

# INTERCOSTAL NERVE ABLATION

## What is Intercostal Nerve Ablation?

Injury or inflammation of intercostal nerves, located under each rib, can cause pain radiating along your ribs or your chest wall. An intercostal nerve ablation works by disrupting pain signals from the injured nerve to the brain.

## Who is it for?

Intercostal nerve ablations are a great way to reduce pain in the chest associated with:

- Rib fractures
- Neuropathic pain in the chest associated with herpes zoster or shingles
- Formation of scar tissue after surgery
- Mastectomies
- Somatic pain secondary to metastatic cancer to the chest or abdominal wall



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## What to expect:

Once an intercostal nerve has been determined to be a pain generator, typically via an intercostal nerve block, its nerve supply is targeted for interruption. During the procedure, a small needle or cannula is positioned next to these nerves via fluoroscopic (x-ray) guidance. When it appears to be in the accurate position, the doctor will inject an anesthetic to numb the area. Then, the radiofrequency generator is used to heat the needle or cannula tip for up to 90 seconds, destroying the target nerve. The nerve is then unable to transmit pain signals to the brain.

## Ask Your Synergy Team

If you have questions regarding this or any other treatment option, just ask! Synergy brings together the best from multiple disciplines to provide a variety of treatment options. You have a team of specialists, focusing on your unique condition, and working together to develop the best possible solution.

[SynergyHealthCareSolutions.com](http://SynergyHealthCareSolutions.com)

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