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This report was generated on 16/09/21. Overall 25 respondents completed this questionnaire. The report has been filtered to show the responses for 'All Respondents'.

The following charts are restricted to the top 12 codes. Lists are restricted to the most recent 100 rows.

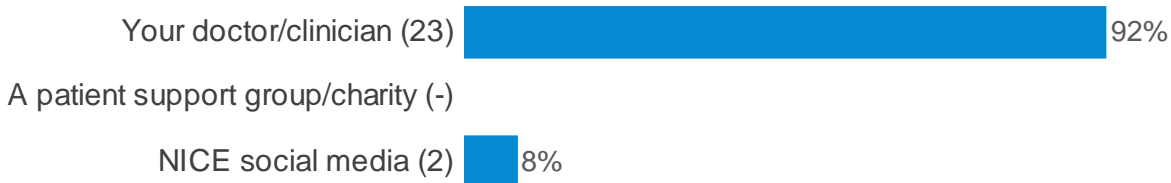
I have read the information above which explains the purpose of the project and how any information I provide will be used



I consent (agree) to NICE using the information I have given in the ways described above



How did you hear about this survey?



Other (please sepcify)

Article in a newspaper.
facebook

Are you (the person completing the questionnaire):



Your age (in years)

Count	Sum	Mean	Sample Standard Deviation	Minimum	Maximum	Range
25	1269	50.76	10.54	28	66	38

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How long ago did you have the procedure?

February 2018	9	November 2015 almost 6 years
September 2017	3	24th March 2021
3	4 years - 18th July 2017	Sept 5th 2020

In years

Count	Sum	Mean	Sample Standard Deviation	Minimum	Maximum	Range
18	59	3.28	1.02	1	6	5

In months (OR In months)

Count	Sum	Mean	Sample Standard Deviation	Minimum	Maximum	Range
3	47	15.67	16.07	4	34	30

In months (OR In weeks)

Count	Sum	Mean	Sample Standard Deviation	Minimum	Maximum	Range
0	-	-	-	-	-	-

To which gender identity do you most identify?



Did the procedure work?



If somewhat or no, please provide further details along with information about whether symptoms later reoccurred.

The procedure has certainly helped with my back pain but it has not stopped it completely. I have more good days than bad days and do believe this is down to the implant.

It has reduced my back pain

It has helped in general I have come off the Fentanyl & morphine patches & have had my meds altered & changed. I have had some flare ups but in general the device has helped.

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Did you have any side-effects following your procedure?

Yes (3)  12%

No (22)  88%

If yes, please provide further details along with information about whether symptoms later reoccurred.

It took longer to recover as my device scar wasn't cooperating in regards to healing.

my eye sight was very poor straight after the op. some say it could have been the anaesthesia which to this day i can't really confirm. what i do know is that since the op, i now wear reading glasses which wasn't something i needed at all up to the op.

a little discomfort around site of reactiv8

How long did it take you to recover from the procedure?

About 2 to 3 weeks

A few days after the procedure I was comfortable but still taking the medication previously prescribed for pain as the device had not been activatedOne month after the procedure my healing was checked and device activated, by which time I was fully recovered and began reducing the dosage of painkillers.

Didn't take me too long to recover from the surgery. I was up and on my feet the same day.

3 to 4 weeks

A week approximately

2 weeks

4 weeks

The wound healed up within a couple of weeks leaving very little scaring

8weeks

Approx 6-8 weeks

4 weeks

6 weeks

It took approximately two weeks to recover from having the device fitted. It is now so long since I had this that I can't remember how long is was before my back started to feel better but bit by bit it started to improve and be less painful and I became more able to do things that for years I had struggled to do.

About 3 months

1 week

4 months

A few months

2/3 months

as a bus driver, i was not allowed to drive buses but the garage helped me to recover by giving me 2 weeks of other duties. 4 weeks was the period i was at home for total rest after the op

Just over 3 months before I went back to work

12 weeks

8 weeks

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How long did it take you to recover from the procedure?

