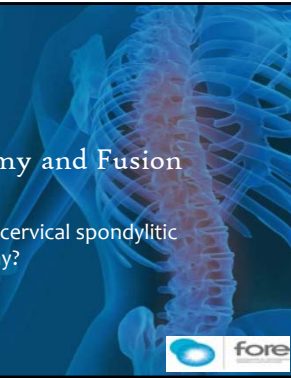


Cervical Laminectomy and Fusion

What is best for multi-level cervical spondylitic myelopathy?




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Steven J Tresser, MD

Why is this still a topic of debate?

Because there really is no “best” way.



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No Clinical Superiority



• Kawakami	2000	Spine
• Wada	2001	Spine
• Mummaneni	2009	JNS-Spine
• Fehlings	2013	Spine
• Brodke	2013	Spine
• Li	2015	Eur Spine J



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Cervical Laminectomies Mechanism

- Direct decompression of posterior canal
- Translation of cord away from anterior pathology





Cervical Laminectomies

- Older patients
- Multi-level disease
- Spondylosis vs soft disc
- Congenital stenosis
- OPLL



Cervical Laminectomy and Fusion

Advantages	Disadvantages
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Technically easier for multi-level• High fusion rates• Faster• May address axial pain better than laminoplasty• Less risk of kyphosis vs laminoplasty	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Posterior muscle stripping• Scar• More painful than ACD/F• Requires appropriate sagittal alignment• Higher complication rate than laminoplasty



Laminoplasty

- Despite avoidance of fusion, results in up to 50% loss of motion
- Risk of persistent neck pain
- Requires 10 degrees pre-existent lordosis to work
- Risk of post-operative kyphosis



