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Health: Electric Wave Pain Reliever



Reporting
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PHILADELPHIA (CBS 3) — Twitching to feel better. It's a device that triggers powerful muscle spasms. Robert Padulo says it's all involuntary and doesn't hurt. He says it's actually a tremendous pain reliever.

"It gave me back my active lifestyle," said Robert.

He's back in the gym, heavy lifting after having a broken arm that caused constant pain.

"As if you continually kept hitting your funny bone," said Robert.

When traditional treatments didn't work, Robert turned to Dr. Jennifer Chu who invented a therapy she calls eToims.

"This whole unit is completely a stimulator itself," said Dr. Chu. She says the device emits an electrical wave that goes into the deepest layer of muscle. That's the nerve irritation causes the pain.

"We are the only technology that can stimulate neuro-muscular junctions that are deep inside the muscle so that the deepest layers can contract and relax," said Dr. Chu.

She says that relieves muscle tension and improves blood flow, and can also heal damaged tissue.

"Oh, totally dramatic change. My life is so different now," said Christina Bates, who is a music teacher in South Philly. She has fibromyalgia, which causes all over pain and horrible migraine headaches.

"I was missing out. I was in pain, and I couldn't function," said Christina.

Until she turned to the eToims therapy, that's focused on her neck and upper back, relieving the muscle tension and zapping her pain.

"I got my life back totally. I got my life back," said Christina.

Dr. Chu says there's research showing the therapy is safe and effective, but it's non-invasive so it doesn't have to be approved by the FDA.

It cost about \$120 for each of the hour long treatments, usually a series are needed, and it is covered by many insurance plans if it's used for physical therapy.

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