

Cervical sympathetic trunk



The cervical [sympathetic trunk](#) contains three interconnected [ganglia](#): the superior, middle, and inferior [cervical ganglia](#). In 80% of people, the lowest cervical [ganglion](#) is fused with the first thoracic ganglion to form the cervicothoracic [stellate ganglion](#).

A simple treatment such as a cervical [sympathetic nerve block](#) may be an effective therapy but is not routinely performed to treat [vasospasm/DCI](#). cervical [sympathetic nerve block](#) consists of injecting local anesthetic at the level of the [cervical sympathetic trunk](#), which temporarily blocks the innervation of the cerebral arteries to cause arterial [vasodilatation](#). cervical [sympathetic nerve block](#) is a local, minimally invasive, low cost and safe technique that can be performed at the bedside and may offer significant advantages as a complementary treatment in combination with more conventional neurointerventional surgery interventions. Bombardieri et al. reviewed the literature that describes cervical [sympathetic nerve block](#) for vasospasm/DCI prevention or treatment in humans after aSAH. The studies outlined in this review show promising results for a cervical [sympathetic nerve block](#) as a treatment for vasospasm/DCI. Further research is required to standardize the technique, explore how to integrate a cervical [sympathetic nerve block](#) with conventional neurointerventional surgery treatments of vasospasm and DCI, and study its long-term effect on neurological outcomes ¹⁾.

¹⁾

Bombardieri AM, Albers GW, Rodriguez S, Pileggi M, Steinberg GK, Heit JJ. Percutaneous cervical sympathetic block to treat cerebral vasospasm and delayed cerebral ischemia: a review of the evidence. J Neurointerv Surg. 2022 Dec 6:jnis-2022-019838. doi: 10.1136/jnis-2022-019838. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 36597947.

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Last update: **2024/06/07 02:56**

