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Jefferson Rehabilitation and Wellness ready to zap pain away

By JUSTIN DENNIS jdennis@starbeacon.com Jan 15, 2017



JUSTIN DENNIS | Star Beacon Joshua Ketola, HR director at Jefferson Rehabilitation and Wellness, demonstrates the clinic's new Multi-Wave Locked System laser therapy device, a state-of-the-art pain management treatment now available at the South Chestnut Street clinic.

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JEFFERSON — Jefferson Rehabilitation and Wellness has added some firepower to its repertoire — a state-of-the-art laser used for pinpoint pain therapy.

The South Chestnut Street clinic received its new MLS — or multi-wave locked system — therapy laser a little more than two weeks ago, said clinic HR director Joshua Ketola. With the new addition comes a new business inside, Laser Pain Clinic and Associates, which is currently taking new patients for the alternative pain management method.

"We all see how much pain medications have gone a little bit rampant in certain ways," Ketola said. "They've been overprescribed. ... So we're trying to find an alternative to that."

The laser treatment method works all the way down to the skeletal level, essentially helping natural cellular regeneration along – "it helps your body heal itself," he said. Treatments are often short, about 10 to 15 minutes, and most patients reported they felt nothing during the procedure, Ketola said.

"Some people feel a warm, tingling sensation, but that's rare," Ketola said. "You'll feel your muscles relax. It's kind of like a massage. I've had patients fall asleep during it."

The length of ongoing treatment can vary

between patients,

and the severity of the pain, he said. But small injuries like sprains and bruises can be cleared

up in mere days, and some report feeling better after just one session. There are no known side effects.

MLS laser therapy was cleared by the FDA in 2002 — and is already being used by pro athletes — but the clinic's class laser is only about a year old, Ketola said. Laser Pain Clinic owner Gina Brown said she believes the Jefferson clinic is one of only a few facilities in the state to offer it.

"This laser's so powerful. Let's say you have a diabetic family member that ends up with an ulcer on their foot. ... This thing has the ability to save that person's foot," she said. "This thing's so powerful and the hospitals don't even have it."

Ketola said he knows of only three clinics that have similar devices in Cincinnati, Toledo and Columbus.

The MLS therapy laser system can treat: diabetic neuropathy; back and shoulder pain; joint, neck and knee pain and other sports injuries; arthritis and bursitis and sciatic pain; achilles tendonitis; rotator cuff tendonitis; tennis and golfer's elbow; and repetitive motion or other occupational injuries.

For more information, contact the clinic at (440) 576-0043.

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