an appointment.

Paula explained, "Dr. Panchal is an amazing doctor and a great person. He takes a lot of time and listens to you. He explains everything in detail, and he pinpoints exactly where the pain is stemming from and what is the best option for you specifically."

She continued, "I've been to many doctors over the years, and it's rare to find a physician that is not only a great doctor but also a kind, genuine person that cares about you. My procedure with Nerve Blocks and Radiofrequency was terrific. I immediately had pain relief. My shoulder no longer hurts at all. I'm back to living a normal routine for the most part."

"Dr. Panchal explained that this is a process. He likes to take things in steps, so we are doing the radiofrequency first, and then if later on my pain starts to return and I need additional regenerative medicine such as stem cell therapy, we will go from there. For now, I'm ecstatic about my pain relief. I would recommend Dr. Panchal to anyone that is in pain."

"It's impressive that so many patients and peers speak so highly of Dr. Panchal. At the surgical center, the staff and medical practitioners are very



fond of him and his work. Everyone you talk to says what a kind and talented physician he is as well. Medicine shouldn't just be about temporary fixes, it should be about treating the cause and helping people find solutions. That's what Dr. Panchal offers his patients."

Surgery is Not Always the Answer

Many people are familiar with radiofrequency ablation for lower back pain, but they don't realize that it can be used for other areas of the body. With shoulder pain, whether due to osteoarthritis or injury, many people believe or have been told that surgery is the only solution.

Minimally invasive procedures like radiofrequency and nerve blocks offer remarkable results in long-term pain relief.

Nerve Blocks and Radio Frequency

Nerve Blocks are numbing medications that are injected into the area that is causing pain. In conjunction to nerve blocks, Dr. Panchal uses an advanced procedure called Radiofrequency (RF).

With RF ablation treatments, the nerves that are damaged, narrowed, or impinged, are injected with a low-level of localized heat, causing the nerve to stop sending signals to our brain through

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an interruption in the nerve conduction. This procedure is entirely safe and effective. It has been used for many years with long-lasting results for people suffering from nerve back pain.

Regenerative Medicine

For neuropathic pain, regenerative medicine is also highly effective treatment for relieving pain and regenerating tissue naturally. These options include PRP (Platelet Rich Plasma), Bone Marrow Aspirations, Lipid Aspirations and exosomes.

More on Exosomes

Always on the leading edge of innovative procedures, Dr. Panchal adds exosomes into his stem cell treatment. Exosomes are produced from the plasma membranes of cells and are best explained as extracellular vesicles. Exosomes are nano-sized particles that are released due to an immune response. Some medical professionals are reporting that they are more regenerative and effective than stem cells. Because they act as intracellular communication messengers within the body and have the ability to move between multiple cells, they are also incredibly useful when paired with stem cell therapy.



Dr. Sunil Panchal

Although surgery is critical in certain situations, finding alternative methods to treat the underlying condition is always the first step. The National Institute of Pain is a state-of-the-art facility that specializes in the treatment of spine and orthopedic conditions, as well as acute and chronic pain management. They provide the utmost quality of care for patients to address the problem directly, and if needed, provide for their pain management needs.

At the National Institute of Spine and Pain, they treat each patient individually, using the latest equipment and various innovative procedures to diagnose pain and determine your care needs. The National Institute of Spine and Pain's President and Founder, Sunil J. Panchal, MD, is a board-certified interventional pain/ minimally invasive spine physician.

At National Institute of Spine and Pain, their goal is to strive to deliver the highest quality of comprehensive care for those who are suffering from spine, joint, and nerve injuries. They have many alternatives to help you with your personalized treatment needs. Please visit their website at www.nationalinstituteofpain.org, or call them at **(813) 264-PAIN (7246)**.

Vaccines, the Next Level of Cancer Treatment

While not every person in the world will be diagnosed with cancer in their lifetime, nearly everyone has or will be impacted by the disease. Given its far-reaching impacts, many have wished for the discovery of a game-changing vaccine that would eradicate cancer once and for all.

While the likelihood of a single miracle shot is not on the near-term horizon, vaccines have enormous potential to transform cancer treatment and improve patient outcomes.

According to Manish Patel, MD, director of drug development at Florida Cancer Specialists & Research Institute LLC (FCS), advancements in cancer vaccine research are trending upward. "It's an exciting, fast-paced field," he said.

Therapeutic vaccines are a form of immunotherapy that help the body recognize, destroy and prevent the spread or return of cancer cells. Dr. Patel describes them as "next level" and especially promising for the treatment of melanoma and cancers of the breast, lung, stomach and bladder.

"Vaccines can be used by themselves or in combination with other therapies for patients with certain types of immunosensitive cancers whose treatment involves regulating the immune system in various ways," he said.

