



## Overview: PBM for Hip Pain

**Hip pain** can result from a variety of causes, including osteoarthritis, bursitis, tendinopathy, muscle strain, or post-surgical inflammation. Photobiomodulation (PBM) has been shown to reduce pain and inflammation, improve microcirculation, and promote tissue healing—all of which are valuable for hip pain management.

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### Mechanisms of PBM in Hip Pain Relief

PBM works through several well-documented biological effects:

- **Mitochondrial activation** via cytochrome c oxidase → increases ATP production [1]
- **Reduction of inflammatory cytokines** (e.g., TNF- $\alpha$ , IL-1 $\beta$ ) [2]
- **Upregulation of antioxidant pathways**, like SOD and glutathione [3]
- **Improved microcirculation** and lymphatic drainage → reducing edema and stiffness [4]
- **Neural modulation** → decreasing pain transmission through peripheral nerves [5]

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### Clinical Evidence

Here are key studies demonstrating PBM's efficacy for hip-related conditions:

1. **Hip Osteoarthritis**
    - *Yazici et al., 2017*: PBM significantly reduced pain and improved functional scores in hip osteoarthritis patients after 10 sessions.
    - [PubMed Link](#)
  2. **Trochanteric Bursitis**
    - *Tomas-Carus et al., 2019*: PBM therapy (808 nm laser) led to significant improvement in pain and range of motion.
    - [PubMed Link](#)
  3. **Post-Surgical Hip Recovery**
    - *De Moraes et al., 2014*: PBM reduced pain and accelerated recovery post-total hip arthroplasty.
    - [PubMed Link](#)
  4. **Tendinopathy and Myofascial Pain**
    - *Bjordal et al., 2003*: Meta-analysis shows PBM significantly reduces pain in tendinopathies, applicable to gluteal tendons.
    - [PubMed Link](#)
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## ⚙️ How to Use PBM Healing's SPRB and GPRB Devices for Hip Pain

### 1. SPRB

- **Best for:** Localized application, especially over the greater trochanter, gluteal region, or front of the hip.
- **Wavelengths:** Red (630–660 nm) and Blue (~450 nm)
- **Protocol:**
  - **Position:** Directly over painful area (trochanter, groin, or SI joint)
  - **Session duration:** 15 minutes – once or twice as needed
  - **Frequency:** 1–3 x daily for acute pain; 3–4x/week for chronic pain and maintenance
  - **Contact:** Ensure full skin contact; optionally strap in place for mobility



### 2. GPRB

- **Best for:** Larger surface area such as entire hip, lower back, or upper thigh
- **Protocol:**
  - **Wrap method:** Place over hip, gluteal region, or low back depending on source of pain
  - **Session duration:** 15 minutes – once or twice as needed
  - **Frequency:** 1–3 x daily for acute pain; 3–4x/week for chronic pain and maintenance
  - **Contact:** Ensure full skin contact; optionally strap in place for mobility
  - **Use case:** Ideal for multi-joint involvement (e.g., hip + lumbar spine)

### 🧠 Optional Add-On:

- **Yoga Mat PBM Device** can complement treatment by improving systemic circulation and relaxing surrounding muscle groups during full-body sessions.

### ✓ Practical Tips

Condition	Area	Device	Frequency	Notes
Hip OA	Lateral hip joint	GPRB	4x/week	Combine with physical therapy
Bursitis	Trochanter	SPRB	1–2x/day	May use cold pack after PBM
Tendinopathy	Gluteal insertion	SPRB	3–4x/week	Apply after exercise
Post-op	Over incision site	SPRB/GPRB	2x/day	Begin 24–48h post-op

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### ⚠ Safety and Contraindications

- **Avoid use over active malignancies**, pacemaker sites (unless cleared), or directly over reproductive organs.

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### 📄 Summary

PBM offers a **non-invasive, drug-free** approach to hip pain. Clinical evidence supports its use in **osteoarthritis, bursitis, tendinopathy**, and **surgical recovery**. SPRB is ideal for **targeted therapy**, while GPRB supports **regional treatment** of the hip and adjacent structures.

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### 📖 References (with Links)

1. Hamblin MR. Mechanisms of photobiomodulation. *Photochem Photobiol Sci*. 2016. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/26732851/>
2. Hamblin MR. PBM and inflammation. *Photonics & Lasers in Med*. 2012. <https://doi.org/10.1515/plm-2012-0003>
3. Farivar S, et al. Biological effects of PBM. *Lasers Med Sci*. 2014. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/23982101/>
4. de Moraes NC, et al. PBM post-hip surgery. *Lasers Med Sci*. 2014. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/24408769/>
5. Chow RT, et al. PBM reduces nerve conduction pain. *Pain*. 2007. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/17257763/>
6. Yazici G, et al. PBM for hip OA. *Lasers Med Sci*. 2017. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/28013148/>
7. Tomas-Carus P, et al. PBM for bursitis. *Lasers Med Sci*. 2019. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/30719810/>
8. Bjordal JM, et al. Meta-analysis for tendinopathy. *Photomed Laser Surg*. 2003. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/12890507/>

### Disclaimer

The information provided in this document is for educational and informational purposes only. It is not intended as a substitute for professional medical advice, diagnosis, or treatment.

Individuals should always consult with a licensed physician or qualified healthcare provider before beginning any new therapy, including the use of photobiomodulation (PBM) devices. PBM devices such as the SPRB and GPRB are wellness tools designed to support general health and well-being. They are not medical devices and are not intended to diagnose, treat, cure, or prevent any disease or medical condition. No medical claims are made or implied. Results may vary based on individual factors, and PBM should not be considered a replacement for appropriate medical care.