

Endoscopic Spine Surgery – A Paradigm Shift in Spine Care

Christoph Hofstetter, MD, PhD

***Sherry Raisbeck Endowed Professor
of Neurological Surgery***

Spine Fellowship Director

University of Washington, Seattle


**ADVANCES IN NEUROSCIENCES
10TH BAY AREA SYMPOSIUM**

TAYLOR MCADAM BELL
NEUROSCIENCE INSTITUTE 
WASHINGTON HOSPITAL HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

2000 Mowry Ave., Fremont, CA 94538



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Disclosures

I believe in utility of the full spectrum of spine surgery

Funding NIH R01, U19, SCIRP DoD, Raisbeck family foundation

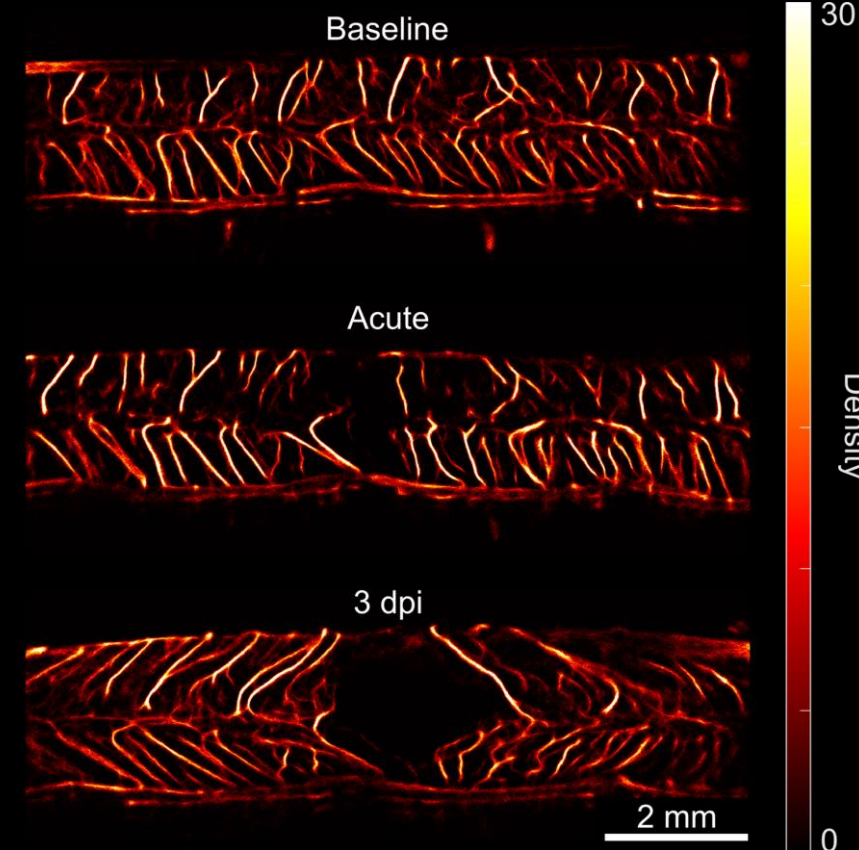
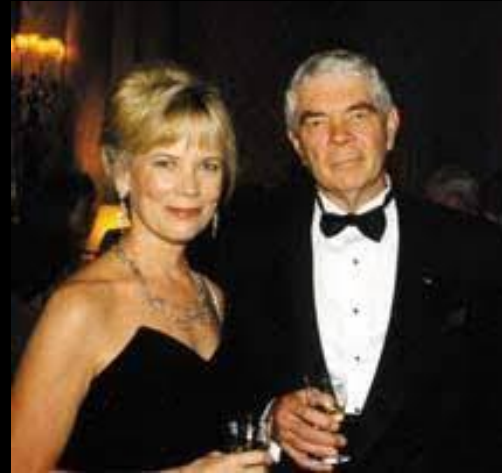
J&J teaching and consulting

Globus teaching and consulting

Joimax teaching and consulting

AOSpine/Wolf teaching

Innovasis teaching and consulting



Learning objectives

- Understand the current choke points of endoscopic spine surgery
- Discuss the impact of full-endoscopic spine surgery
- Explore the opportunities with virtual patient care
- Understand the vision moving forward

Endoscopic Spine Surgery – A Paradigm Shift in Spine Care

- *Establish and teach full-endoscopic procedures*
- *Elevate endoscopic spine surgery as standard of care*
- *Make spine care more enjoyable for patients and surgeons*
- *The vision*