For example, a newly diagnosed patient with early-stage cancer may receive standard therapy, such as chemotherapy, along with a tumor vaccine, followed by surgery and possibly more tumor vaccines. Vaccines can be given again after the initial treatment to boost the immune system in particular ways and reduce the risk of spread or recurrence.

Dr. Patel, who oversees the three FCS drug development units that conduct research on new cancer treatments when they are first developed — prior to FDA approval — can attest to the impressive results in therapeutic vaccine development.

Dr. Patel served as principal investigator in a Phase 1 clinical trial (mRNA-4157) to assess the safety and responsiveness of an investigational mRNA cancer treatment used in combination with pembrolizumab (Keytruda®) in patients with locally advanced or metastatic cancers. That study became the first of its kind to demonstrate notable effectiveness. Subsequently, a Phase 2b clinical trial was opened to include patients with high-risk melanoma and was shown to reduce the



risk of disease recurrence or death by 49%. Currently, there are openings in the trial for patients with early-stage non-small cell lung cancer and gastric cancer.

Cancer vaccines are considered a type of precision medicine, an approach that tailors cancer care to an individual's unique genetic profile and tumor type. Vaccines are created in a lab where a patient's tumor is analyzed using sophisticated next-generation sequencing. Producing an effective vaccine treatment is a complex process that takes time, often six to eight weeks.

As Dr. Patel explains, "Once samples of a patient's cancer tissues, blood or other specimens are collected and sent to the laboratory, scientists are tasked with finding the specific antigen panel and then creating a custom vaccine that will trigger the immune system to target that patient's specific gene panel."

In addition to manufacturing obstacles, other logistics must be precise and planned with the treatment team and the patient's schedule. "During that time, standard treatment can be started, with the knowledge that we'll be able to add to it once the vaccine is manufactured," said Dr. Patel.

Another possible roadblock is the cancer's microenvironment — the complex ecosystem of cells, molecules and structures that surround a tumor cell and influence its behavior. "Tumors are smart and can find ways to evade the immune system," notes Dr. Patel.

Despite the challenges and roadblocks, clinical researchers are increasingly optimistic and committed to the discovery of breakthroughs that enhance medical knowledge and contribute to positive patient outcomes. Dr. Patel reports that the pace of vaccine research has accelerated in the past 10 years and that the data is becoming more mature.

Therapeutic vaccines are being looked at for all cancers, with new platforms and technologies in constant development to help speed up development.

"Immunotherapy clinical trials continue to uncover critical new information about the body's response to immunotherapy," said Dr. Patel. "While cancer vaccine research worldwide is at an early stage, each discovery achieved is bringing us closer to improving treatment effectiveness and extending lives for people with cancer."

FCS operates one of the largest clinical research programs in the country, providing access to more than 300 early- and late-phase clinical trials at any given time at clinic locations throughout Florida.

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Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy: Can it Boost the Immune System?

Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy (HBOT) is one of the methods used to increase oxygen throughout the tissues cells to destroy anaerobic bacteria, which cannot exist in an oxygenated area. It is also touted as having the ability to improve immune function and repair damaged tissues. Many researchers purport that HBOT can destroy and kill viruses and bacteria. Additionally, many patients report feeling better after HBOT sessions. Repeatedly these same patients show marked signs of improvement rather quickly, and over time, they very often show little to no symptoms or signs of their disease or condition.

Hyperbaric oxygen therapy is a medical treatment that delivers 100% oxygen to a patient's pulmonary system while they are within a pressurized chamber. This saturation of oxygen allows high-levels of life-sustaining oxygen to be delivered to the tissues and organs. This increase of the partial pressure of oxygen at the cellular level accelerates the regenerative processes and assists in the recovery from numerous indications.

With hyperbaric oxygen, enough molecular oxygen can be dissolved into a patient's blood stream and tissues to fulfill all metabolic necessities. Breathing 100% oxygen at 1, 2 or 3 atmospheres results in 2,4 and 6 ml of oxygen in solution per 100 ml of blood, respectively. Patients are usually treated with 1.2 to 3.0 times atmospheric pressure for 30 to 90 minutes, which is equivalent to the pressure that a diver is exposed to at a depth of between 5 and 20 meters underwater.¹ A study on rheumatoid arthritis and immune function with HBOT showed that hyperbaric oxygen has immunosuppressive properties modulated by decreasing interleukin 1 (white blood cells) and prostaglandin E2 (mediator in inflammation) production.²

Many patients have tried HBOT for various disorders and disease states, and the majority of them will give glowing reviews for disease reversal and regression. There are no guarantees, and off-label use is always at the patients personal discretion and referral by the physician. Individuals wanting to explore HBOT have the right to do so, although results are always based on a patient's overall health, physical condition, and other medical factors.

Hyperbaric Centers of Florida provides a clean, professional and caring environment for all of our patients. The founders of our new center have over 40 years of cumulative experience in Hyperbaric Medicine and providing Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy for a broad spectrum of indications.

Why Patient's Prefer Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy at our Center?

Not all clinics are created equal. With Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy It is always more important to find a safe clinic with a fully trained knowledgeable staff rather than a close clinic, or one that touts false claims. This is one reason people from all over the world travel to Hyperbaric Centers of Florida. We use Real ASME PVHO Chambers capable of 3 Atmospheres Absolute of pressure (29.4psi), Medical Grade oil-less / oil-free breathing air compressors, 100% Medical Grade Oxygen, Sea-Long Hoods, and 100% Cotton Scrubs. Hyperbaric Centers of Florida has a reputation of providing the safest and most comfortable treatments available.

Hyperbaric Centers of Florida is a premier hyperbaric treatment facility located in the Tampa Bay area. Their state-of-the-art hyperbaric clinic provides therapy to outpatients on a 7-day per week basis, closing only on major holidays.

Patient Testimonials

"My son and I had this treatment done for Lyme disease. The staff were amazing and so empathetic to our needs, they really go above and beyond for their clients."—Rachel W.

"Total confidence. We have used several different Hyperbaric Medicine facilities around the country, and this is the best overall experience, by far. Everything is up to date and safe, and the staff makes you feel like you are family. They make a point of it!"—Thomas P.

"Wonderful staff and amazing results. Words cannot describe how it feels to hear your child's voice again after TBI took it away. To see my daughter color, play with her toys, and eat by mouth again is something that is truly amazing. We will definitely be back in the fall. #PrayforGia."—Tyler Z.

"This place is great. They have helped our family out for several years with safe, effective and professional hyperbaric treatments."—The Payne Family

Currently, There Are 15 FDA Approved HBOT Conditions:

- Air or Gas Embolism
- Carbon Monoxide Poisoning
- Compromised Skin Grafts or Flaps
- Crush Injury, Compartment Syndrome
- Decompression Sickness (Bends)
- Diabetic & Other Non-healing Wounds
- Enhancement of Healing in Selected Problem Wounds
- Exceptional Anemia: Resulting of Bleeding
- Gas Gangrene
- Intracranial Abscess
- Osteomyelitis
- Radiation Injury
- Refractory Osteomyelitis
- Thermal Burns
- Idiopathic Sudden Sensorineural Hearing Loss

HBOT is used "off-label" for various disease states and disorders and HBOT may be ordered by a physician for off-label indications. Hyperbaric Centers of Florida makes no claims as to the efficacy for any indications other than the fifteen approved by FDA.

Common Off-Label Indications:

- Autism
- Brain Injury
- Bells Palsy
- Cerebral Palsy
- Cosmetic Surgery
- Infections
- Inflammations
- Lyme Disease
- Multiple Sclerosis
- Nerve Injuries
- Oral Disease
- Peripheral Neuropathy
- Rheumatoid Arthritis
- Scleroderma
- Shingles
- Severe Migraines
- Sports Injury
- Stroke
- Tendon Injuries
- Ulcerative Colitis
- Venomous snake and spider bites

To find out more, or to schedule your appointment today, please call Hyperbaric Centers of Florida at 813-788-3969.

Reference:

1. DJ Wallace, "Use of hyperbaric oxygen in rheumatic diseases: case report and critical analysis." UCLA, aamhei.com/wp-content/uploads/bibliografia-cientifica/use-of-hyperbaric-oxygen-in-rheumatic-diseases-case-report-and-critical-analysis.pdf
2. Inamoto Y et al Effect of hyperbaric oxygen on macrophage function in mice. Biochem Biophys Res Commun 1991; 179: 886-891.

 **Hyperbaric Centers of Florida**
www.hyperbariccentersofflorida.com

ADVANCED TREATMENT FOR VAGINAL DISCOMFORT:

What you should know about the MonaLisa Touch®

Dr. Vahora, MD, FACOG

Many women carry a little secret that they dare not tell even their best friend. The truth is that many pre and postmenopausal women, and even women that have recently gone through childbirth, have vaginal disorders, pain, and issues that they often withhold and keep to themselves. Most women think that it's just a normal part of the hormonal process, but there are many options to relieve vaginal and vulvar atrophy.

What is Vulvovaginal Atrophy?

Due to the limited estrogen supply, the walls of the vagina start to thin out, causing dryness, burning, and inflammation. This can make intercourse very painful and can cause urinary disorders and can even interfere with daily activities for many women due to the extreme pain and discomfort that it can cause.

As mentioned there are many options for women, like creams, medications, and surgery, but they all pale in comparison to an innovative procedure that has no side effects and only takes a few minutes to perform in your physician's office.

Innovative Technology

This advanced technology is called the MonaLisa Touch®. It is a new laser therapy for the vagina and vulvar. There are no medications, not cutting and no lengthy healing times with this procedure. It's similar to having a Pap smear test done. The laser does not hurt or cause any pain. You will only feel tiny vibrating sensations from the machine, and the best part is that the entire procedure is accomplished in an outpatient, office setting.

