

# Consider These Facts On Back Pain & Back Surgery...

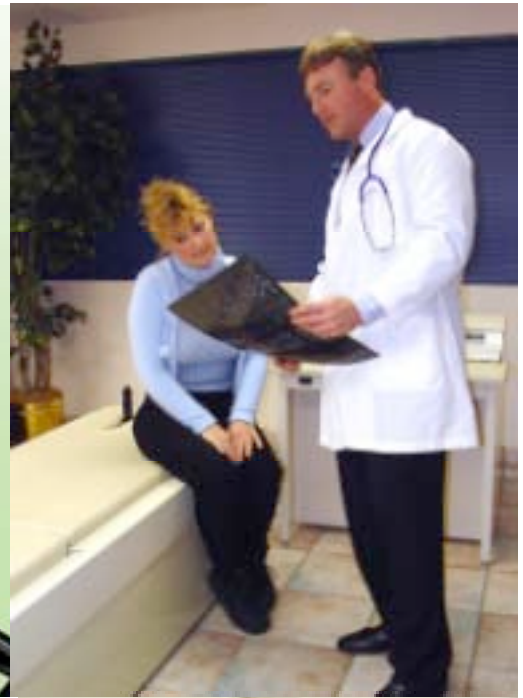


## FACTS:

Back pain is one of the most significant problems facing medicine today. The economic costs are staggering. The estimated cost in the US this year is \$60 billion. Despite the overwhelming statistics on the magnitude of the problem, it is still growing.

- Back pain is the number one cause of work absence after colds and flu.
- 5.4 million Americans are disabled annually due to back pain.
- More money is spent on the treatment of chronic pain than is spent on heart disease, AIDS and cancer combined.
- The average cost for back surgery is about \$40,000.00.
- An estimated 93 million workdays are lost each year due to back pain.
- Only 37% of patients undergoing their first back surgery returned to work. Only 27% of patients with more than one back surgery return to work.
- 70% of patients who had lumbar back surgeries still complained of back pain. 23% complained of constant pain, and 35% were still under treatment.

# The Pressure's On: Delivering Relief For Your Patients.



"As an orthopedic surgeon and peer reviewer, I see many patients who are significantly worse after back surgery. VAX-D is often the only viable treatment option for these patients. In many cases, I believe that if they had been treated with VAX-D before surgery, they would have resolved completely. Any physician who routinely treats low back problems should include VAX-D in their arsenal to treat the many patients refractory to simple means who are not clear surgical cases."

Howard Berkowitz MD, FACS, Orthopedic Surgeon  
Former Assistant Clinical Professor of Orthopedic Surgery & Clinical Instructor  
in Orthopedic Surgery, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, New York

"VAX-D produces a tremendous pressure gradient between the intradiscal space and surrounding tissue that pelvic traction cannot produce. The negative intradiscal pressure produced (ranging from 100 to 150 mm Hg) and the clinical effect of that negative pressure is a major factor distinguishing VAX-D from pelvic traction. After treating more than 500 patients with low back pain over a 5-year period, we continue to see 75% improvement across all patients. More importantly, only 7 patients have returned for further treatment over this period of time."

Ross N. Brudenell MD, FAAOS, DABOS, Orthopedic Surgeon  
Diplomat, American Board of Orthopedic Surgery  
Fellow American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons.