Oconee Medical Center offers free community health seminar:

'Spinal Cord Stimulation – The Pacemaker for Chronic Pain'

FOR THE JOURNAL

SENECA — Oconee Medical Center is offering a free community health education seminar on a pain relieving treatment for chronic pain. Often referred to as a "pacemaker for pain," spinal cord stimulation looks and works a lot like a pacemaker.

The event will take place at 6 p.m. Nov. 8 in the patient tower conference rooms. Dr. Shaina Drummond, an anesthesiologist who is fellowship trained in pain management and affiliated with Oconee Medical Center, will explain how the treatment works and what types of patients would benefit from the procedure. To register or to receive more information, call (864) 885-7905.

Spinal cord stimulation is a pain relieving medical therapy for people who suffer from certain types of chronic pain. The therapy involves a small device surgically placed beneath the skin to send tiny electrical pulses to the brain that blocks pain signals. While the stimulator does not treat or fix the source of pain, it provides enough pain relief for some people that they can return to their favorite activities again.

Patients suffering from chronic pain of the trunk or limbs may benefit from spinal cord stimulation. It is a widely accepted, FDA-approved treatment. Many major health insurance plans, Medicare and worker's compensation programs provide benefits and coverage for the therapy. Spinal cord stimulation may help relieve chronic pain for people with failed back syndrome, multiple back operations, degenerative disk disease, epidural fibrosis, unsuccessful disk surgery and many other conditions.