The laser assists with the bodies cell renewal and regenerates the mucous membrane and help with the restoration of collagen and renewing the proper trophic balance to the membrane. MonaLisa Touch® is a functional vaginal rejuvenation treatment based on a unique fractional CO2 laser. This device was created specifically for the vaginal mucosa and is presently the most effective procedure for preventing and treating vaginal atrophy and its painful conditions.

Now it's possible to have relief from vaginal and vulvar atrophy due to the MonaLisa Touch's® ability to gently improve the tissue of the vaginal mucosa.



The laser stimulates the production of collagen, improving the functionality of the treated area and restoring the proper trophic balance to the mucous membrane.

Rejuvenate Your Sex Life

You and your partner will both benefit from this procedure, as intercourse will be pain-free and pleasurable once again. Mona Lisa Touch allows restoration and enjoyment of each other. You'll be amazed how effective this procedure gets you back to where you once were in your relationship.

What Patients Have to Say About Parveen Vahora, M.D.

"To find out that there was actually a laser that in three treatments could possibly provide me with what I hadn't been getting in the last 10 years of trying"? I was ecstatic." -Melanie P.

"When I underwent the MonaLisa Touch procedure, I was a little nervous, had some trepidation going into it, and after the procedure I came out almost bouncing off the walls, saying I cannot believe there was no discomfort, such a short time commitment." -Cheryl S.

"No, less than 5 minutes? It's really a fast procedure; I don't even want to call it procedure; I would just say experience, just a tiny little sensation as if someone's touching your skin." -Tina R.

"I would like to share that she is incredibly passionate about helping her patients. I think it is admirable that she is an advocate for non-narcotic pain relief in her practice. I highly recommend this practice." -Ashley T.

GYN VIP

Introducing our exclusive GYN VIP, Rewards Program, designed to enhance your journey to beauty and wellness! As a valued member, you'll unlock many benefits and indulgent perks tailored just for you. Earn treatments with every visit, and watch your rewards accumulate towards exciting offerings. Enjoy VIP access to the latest advancements in skincare, rejuvenating therapies, and luxurious spa experiences. Pamper yourself with discounted services, complimentary upgrades, and priority bookings. Plus, gain insider access to exclusive memberships stay on top of the latest trends and techniques. Join GYN VIP today and embark on a path to extraordinary self-care, where the more you invest, the more you'll be rewarded. Let us be your trusted partner on your journey to radiance and well-being.

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<https://www.myprivia.com/mobile-app>



DR. PARVEEN S. VAHORA, MD, FACOG:

Our practice's mission is to inspire women to live their best lives by providing compassionate and personalized care. We do everything we can to make you feel as comfortable as possible. For all your women's health needs, we are here by your side through all phases of life.

Our gynecologist's office is small, intimate, and welcoming. Women under our care are treated with the utmost respect, which means we offer personalized care, educating them on conditions, treatment options, and preventive measures. Our focus is on sexual health. We are proud to offer the MonaLisa Touch® for patients going through menopause as well as post-menopausal women, breast cancer survivors, and those suffering from pain during intercourse or intense dryness. We also offer genetic testing for breast, ovarian, and colon cancer. From birth control to robotic surgery, we have got you covered.



GYN VIP

<https://gyn.repeatmd.com/>

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727.376.1536

ParveenVahoraMD.com

FLORIDA FOOD FORCE

Florida Food Force is a nonprofit initiative aimed at addressing food insecurities in Florida. It is a part of a broader effort to alleviate hunger and ensure that all residents in their area have access to nutritious food.

Key efforts of Florida Food Force include:

Food Distribution and Access: This initiative works to improve access to food for underserved communities by establishing food banks, emergency food distribution, and a weekly supplement food program that doesn't have any income restrictions or county restrictions.

Collaboration with Local Partners: By teaming up with various organizations, businesses, and government agencies, Florida Food Force creates a more efficient system to provide these programs to a wider audience. These collaborations help to provide sustainable, long-term solutions to food insecurity.

Emergency Response: In times of crisis – such as natural disasters or economic downturns – Florida Food Force can quickly provide immediate food assistance to affected areas. The ability to respond quickly is especially crucial in a state like Florida, which frequently faces hurricanes and other natural disasters.

Community Education and Advocacy: The initiative also focuses on educating communities about nutrition, health eating, and available assistance programs. By raising awareness about food insecurity, Florida Food Force aims to provide immediate relief and create lasting change through public awareness campaigns.

Through these efforts, Florida Food Force plays a critical role in fighting hunger, improving public health, and building stronger, more resilient communities in west Florida.

As of recent data, food insecurity remains a significant issue, with millions of residents facing challenges in accessing enough nutritious food. Below are some 2024 statistics regarding food insecurity in Florida:

- 2.3 million Florida residents have food insecure households.