7days

6 weeks

How did the procedure positively affect your condition and/or your quality of life?

Please consider things such as:

- Your physical symptoms
- Your ability to perform daily activities
- Your quality of life, lifestyle and/or social life
- Your state of mind, emotional health and/or wellbeing
- The effect on family, friends and others

Compared to how I was before the procedure it has certainly helped me both physically and mentally. I can now walk for longer periods, do some housework and gardening, which was a struggle before. I am happier in myself as not being in constant pain is a blessing. Friends and family have noticed a difference in me in that I am happier and more outgoing now. Even though this procedure has certainly helped me unfortunately it has not cured my back pain.

I describe it as getting my life back. I was able to stop taking tramadol, reduce dosage of gabapentin by 60%. I could now cycle again, swim, walk and run, which my condition had previously prevented. I could not walk more than a couple of hundred yards without feeling pain, now I can regularly walk between 10000 and 12000 paces without pain. I can again take care of diy jobs around the house and garden and can wash and polish my cars without pain. I can again enjoy decorating which I found therapeutic and relaxing, as a balance to my pressure job as a police response inspector prior to retiring. My social life has returned to normal. I can sit for prolonged periods and can enjoy the cinema, theatre and dining out with friends again. I feel much more positive about the future. Previous procedures including electro-cauterisation and facet block had limited effectiveness often leaving me in months of severe discomfort awaiting the next round. My family have commented on my good mood and losing my 'pain face'. Altogether, my life is as normal as can be and so far I am able to enjoy all of the activities I enjoyed prior to my back injury, and in addition I can keep up with a boisterous grandchild who loves the outdoors.

I was unable to stand for long periods of time, my mental state was becoming concerning as I was unable to do anything, even sleep was an issue due to the pain I was in. I'm now more mobile, can go out with friends and family and do certain activities. My mental state has massively improved.

It made the good days better and the bad days more tolerable

It has helped in general daily life as the pain levels are less plus I'm not on as strong medications as before which also gave me side effects. It has helped me with my mood swings as they are less frequent as before. I still get a lot of pain at times it's pretty bad but overall it has helped with the pain levels. I do feel better overall & would say it's been worth having the procedure I would only have wondered what if, if I didn't have it done. Living with pain for 30 years has been hard but it's nice to have this device fitted which has helped & with no real side effects.

It had a major positive effect on my physical, emotional and mental well-being I was feeling quite desperate before the procedure it changed my life.

everything improved

The procedure has been amazing as far as I am concerned. I am able to stand able to go about my daily work chores to a better degree of comfort than I was able to do before the procedure. My mental state of mind has improved as I am not having to take half as much tablets and pain injections into my spine which made me feel very worried and scared. I have more confidence in being on my own for example taken a bath driving walking.

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How did the procedure positively affect your condition and/or your quality of life?

Please consider things such as:

- Your physical symptoms
- Your ability to perform daily activities
- Your quality of life, lifestyle and/or social life
- Your state of mind, emotional health and/or wellbeing
- The effect on family, friends and others

It help very much easier to perform tasks as getting dressed and daily tasks, quality of life is much better, state of mind also is better before procedure I was always waiting for my back to have problems waiting for the pain to arrive, so health and well-being is much better, family see me more relaxed not struggling to sit or relax in pain, although I have had a few issues where I have over worked my back and had some pain,I know without this procedure and the dedication of the doctors and nurses who still give me all the support I need I would not be able to work and carry out daily tasks I feel after all the pain I have been through I have been so lucky to of had this procedure and would like to thank Dr [REDACTED] nurse [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] for all their efforts in getting back to a normal life and to the reactive 8 program you all are a credit to the NHS thank you

My pain all but disappeared, I didn't realise just how bad it had been until It wasn't there anymore. I am able to move about so much easier now and have had no time off work since recovery from the procedure. I really don't think I would have been able to keep my job with the ambulance service had I not had the neurostimulator implanted. Life at home home is so much better also.