SHAFT BENDER

W Minimally Invasive
Spine fellowship

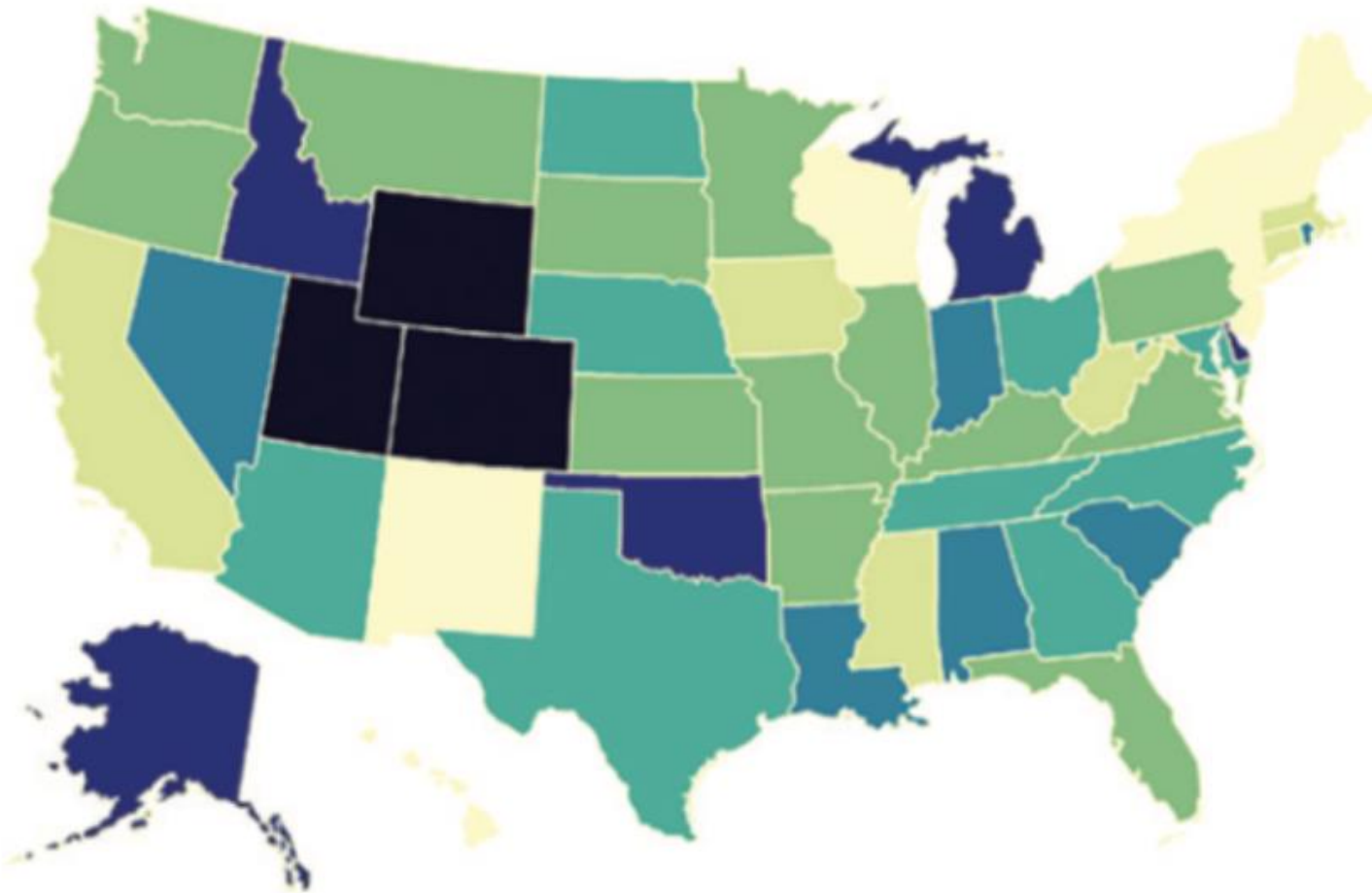
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2018

Medicare Inpatient Spinal Fusion Discharges

All Medicare Penetration Rate Groups



Just in case...