- Children are particularly vulnerable to food insecurity. In Florida, 1 in 6 children (about 800,000 children) are food insecure, which can have long term effects on their health, education, and development.
- 22 out of 67 counties in Florida have a food insecurity rate that exceeds the national average of 15%.
- 10.5% of Tampa Bay residents face food insecurity.
- 71% of lower income families of K-12 public school students in Florida reported signs of food insecurity in the past twelve months.
- 92% of rural Floridians say that affording groceries has become harder in the last twelve months and 72% of Floridians report that they find it more difficult to afford groceries compared to just a year ago. This isn't surprising when you consider that the cost of groceries has increased 25.8% since November 2020. Specifically, the same basket of groceries that cost you \$100 at the end of 2020 now costs you \$125.80.

Florida Food Force's two most popular programs are the Emergency Food Box, and the Weekly Supplemental Food Program.

"One of the greatest feelings in the world is knowing that we as individuals can make a difference. Ending hunger in America is a goal that is literally within our grasp."

~ Jeff Bridges

If you find yourself needing or know of someone who needs an emergency food box, please contact Florida Food Force. There are no income restrictions, and you do not need to reside near the food bank to benefit from the programs. Emergency food boxes are available Monday- Wednesday, 9:00 am to 2:30 pm by appointment. You can make an appointment by calling 727-261-7422. Please bring a photo ID. While you are there, ask about our Weekly Supplemental Food Program. Florida Food Force is located at 11523 Prosperous Drive, Odessa, FL 33556.

**Florida
Food Force, Inc.**
"Uniting Forces To Combat Hunger"

NEED FOOD ASSISTANCE?

WE CAN HELP!

CALL 727-261-7422

www.FloridaFoodForce.org

11523 Prosperous Drive, Odessa, FL 33556





Emsella - Technology to Get YOU Back to YOU

BY DR. ROBERT LUPO, D.C.

Emsella for Men

The pelvic floor muscles form the lower part of the pelvis and support the pelvic organs, including the bladder, rectum, and prostate. When pelvic floor weakness occurs, it may lead to erectile dysfunction and premature ejaculation.

Men can suffer from incontinence associated with pelvic floor weakness. Many factors can affect male problems with incontinence and bladder leakage, with the primary cause being due to the prostate. An enlarged prostate after a prostatectomy, bladder surgery, or other prostate cancer treatments can contribute to male incontinence and erectile dysfunction. Other factors that can contribute to male incontinence include, but are not limited to, certain neurological disorders, obesity, smoking, and even family history. Men's incontinence typically involves a small amount of dribbling during exercise or at the end of the day. Chronic coughing or being overweight can put pressure on the bladder and lead to stress incontinence. Urge incontinence occurs when there is a need to urinate frequently or there is dribbling when the bladder is full.

EMSELLA treatment sessions are quick and discreet. The sessions are only about 30 minutes long and allow you to remain fully clothed while you are seated in the BTL Emsella treatment chair. There is no downtime needed after Emsella sessions, normal activities can be resumed immediately after the appointment. Emsella for men is the perfect option for those suffering from any form of urinary incontinence looking to regain control of the pelvic muscle and bladder.

Emsella sessions are non-invasive and allow patients to remain fully clothed throughout the entire session. Emsella harnesses the power of focused electromagnetic technology to stimulate the entire male pelvic floor muscle. As a result, patients attain greater neuromuscular control over the pelvic muscle. Emsella also treats Erectile Dysfunction by increasing penile rigidity and hardness as well as increasing control over time until ejaculation. Emsella patients can also expect to experience enhanced orgasms because of their Emsella treatments.

A full treatment lasts six sessions, spread over three weeks with two sessions a week. Each visit can cost around \$250 and lasts about 28 minutes. They involve thousands of stimulated contractions and should only cause tingling and sensations of pelvic floor contraction. We recommend one session every 1-2 months after the initial 6-session protocol.

Emsella for Women

Many women do find they may experience incontinence or urinary leakage either during pregnancy or after childbirth. Urinary leakage during pregnancy is often caused by the weight of the baby pressing on the bladder which can put pressure on the pelvic floor muscles and can result in the symptoms of stress incontinence. Childbirth can also affect the pelvic floor muscles, especially with vaginal birth as this can put a strain on the pelvic floor and weaken the muscles. This can make it difficult to control your bladder. Half of the women can experience changes in continence following childbirth. Post-partum pelvic restoration doesn't happen overnight. Every OBGYN will tell you that Kegel exercises are necessary after childbirth to repair the damage childbirth causes to the pelvic floor. Emsella harnesses the power of high-intensity focused electromagnetic (HIFEM) technology, which stimulates the entire pelvic floor at once. A single session provides over 11,800 supramaximal pelvic floor contractions. Read that again. Over eleven thousand Kegels in less than 30 minutes.