More mobility, less pain killers, ability to do exercise

My quality of life has considerably changed since having the procedure! I can. now do things like wash my own hair unlike before the procedure.

Bit by bit my back started to feel better, I found I could do things that I hadn't been previously able to do, simple things like stretching to get something out of a high cupboard, making the bed without having to get on my knees, weeding the garden without been unable to straighten up. I felt more like a 'normal' person and not some decrepit old woman. As my back started to improve so did my state of mind, I felt like I could plan and take part in more things both at work and in my social life. My family and friends commented that I looked better and that I did in fact seem like a different person.

The machine has changed my life for the better, ive had less flare ups since having the machine and feel more able to Move more easily

very good effect, i am able to go on long walks now without pain killers before and after, the pain is there in the background but nothing like it used to be. Able to socialise more especially in a standing position rather than having to make sure theres somewhere to sit down!

all of the above

The procedure improved my emotional , physical and psychological outlook 100%. My pain dramatically lessened. My mobility dramatically improved. My ability to socialise and have an improved working life. In summary, my entire life has been transformed and allowed me to engage in activities with family and friends that had previously been out of bounds to me. I really do not know where I would be today without this fantastic device. My condition is a degenerative one and so pain and depression would simply have been engendered and my working life placed in jeopardy.

I have managed to live a better quality of life, the pain has reduced significantly. I use to be in pain constantly and you could see the pain in my face, now the pain has subsided and I'd say it is 80% better than what it was before the operation. My emotionally state of mind changed, I was depressed prior due to the pain and now I am able to move bette and conducted a better life that has changed my mind set. I now don't allow anything to get in my way, I push myself to live a better pain free life. The device has been a life saver if I'm honest. I don't live daily in pain anymore. I'm not saying the pain has completely gone but it has reduced so much that I can challenge myself and have a better quality of life. I would not change my mind about having this device and I certainly wouldn't have it taken out.

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How did the procedure positively affect your condition and/or your quality of life?

Please consider things such as:

- Your physical symptoms
- Your ability to perform daily activities
- Your quality of life, lifestyle and/or social life
- Your state of mind, emotional health and/or wellbeing
- The effect on family, friends and others

since early age i was an extremely active boy which is possibly the reason my body was what it was at the age of 20. although the hundreds of issues i faced in my life and several bones breaks, i still did what i wanted providing i was ok on the day. then the back started to insist in telling me i cannot longer do certain things, so by the age of 22-23 its when the lower back decided to take longer and longer to recover from very little issues. i can now say that most of the times i go to bed, i will know 99.9%, that the following day will unlikely be a bad day. before the op, i was 99.9% certain that at some stage of the day, i would have started to ache till no one knows what point. can't stress enough in explaining this concept. its a great feeling knowing that at least my back, at least the part operated on, will keep me going for far longer than before the implant. unfortunately my list of problems is huge which issues prevent me from doing most things for the time i want to. most days i suffer with something and who knows me well, knows them all. yet i play most sports i desire playing, with the only difference i cannot do them as often as most days are spent to recover from the previous session. hard to believe but its now been my life for over 20 years.

For quality of life it took quite a lot of pain away I have had bad back for over 23 years it reduced amount of pain killers I was taking . Has given me a better quality of life ,allowed me to do things I wouldn't have normally done because of fear if I do that I'll put my back out ie Diy or light gardening and reducing amount of sickness from work over last 6 years , I have multi disc degeneration so I know it's not going to be a cure and was told this before I had operation and still have bouts of bad back but would recommend anyone to have it done and the pain management team at barts hospital have been amazing

This procedure changed my quality of life 100 percent, I am a Physical Education Teacher and was in lots of pain and unable to take part in any type of physical activity due to the pain. This has totally restored my ability to do things practically, albeit not back to full physical fitness prior to ailment, but 90 percent. This also had a positive knock on effect for my emotional and mental health.

to early to say

I can now walk instead of crawling on hands and knees, I don't have to bend over when walking, I can sit up straight

Before the implant I had almost constant nagging back pain, I got locked up if I stood still for more than about 30 seconds giving me extreme pain to move out of a standing position, I couldn't bend down to pick anything up off the floor, bathing and dressing were difficult and I couldn't sit for more than 30mins without the need to get up and move position. This had a massive impact on the quality of my life. I couldn't do much housework, driving was uncomfortable and I didn't go on long journeys plus I had to buy a car that had higher seats, I couldn't stand and chat to friends I'd meet in the street for long, washing and dressing were slower, I couldn't do much with my allotment which is my hobby. Work was impacted as I couldn't sit for too long so a special chair was bought for me and adjustments to working practices including a reduction of hours were agreed with Occupational health as I had a lot of sick leave due to my back. The backpain ruled everything in my life for years. It left me financially worst off as I reduced my work hours, It left me socially isolated as getting out and about was difficult and left me frustrated that I could no longer do things that I once enjoyed. I had my implant a year ago. When I travelled to my initial consultation I had to stop twice to get out of the car as it was 1½ hours distance away - now I can travel that distance in one go! I'm more flexible and can do more activities like gardening & housework and stand to chat to friends for about 10 mins now without crippling pain. The constant nagging pain has virtually disappeared and that has had made a massive impact on my activities and mood.

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How did the procedure negatively affect your condition and/or your quality of life?**Please consider things such as:**

- Your physical symptoms
- Your ability to perform daily activities
- Your quality of life, lifestyle and/or social life
- Your state of mind, emotional health and/or wellbeing
- The effect on family, friends and others

Nothing negative to say apart from I wish it had cured my back pain.

There have been no negatives at all.

Not rely got any negative points to say regarding this treatment. Only thing I had was the time restraints of when I had to put it on. (Between 12am - 11.59pm, 11.30pm was the latest I could put it on due to it taking time off the next day's allowance) but this was all sorted and the times were switched to 3am - 3am

Procedure gave me a better quality of life

It didn't work as well as I was anticipating

No negative impacts from the procedure

no negative consequences

If I was to say anything negative about the procedure it would be the commitment of having to discipline yourself to half and hour twice daily to take your charge. But for me its been a welcome interruption to my daily life.

No negatives

Not at all .

Prior to the procedure I was having lots of time off work due to back pain, this is no longer the case. I have not has time off work for back pain since having the procedure. I am able to have a more active roll in family life

No negatives

Once I had recovered from having the device fitted I can't really remember any negatives. The only thing was that I did lose quite a bit of weight as I was able to exercise more and the device became uncomfortable when I was doing floor exercise laid on my back.

the only negative is i occasionally knock the implant box and it is a little painful

none

Initially, recovery was painful that concerned family and friends. The 24/7 support was amazing and any concerns were immediately available. Friends and family were just as amazed as I continue to be by the ongoing support.

The only negative was the slow recovery after the device was implanted but that was due to my own body not healing quick enough.

as explained before i lost eye sight for about 2 weeks, where i could not read anything. the only other downside will be the 30x2 mins session for the treatment which i m more than happy to lose each day or i would never be in the position i am in

The only negative I can think off is the battery Something get a little discomfort if sitting for long periods but this could be to do with weight loss due to my diabetes

not at all only positive

to early to say

It hasn't badly affected my life

I cannot think of anything negative about this procedure only the operation recovery was painful at the site for about 6 weeks after but that's to be expected. The box is discreet and you wouldn't know it was there apart from the scar.

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Did you require anymore treatment, including procedures or surgery after this procedure?



If yes, please provide further details.

ganglian root block

Have to return to hospital for checks, just to make sure box is ok and to turn the box up

Would you recommend this procedure to another patient with your condition?



If yes, what might you tell them?

That the procedure could certainly help them with their pain

It is hard to comprehend the difference once the machine is activated. No longer reliant on medication which can restrict certain activities, your life will return to what it was if you have the confidence to go ahead. I was almost housebound by the pain when waiting for annual referrals for repeat procedures after the effects of the previous one diminished. Since the implant, I have enjoyed my life again.