Elements for Nomenclature of Endoscopic Spine Surgery



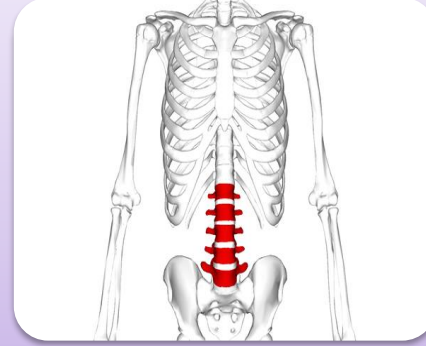
Approach

anterior
posterior
transforamin
al
interlaminar



Instrument

endoscopic



Location

cervical
thoracic
lumbar



Procedure

discectomy
foraminotomy
LRD
ULBD

Christoph P. Hofstetter, MD, PhD¹, Yong Ahn, MD, PhD², Gun Choi, MD, PhD³, J. N. A. Gibson, DSc, FRCSEd⁴, S. Ruetten, MD⁵, Yue Zhou, MD, PhD⁶, Zhen Zhou Li, MD, PhD⁷, Christoph J. Siepe, MD⁸, Ralf Wagner, MD⁹, Jun-Ho Lee, MD, PhD¹⁰, Koichi Sairyo, MD, PhD¹¹, Kyung Chul Choi, MD, PhD¹², Chien-Min Chen, MD¹³, A. E. Telfeian, MD, PhD¹⁴, Xifeng Zhang, MD, PhD¹⁵, Arun Banhot, MD¹⁶, Pramod V. Lokhande, MS, DNB, MNAMS¹⁷, N. Prada, MD¹⁸, Jian Shen, MD¹⁹, F. C. Cortinas, MD²⁰, N. P. Brooks, MD²¹, Peter Van Daele, MD²², Vit Kotheraanurak, MD²³, Saqib Hasan, MD²⁴, Gun Keorochana, MD²⁴, Mohammed Assous, MD²⁵, Roger Härtl, MD, PhD²⁶, and Jin-Sung Kim, MD, PhD²⁷

Approach corridor/visualization/segment of spine/procedure

1. Full-endoscopic discectomy

- a. Full-endoscopic cervical discectomy
 - i. Anterior endoscopic cervical discectomy (AECD)
 - ii. Posterior endoscopic cervical discectomy (PECD)
- b. Full-endoscopic thoracic discectomy
 - i. Transforaminal endoscopic thoracic discectomy (TETD)
- c. Full-endoscopic lumbar discectomy
 - i. Transforaminal endoscopic lumbar discectomy (TELD)
 - ii. Interlaminar endoscopic lumbar discectomy (IELD)
 - iii. Extraforaminal endoscopic lumbar discectomy (EELD)

2. Full-endoscopic foraminotomy

- a. Posterior endoscopic cervical foraminotomy (PECF)
- b. Transforaminal endoscopic lumbar foraminotomy (TELF)
- c. Interlaminar contralateral endoscopic lumbar foraminotomy (ICELF)