Research has found that 95% of those treated reported significant improvement in their quality of life following six 28-minute treatments with Emsella. Most clients either no longer require the use of hygienic pads, or significantly reduced their use of pads in their day-to-day life. We recommend allowing at least 3 months before starting Emsella treatment following childbirth via C-Section and allowing 10 weeks post-natural birth. Emsella is a great prevention treatment for women who are considering starting a family. Having a strong pelvic floor is recommended to help withstand the extra weight and pressure of pregnancy. A stronger core is said to help with a faster delivery too.

You can expect a welcoming, friendly environment at Physical Medicine Center, Inc with a staff who truly cares about your progress. Our goal is your improved quality of life- that's why our comprehensive treatment plans are designed to help you reach your goals. If pain is holding you back, call today to learn more about our natural, non-surgical, non-drug options for pain relief.

Dr. Robert Lupo is the clinic director at the Physical Medicine Center located in north Tampa near the University of South Florida and New Tampa. Physical Medicine Center is a multidisciplinary medical center that offers Medical Care, Chiropractic Care, and Physical Therapy. Dr. Lupo attended Life University in Marietta Georgia and graduated with a Doctor of Chiropractic degree in 1985. Dr. Lupo has taken postgraduate education in chiropractic orthopedics, neurology, spinal disc injury care, and in an auto accident and injury care. Physical Medicine Center also offers massage therapy, treatment for dizziness and balance disorders, Spectra cell nutritional blood analysis, bio-identical hormone replacement therapy for men and women, Gainswave for erectile dysfunction and nutritional IV treatments.

DON'T JUST MASK YOUR SYMPTOMS—TREAT THE ROOT CAUSE!

Dr. Robert Lupo, D.C.

Dr. Robert Lupo is the clinic director at Physical Medicine Center located in north Tampa near the University of South Florida and New Tampa. Physical Medicine Center is a multidisciplinary medical center that offers Medical Care, Chiropractic Care, and Physical Therapy. Dr. Lupo attended Life University in Marietta Georgia and graduated with a Doctor of Chiropractic degree in 1985. Dr. Lupo has taken postgraduate education in chiropractic orthopedics, neurology, spinal disc injury care, and auto accident and injury care. Physical Medicine Center also offers massage therapy, treatment for dizziness, balance disorders, Spectra cell nutritional blood analysis, bio-identical hormone replacement therapy for men and women and offers the nationally known Medifast weight system.

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SENIORS AGING IN PLACE

For today's seniors, the desire to stay at home is strong. In fact, the modern elderly population is much different from its past counterparts. Almost 90% of people over 65 want to live in their home and community as long as possible, according to a report by the AARP Public Policy Institute and the National Conference of State Legislatures. A whopping 80% believe they will stay in their home for the remainder of their life. Aging in place allows seniors to enjoy all the comforts their familiar home has to offer. Today's options to support seniors in their home offer seniors and their families the peace of mind and support to make staying at home a healthy option.



AGING IN PLACE PROVIDES A SENSE OF COMMUNITY

Seniors have spent a lifetime building family relationships and likely years bonding with neighbors. Removing older adults from their long-time homes can make them feel like those connections have weakened. According to research published in *The Gerontologist*, the majority of seniors want to age in place because of the attachment and familiarity they feel with their home and communities.

IT FIGHTS ISOLATION

That sense of community provided through aging in place does more than make seniors feel comfortable. It is also integral for fighting feelings of isolation, a dangerous trend among seniors. Researchers from the University of Chicago found a link between loneliness and high blood pressure in older adults. The study authors noted that feelings of loneliness can occur even when a senior is surrounded by people. This further demonstrates the importance of the familiarity and sense of community provided through aging in place.

Besides being preferred by seniors, aging in place offers another benefit: savings.

While it may seem that aging at home would be more expensive than moving to a nursing or assisted living home, the opposite is actually true. With help from a home healthcare worker, staying in your home costs about 20% of what a nursing home costs on a monthly basis.

HOME HEALTH CARE CAN HELP

For many families and seniors, home health care is a beneficial choice – a safe and affordable solution that supports the family, while allowing seniors to stay in the comfort of their own homes and communities.

HERE ARE TEN WAYS HOME HEALTH CARE CAN SUPPORT YOU:

1. Home health care professionals can be there when needed. If family and loved ones are a distance away, home health care can give you peace of mind. Trained and qualified professionals

can assess safety risks and make simple corrections in the home – from placing a rug on a slippery floor, to recommendations for ambulatory assistance.

2. Home care supports activities of daily living (ADLs). In-home services allow adults to receive day-to-day help with the personal care they need, preserving their dignity and maintaining a good quality of life. Assistance with activities of daily living can include bathing, grooming, and medication reminders.

3. Access to skilled nursing care at home. Skilled medical care can be delivered at home by thoroughly supervised nurses, certified, licensed and knowledgeable about high-technology medical equipment. Home health care can ensure that your loved one's complex medical needs are met.

4. Support with diet and nutrition. Adults age 65 and older, people with chronic conditions, and those recently discharged from a hospital or nursing facility are likely to be nutritionally at-risk. Aging, bed rest, illness, and injury can all contribute to the loss of lean body mass. Home care may include nutritional counseling and home-cooked meals to protect against malnutrition.

5. Medication management. Multiple prescriptions it can be confusing to manage. Home health care professionals can ensure the right medications are being taken at the right times to control health conditions and prevent harmful drug interactions.

6. Home health care professionals provide caring companionship. Research shows that aging adults stay healthier with social interaction. Home health aides can become trusted friends for walks, reading, cards, games, movies, meals, and other social activities. Accompaniment on errands such as grocery shopping, medical appointments, and other activities are also added benefits.

7. Home care helps with light household chores. When aging adults struggle the daily demands of housework, such as laundry, vacuuming, dishes, and simple chores home care helps to consistently maintain a safe and healthy living environment.

8. Home health care clients have comparable or better health outcomes. Research has shown that clinical results are comparable or better with fewer complications when home care is provided to individuals with chronic conditions such as pneumonia, diabetes, or COPD.

9. One-on-one focus and support. Home health care services are truly unique, providing meaningful, one-on-one personal and skilled care that builds strong bonds between professionals and their clients. According to the *Cleveland Clinical Journal* a person who is seen by a clinician in the comfort of home more readily trusts that the health care team places their needs first.

10. An affordable alternative to facility or hospital care. According to the National Association of Home Care, the average cost of care from a skilled nursing facility is \$544 dollars per day, while the average cost of home health care is \$132 dollars.

OUR PROMISE

Through Trusted HomeCare Home Care Services, you can rest assured that your loved one and family will be safe and secure in a positive environment right at their home. Even if you simply have questions or want to understand how to better care for your elderly loved one experiencing the inevitable process of aging, we are able to help with that.

TRUSTED HOMECARE SERVICES MISSION STATEMENT

As a whole group, our mission statement says that we are here to access the needs of each client to help them maintain their independence while living in their own homes and communities.

Contact our team at
Trusted HomeCare and let's discuss
how we can support
you or your loved one
727-771-5053

Slowing the Pace of Your Life

By Pastor Timothy Neptune

Remember the old merry-go-rounds on the playground when you were a kid? You would spin in circles until you felt like you were going to fly off. That's how life can feel if you don't make some necessary changes.

You live a much faster lifestyle than your parents did. Your children will live an even faster lifestyle than you did. As we enter a new year, perhaps it is a good time to evaluate the pace of your life and make some necessary adjustments. The Psalmist tells us:

2In vain you rise early and stay up late, toiling for food to eat—for he grants sleep to those he loves.
Psalm 127:2

If you are getting up early and staying up late but still don't feel like you can get everything done... you are probably trying to do too much.

Living at a hectic pace comes at a price. You end up feeling more stressed because you are trying to cram too many things into your day. You end up having no margin in your life. As the margins get tighter the stress goes higher.

You have to take time to recharge your batteries. Here's a lesson I learned years ago: You have just enough time to do the will of God. If you can't get everything done on your "to do" list, maybe there are things on the list you shouldn't be doing.

I want to share with you two simple strategies to help you slow down the pace of your life so that you can enjoy life.

The first strategy is to learn to be content. If you're serious about slowing down, you don't start with your schedule—you start with your heart.

The Apostle Paul said this about contentment. *"I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do everything through him who gives me strength.*

Philippians 4:11-13

If you're going to slow down your life, you have to learn contentment. Paul also said this about contentment: *"But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it.* 1 Tim. 6:6-7

What he is saying in these passages is that we need to understand that life isn't about things. Contentment means this: I don't need more in order to be happy.

I'm not waiting for *more* in order to be happy. I'm happy right now. I have dreams and I have goals but I don't need *more* in order to be happy. That's contentment.

Contentment will come easier when you realize two things: life is not a competition with other people and having *more* will not make you happier. This is not the message promoted by our culture, but it is true.

Jesus said it like this, *"Then he said to them, 'Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.'*" Luke 12:15

If you find yourself making statements like this:



- My life is a rat race.
- I don't know how I'm going to get it all done.
- I am just so exhausted.
- I don't know how much more of this I can take.
- I just want to escape.

These phrases are all warning signs that you are on the road to burn out. You need to slow down the pace. Perhaps as we begin this new year, taking an honest evaluation of your life and determine if some changes are necessary. Are you content in your life right now?

As the merry-go-round spins faster it is only a matter of time before you either get sick, or fall off. Or, better yet, just slow down, be content, and enjoy the ride.

Change Your Brain. Change Your Life.

Training the brain with advanced technology to correct brain imbalances.

