Percutaneous radiofrequency denervation

Radiofrequency denervation is a medical procedure in which part of tissue is ablated using the heat generated from high frequency alternating current (in the range of 350–500 kHz).

It is generally conducted in the outpatient setting, using either local anesthetics or conscious sedation anesthesia.

Two important advantages of RF current (over previously used low frequency AC or pulses of DC) are that it does not directly stimulate nerves and therefore can often be used without the need for general anesthetic, and that it is very specific for treating the desired tissue without significant collateral damage.

Documented benefits have led to RFA becoming widely used during the last 15 years.

RFA procedures are performed under image guidance (such as X-ray screening, CT scan or ultrasound) by an interventional pain specialist.

Radiofrequency lumbar facet joint denervation

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