

# TRIGGER POINT REFERRED PAIN CHARTS

## How to Treat the Muscles Causing the Pain, NOT the Area of Pain

1. Identify the region on the body closest to the patient's pain.
2. Check the muscles at the top of the list first. They are listed in order of probable cause, although any of the muscles may be involved.
3. Check each muscle for restricted range of motion. The muscle or muscles which can not achieve full stretch or full shortening, or which cause pain "on the stretch" or "on the short" should be palpated and checked for trigger points.
4. Once taut bands of muscle containing trigger points have been located, treat them with trigger point elimination techniques found in *Myofascial Pain and Dysfunction: The Trigger Point Manual*, Travell and Simons; or as taught in the MYO Seminar Series.
5. Always follow trigger point elimination techniques with proper stretching, range of motion exercise and self-care training. Do not attempt strengthening exercises for affected muscles until trigger points and referred pain are eliminated.
6. These Pain Charts denote referral of myofascial trigger point pain only. Other possible non-myofascial causes of pain include visceral, vascular, articular (joint) and neurological pain. In any comprehensive differential diagnosis, each of these possible causes and others must be considered.

