



# Best Doctors®

## ELITE DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING



### TESTIMONIAL



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Debbie Needham has degenerative disc disease and lives with constant pain. Told by her physicians she needed an MRI, she decided to pay to have it done through a private imaging company so she could get it done quickly rather than face lengthy wait times. The results led to the decision by her physicians that she needed two disc implants in her upper spine and they would be of a type that would also give her motion flexibility.

After a wait of a year, surgery was performed in August 2007. At her three-month check-up following surgery and still experiencing distress, she was told she needed a second surgery to correct a problem with one of the implants that was pressing on her spinal cord.

The second surgery in December removed the faulty implant; bone from her hip was used for the vertebrae and a steel rod was inserted between the two vertebrae behind her neck. Unfortunately this surgery caused damage to her shoulder area leaving her again with considerable constant pain. Another adverse result from the surgery was

the disruption of the sympathetic nerve in her neck resulting in Horner Syndrome in her face, causing the drooping of the right eye and a change in her vision.

Debbie was told another MRI was needed to see if it was the discs that were causing the shoulder problem. Being unable to pay for a private MRI this time, she faced a long wait of 3 to 6 months for the imaging.

Her company had recently added the Best Doctors Elite Diagnostic Imaging service to her employee benefits package. Debbie asked for an imaging requisition from her doctors and immediately called Best Doctors.

“Within 48 hours of talking with Best Doctors they had made the Imaging Clinic appointment for me and the imaging was completed – two days instead of 3 to 6 months! I was so thankful that I could get in so quickly. I now have an appointment within a month with an orthopaedic surgeon specializing in shoulders. Best Doctors was great and the service was wonderful.”

*Debbie Needham*

Bonavista Energy Trust