

The McKenzie Method® of Mechanical Diagnosis and Therapy® (MDT)



# Take Control of Your Neck Pain

Active Examination, Dynamic Diagnosis and Reliable Intervention  
See how the McKenzie Method relieves back, neck and extremity pain!  
**Solutions proven to work!**

## Why the McKenzie Method?

Imagine you have the power to control your pain and the ability to do your work and daily activities. Save time and money with the McKenzie Method. Free yourself from excessive therapy sessions, expensive equipment/testing and, most importantly, surgery!

Just like in your back, it is important to consider the position of your neck. Poor posture causes ligaments to overstretch and if they are overstretched for prolonged periods of time, pain will likely result. This can occur from: bad sitting position (slouched, hunched and the biggest culprit: protruded neck position), awkward or strained positions when sleeping or lying, and strained working positions, such as cramped spaces or situations where the head and neck are stuck in one position for an extended period of time.

If neck pain is resulting from postural stresses, some very simple, specific exercises can be your solution to eliminate pain and prevent future episodes.

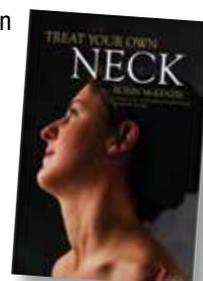
### Yes No

- |                          |                          |   |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 1. Are there periods in the day when you have no pain? Even 10 minutes?   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 2. Are you generally worse when sitting for prolonged periods or on rising from the sitting position?   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 3. Are you generally worse when inactive and better when on the move?   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 4. Do you sometimes experience pain across the shoulders or into the shoulder blades?   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 5. Do you sometimes experience pain down the arm and into the hand with symptoms like the feeling of "pins and needles" or numbness in the fingers? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 6. Do you have periodic headaches?  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 7. Have you had several episodes of neck pain over the past months or years?  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 8. Are you able to move your head fully in all directions without pain between episodes?  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 9. Are you pain-free between episodes?  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 10. If you have pain in the scapula, or upper/lower arm, does it sometimes stop completely, even though you may still have pain in the neck?        |

**If you answered YES to four or more questions,** there is a great chance you can benefit from MDT intervention strategies.

Self-treatment principles are the ultimate goal, but hands-on manual techniques may be necessary initially to assist with your recovery. It is recommended that a comprehensive examination and evaluation by a certified MDT provider be your first step to ensure you are gaining the full benefit of specific therapeutic exercise.

You can also learn more from one of McKenzie's self-help books. *Treat Your Own Neck* and others in the series are available from [www.OPTP.com](http://www.OPTP.com)



## How It Works

MDT is a comprehensive, evidence-based system of examination, evaluation, diagnosis, prognosis, intervention and prevention strategies aimed at patient education and independence.

- Known to show results in as little as two to three visits
- Driven by sound clinical reasoning for individualized plans of care
- Cost-efficient treatment minimizing the need for expensive tests or procedures: no needles, no injections, no surgery.

**Step 1: Active Examination** – Listening to your detailed history and with your active involvement using repeated movements or positions during the unique MDT examination process, the clinician establishes a clear direction with a solid baseline to develop an individualized plan of care.

**Step 2: Dynamic Diagnosis** – You'll be prescribed specific exercises and given guidance for appropriate postures and behaviors to adopt or temporarily avoid outside the clinic. The clinician can quickly re-evaluate from the baseline and observe how your symptoms and range of movement changes to maintain the course or modify the plan of care. This may include hands-on techniques as needed.

**Step 3: Reliable Intervention** – By learning how to self-treat your current impairment, you gain practical knowledge to minimize the risk of recurrence and rapidly deal with symptoms if they do recur.

**Prevention is the ultimate goal.** You're in control of your pain!

**Take control of your pain, empower yourself and get back to the life you love!**

 **Find a Provider**

[mckenzieinstituteusa.org](http://mckenzieinstituteusa.org)