

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Optim Health System is One of the First in the Savannah, Georgia area to Provide a New Treatment Option for Patients Suffering from Chronic Pain, Empowering Patients to Regain Their Quality of Life

As one of the first "Sense Centers," Optim Health System Offers the FDA-Approved Evoke® System

First and only smart spinal cord stimulator that can automatically adjust therapy based on each patient's unique needs for enduring pain relief

[Savannah, Georgia – February 17, 2026] Optim Health System is pleased to announce it has been recognized as a "Sense Center," a recognition for providing state-of-the-art therapies for patients suffering from chronic pain and offering the Evoke® System, the first and only smart spinal cord stimulator that has been proven to significantly reduce chronic pain and improve patients' overall quality of life. This revolutionary therapy, like your home's smart thermostat that maintains the targeted temperature you set regardless of the temperature outside, is unique in that it can continuously listen to the body's needs and automatically adjust therapy to provide consistent and enduring pain relief.

While spinal cord stimulation has been around for more than 50 years, the Evoke System is the first and only device that can measure the spinal cord's response to stimulation, which is unique to every patient, and deliver the precisely needed amount of stimulation therapy. The Evoke System can adjust therapy 4 plus million times a day to account for a patient's activity level and physiologic changes throughout the day.¹

Patients are now able to have confidence that better times are ahead, and that chronic pain doesn't have to define how life is lived and enjoyed.

The Evoke System is backed by the most enduring patient outcomes out to 36 months from the EVOKE Study, the only double-blind, randomized pivotal clinical study in the history of SCS:

- Highest reported outcomes from a double-blind SCS randomized clinical trial at 36 months
- Implanted closed loop patient outcomes²:
 - **83%** of patients had ≥50% VAS Reduction
 - **59%** of patients had ≥80% VAS Reduction
 - **0** explants due to loss of efficacy
- While patients were blinded to what therapy they were receiving, when allowed to cross over at 24 months, **9 out of 10 patients stayed in SmartLoop™ therapy**
- Beyond pain relief, patients experienced multidimensional improvements in patients' quality of life, functional status, mood and sleep

Results from the EVOKE Study were published in *The Lancet Neurology* and the 24-month results in *JAMA Neurology*. Both studies are poised to set new clinical standards for long-term pain relief and improvements in physical and emotional functioning, sleep quality and health-related quality of life.

“As more patients are seeking the best ways to improve their lives from debilitating chronic pain, it is exciting to offer a disruptive spinal cord stimulation therapy with the Evoke® System,” said interventional pain management doctor Joseph Hegarty, MD with Optim Pain Management, part of Optim Health System with clinics in Savannah and Vidalia. “Chronic pain is a dynamic disease, so to be able to offer my patients a therapy proven to provide enduring pain relief and improve outcomes beyond pain relief like improved quality of life, function, sleep, and mood is game-changing. Patients can now confidently focus more on living life and not worry about pain knowing their therapy is designed to automatically deliver an optimal therapeutic dose.”

If you are interested in learning more about the [Evoke® System](#) and want to see if this device is right for you, call to make an appointment with Dr. Hegart at 912-721-2262 or visit www.optimhealthsystem.com.

1. The Evoke® System takes measurements and adjusts stimulation output at each and every stimulation pulse delivered. On average, the Evoke® System’s SmartLoop™ therapy makes 4+ million measurements and adjustments per day depending on each patient’s unique needs.

2. NANS 2023 presentation, N. Mekhail; EVOKE Study 36-month Data on File
Risks and Important Safety Info: www.saludamedical.com/safety

Rx Only

In the US, the Saluda Medical Evoke® SCS System is indicated as an aid in the management of chronic intractable pain of the trunk and/or limbs.

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About Optim Health System

Optim Health System is a patient-focused healthcare system serving communities across Southeast Georgia. The system includes two hospitals, ambulatory surgery centers, specialty and primary care clinics, and a wide range of services including orthopedics, neurosurgery, interventional pain management, ear, nose and throat (ENT), primary care, sports medicine, and workplace health solutions through the Optim Impact program.

The system is anchored by Optim Medical Center-Tattnall, a physician-owned specialty hospital, and Optim Medical Center-Screven, a critical access hospital. Optim Medical Center-Tattnall is DNV GL-Healthcare accredited as an Orthopedic Center of Excellence and certified as a Center of Excellence for Hip and Knee Replacement, Shoulder Surgery, and Spine Surgery.

With a focus on clinical excellence, advanced technology, and coordinated care, Optim Health System works to improve access, enhance outcomes, and enrich life through care and partnership. Learn more at optimhealthsystem.com.

About Optim Pain Management

Optim Pain Management delivers patient-centered interventional care for acute and chronic

pain, offering advanced, minimally invasive treatments to improve function, reduce pain, and support return to daily life. Clinics are located in Savannah, Rincon, Statesboro, Baxley, Claxton, Dublin, Hinesville, Sandersville, Vidalia, Sylvania, and Reidsville. Learn more at [Optim Pain Management](#).