

Lee's Story

In 2010 I was experiencing a lot of facial and head pain. Most of my pain was located in my bottom right jaw affecting the teeth and the right side of my head. My pain was excruciating stabbing shocks that lasted for about 45 seconds to a minute, only happening during the night. I was currently in Lake Placid NY attending a school on an ice hockey scholarship. As the days went by the pain worsened. I went to a dentist thinking he could help me since most of my pain was tooth related. Unfortunately he wasn't able to do anything for me nor help me discover what I was suffering from. I saw multiple doctors along with dentist trying to figure out what this horrible pain was. I was given medication to subside the pain until one morning I woke up with constant stabbing pain instead of just 1 minute attacks. I was admitted to the Emergency room where they pumped me with pain medication only giving me minutes of relief until the pain was unbearable again. My parent flew up from Boca Raton Florida and that's when they realized this was worse than they imagined. I had cat scans, MRIs and multiple doctors come in and out of the room confused not saying very much. After hours in the ER one doctor came in my room and handed my mom a piece of paper stating that I was diagnosed with Trigeminal Neuralgia. The doctors nor my parents had any idea what this disease was or how to pronounce it. There wasn't much they were able to do at that moment since my cat scans and MRI's came back clear.

The next day we flew home and immediately saw a neurologist. The neurologist gave us two options. First option was brain surgery and the second option was medication. Obviously we decided chose the medication. I began taking my prescribed medication and the pain began to subside. Due to medication side effects, the higher I went in dosage the more disabled I became. It came to the point where I wasn't too sure what was going on and the only thing I did was sleep. My dreams of being a hockey player, song writer and happy healthy teenager was robbed from me.

My mom couldn't settle. She began to research alternative therapies for Trigeminal Neuralgia. After long days and longer nights crying at her computer she finally came across Laser Therapy. The only laser place was located in South Carolina. My parents were skeptical but it was better than our options the neurologist had given us. They didn't even hesitate. We packed the car and drove 12 hours to South Carolina. I began treatments the second we arrived. I received 2 treatments a day for 2 weeks, totaling 28 treatments. As the treatments went by the pain subsided, improving every day. This warm light scanning over my face that felt so therapeutic was helping me. It was almost too good to be true. Once I finished with my protocol of 28 treatments I was in less pain and started getting off my medication. The laser continues to work after the last laser treatment for another 4-6 weeks. A month after receiving treatments I was off all my medication with minimal pain functioning like a normal teenager. Another month after that I had no pain, off all medication and was back at school in Lake Placid NY perusing my hockey dreams.

My parents along with the rest of my family and friends were beyond amazed and excited. But my mom didn't stop there. She became a spokesperson for laser therapy trying to spread the word to help other suffering with TN. She found and helped many people by telling my story and promoting laser therapy that she realized it was something she needed to do for a living. She dedicated her life to helping other with painful conditions.

In May 2013 my mom opened a laser clinic in Boca Raton FL. I received my Certified Nurse's Assistant degree along with laser training and became the main laser therapist. Together my mom and I built this business where we are able to help people not only suffering with Trigeminal Neuralgia but also many other chronic and acute conditions. I can't thank her enough for never giving up on me and for perusing an amazing dream that turned into a business, Carmen Care.