Innovative Brain Treatment Programs

Our unique brain training facility offers the most advanced, innovative brain treatments and programs to help retrain the brain back to balance. At Saving Your Brain, we are proud to help our patients with several diagnostic procedures and then design a gameplan for treatment and training. Our multi-disciplinary approach has been successful for many patients with conditions as ADHD, Autism, Parkinson's, Anxiety, and other mental health issues. We hope to connect with you soon to provide you with the most comprehensive training program and start your journey towards optimal brain health.

Conditions We Help

These conditions have been proven to be clinically responsive to brain-based therapies:

- Addiction
- ADD/ADHD
- Anger Issues
- Anxiety
- Autism
- Chronic Pain
- Concussion
- Depression
- Lyme Disease
- Memory Loss
- Migraines
- PTSD/Stress
- Sleep Issues
- Stroke
- Low Energy

Our Services

- QEEG Brain Mapping
- Neurofeedback
- Braintap
- Interactive Metronome
- Neuro Sensory Integration
- Right Eye Tracking
- Neurosage

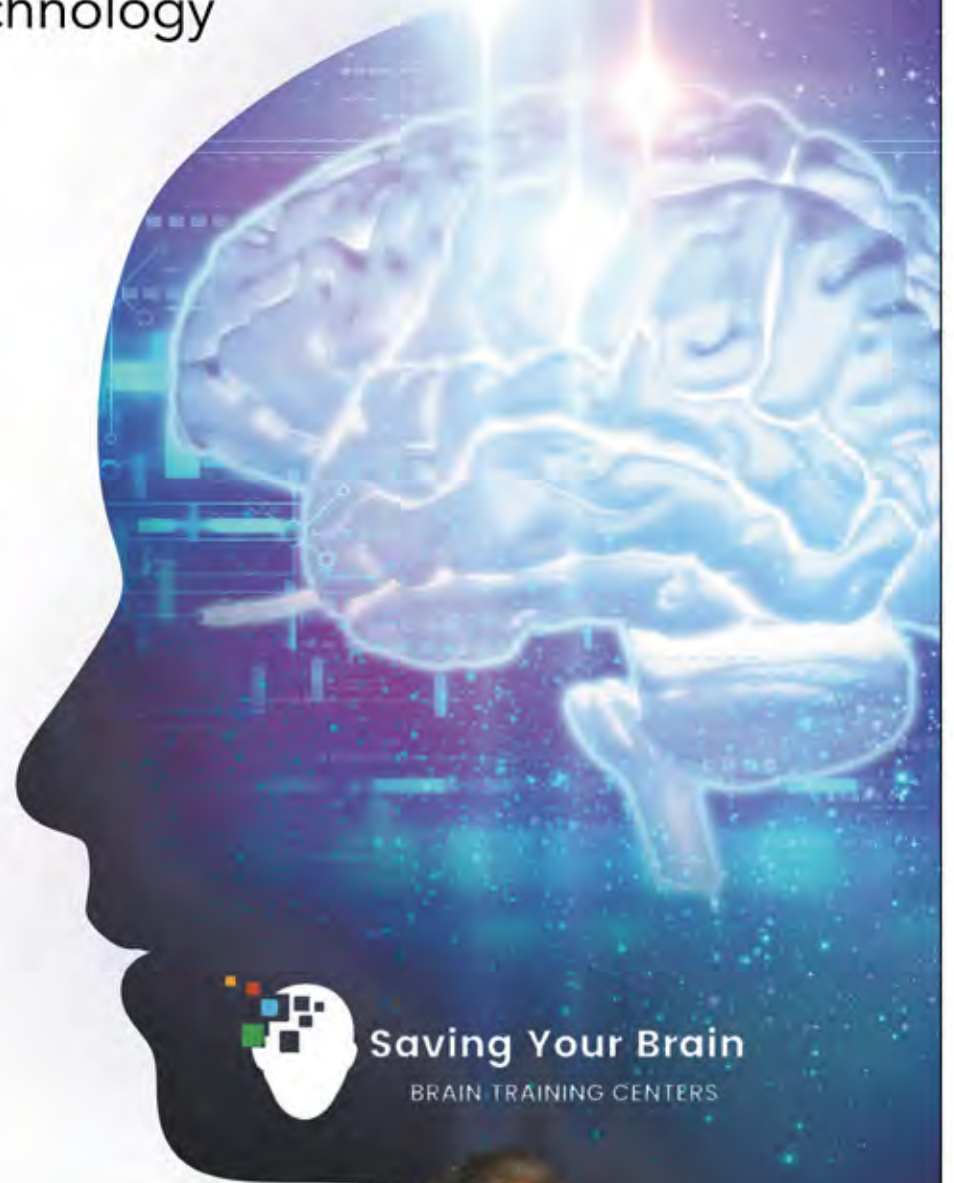
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