## Case Study: Innovating to Take On the Neurologist Shortage



## Challenge

Neurology remains a critical component of trauma care, but many facilities have struggled to properly staff their departments to meet their community's needs. In the case of one Level IV trauma center in the Midwest U.S., the need for a neurologist who could handle Electromyography (EMG) and consultative services greatly impacted the care the hospital could provide patients. After the unexpected departure of a neurologist, the hospital spent the next six months trying to find a replacement. Failing to fill this position would disrupt patient coverage and cause patients to have to travel two hours away for EMG examinations and return for basic consultations. In a trauma setting, this is an unacceptable disruption.

## Solution

With a shortage of neurologists and few traditional staffing options, the hospital took a different approach. LocumTenens.com developed an innovative solution that delivered the results the hospital needed, while utilizing available resources. Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (PM&R) doctors possess the necessary expertise to read and interpret EMG results. So they proposed an alternative solution bringing in a PM&R doctor to take on this duty during the absence of any available neurologists.

By implementing this solution, the facility ensured patients' continuity of neurological care while continuing the search for a qualified, full-time neurologist.



## Results

LocumTenens.com's innovative solution yielded advantages for the client and their patients alike during a stark labor shortage in the neurology field.

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- The client's patient community experienced a smooth and seamless continuation of neurology services.
- The trauma center **maintained its service offering** for this medical specialty without interruption, and by leveraging available talent across other disciplines.