If they are struggling to perform their normal activities, routine and are in constant pain, I would recommend they try this. Can be taken out if it isn't working. But overall it has improved my quality of life.

It's not a cure but it's a big reduction in back pain

Living with pain for 30 yrs has been hard so it was worth having the procedure just in case it did help, I would have wondered what if, if I didn't have it fitted. It's helped me lower the medication levels which has helped me feel better overall. If you don't try you don't know.

From my own experience it changed my life, I was able to significantly reduce pain relief, it lifted my state of mind, when you have been in so much pain for so long with lower back pain, day in and out it wears you out, this stopped. It was a lifeline for me and I hope it would bring other patients the same relief

its life changing

Having this procedure has got to be better than having to go into surgery. Every time this happens you have to have all those medical people in place nurses doctor surgeons anaesthetist looking after you at such an expense. Having this procedure which last far longer than the invasive injections medications if it works has got to be a win win situation for the NHS and the patient.

It works it's as simple as that

If your back pain is having such a negative effect on your life then this procedure is for you.

If you have back pain that prevents you from enjoying life with your family and makes you worry that you cannot do your job then get it done. What have you got to lose.

It won't cure them completely from the pain but it has helped me by about 90% and my life is a lot better than it has been for the last 5yrs.

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If yes, what might you tell them?

It could give you your life back.

That i have my life back the majority of the time im pain free :)

dont expect a miracle straight away but keep up with the sessions and keep active and it will be fine it helps

My life has been improved and transformed. The lack of mobility and enduring pain has gone. The initial discomfort following the procedure is far outweighed by the lasting benefits.

I would explain how much it has changed my life but I would also be realistic that you could still be in pain slightly but the reduction out weighs how I was prior.

i do tell people about my op. all i tell them is that i am extremely fortunate to have had this major luck in finding who would help me with my lower back.

Don't hesitate if you are offered this surgery Take it you won't regret it One month after it was switched on I visited my surgeon he asked me how I was feeling my first reaction was I said I feel taller Because it stimulates the muscles down the side of spine And I was standing straighter which to pressure off my worn disc I can not really fault having it done

This is a no brainer for me, I have my life back

try anything that might just help and work

I'm so pleased that I got asked if I would like to have this surgery, it has been one of the best things I've ever done!! I would highly recommend this, it does help, all you have to do is make sure you stimulate your back twice a day for 30minutes! I'm so grateful to all the doctors and nurses and people that have helped me.

It's massively transformed my life. I was in constant pain, off work a lot and couldn't do much activity. Now that's all changed and although the recovery after the implant was painful for about 6 weeks it's been well worth it. I can now do more activities that I want and no longer have that nagging pain. My back feels stronger and more stable and using the device twice a day is easy and fits into my daily routine no problem

If the procedure had an impact on any other areas of your life that are not covered by the questions above please tell us about them here.

N/a

It can be inconvenient sometimes using it twice daily

It helped at home, being able to bend down and lift, the small things in life you take for granted it allowed me to do normal day to day things mums do, at work I was able to concentrate more not being consumed by pain or painkillers

I am very anxious once this trail is over what happens to me then. I hope they realise that it is worth continuing with especially if others are experiencing the benefit of the implant. I except I will never be totally pain free and there have and will be times when I have needed to have extra medication but I do know that my quality of life is far better for me now than the awful state I was in before the procedure.

None all covered

I am able to enjoy fishing again which I hadn't been able to do for a long time

Climbing a flight of stairs was previously painful. Walking around a supermarket was impossible due to the pain. Indeed, many normal daily activities were in achievable. The implant gave me back my independence and a new lease of life. Truly an amazing invention that I would recommend. If I had to go through the process again, I would not hesitate.

It enabled me to complete a marathon and have a better working life too

n/a

The procedure has not had any impact on any other areas of my life