## What is SI Joint fusion?

SI Joint Fusion is the process of fusing the sacrum and ilium joints together. Dr. Paul performs this surgery through a minimally invasive technique, using three triangular implant screws. A SI Joint Disorder can be diagnosed through a series of tests. Dr. Paul uses a series of injections, given by a pain management physician. If the patient receives three positive results from the injections, Dr. Paul would most likely recommend the patient for SI Joint fusion.

## Who is a candidate for SI Joint fusion?

You may be a candidate for this procedure if:

- You suffer from an injury to your back as a result of an automobile or work accident.
- You have been diagnosed with a SI Joint disorder.
- You have severe pain in your lower back, buttocks or pelvis pain, pain while sitting, and/or poor sleeping patterns.

## How does the procedure work?

Beginning surgery, Dr. Paul makes a small incision in the patient's pelvic/buttocks region. He then inserts a pin and can determine the length of the implant screws needed. After drilling a hole, the implants are placed. This procedure is a minimally invasive surgery.

## What happens after surgery?

After surgery, the patient receives crutches or a walker, to help stabilize the back after surgery. Some patients undergo physical therapy to help with their range of motion and weight bearing, and to simplify the recovery process. During the healing process, Dr. Paul tracks patient progress with periodic x-rays as well.

<sup>\*\*</sup>For more information about Sacroiliac Joint Fusion, please consult our office. Dr. Paul and his staff would be happy to answer any questions you may have. \*\*