3. Full-endoscopic lumbar lateral recess decompression

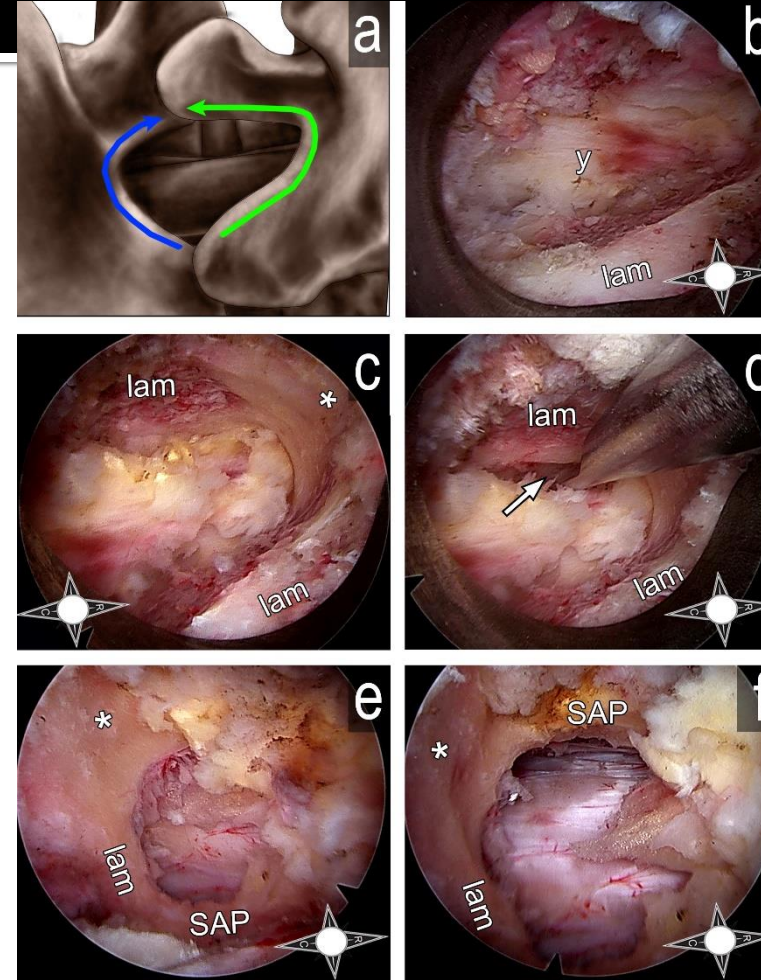
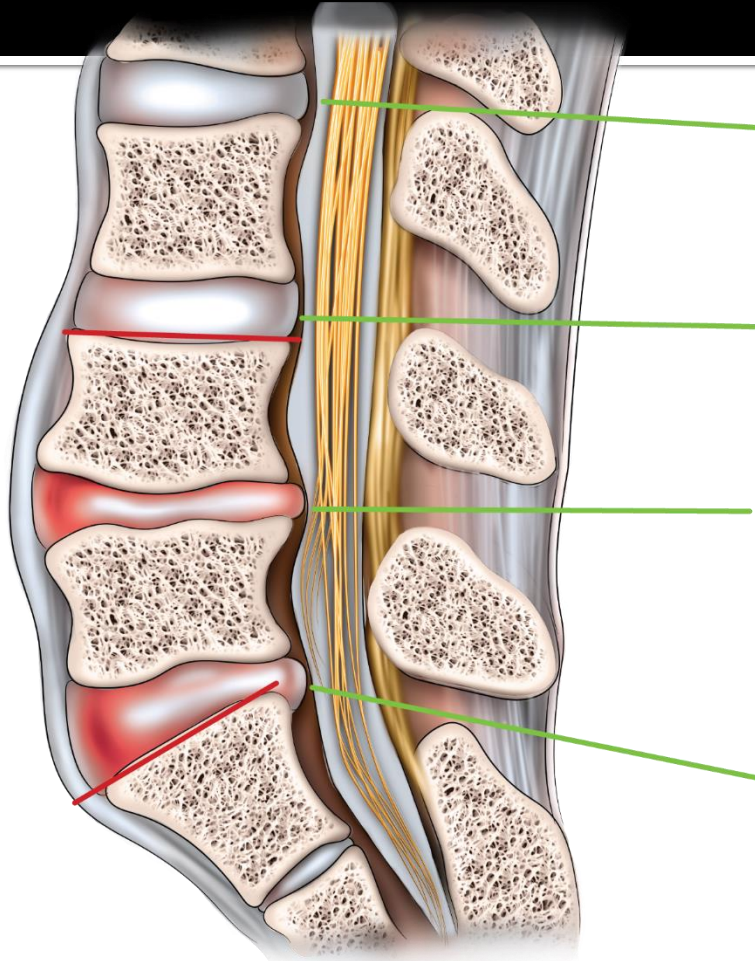
- a. Transforaminal endoscopic lateral recess decompression (TE-LRD)
- b. Interlaminar endoscopic lateral recess decompression (IE-LRD)

4. Full-endoscopic laminotomy for bilateral decompression

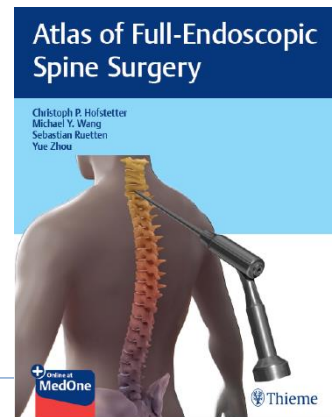
- a. Cervical endoscopic unilateral laminotomy for bilateral decompression (CE-ULBD)
- b. Thoracic endoscopic unilateral laminotomy for bilateral decompression (TE-ULBD)
- c. Lumbar endoscopic unilateral laminotomy for bilateral decompression (LE-ULBD)

Approach corridor/
Surgical technique/
segment of spine/
procedure

Lumbar endoscopic unilateral laminotomy for bilateral decompression (LE-ULBD)



Target area: Inferomedial edge of the lamina
Principal anatomical landmark: Lamina attachment of the yellow ligament



Endoscopic Spine Research Group

- Leading spine surgeons with busy endoscopic spine practices
- Prospective app-based collection of outcomes and complications after full-endoscopic spine surgery
- Define benchmark outcomes following full-endoscopic spine surgery
- Quality improvement efforts of surgical and perioperative care



Christoph Hofstetter



Albert E. Telfeian



Peter Derman



Osama Kashlan



John Ogunlade



Sanjay Konakondla



Meng Huang



Saqib Hasan



Raymond Gardocki



Lynn McGrath Jr.



Mark Mahan



Imad Khan



Societies embracing endoscopic spine surgery

Learning targets & contents

Level 1: Endoscopic pain therapy and initial experience with TESSYS® and iLESSYS®.

Level 2: TESSYS® and iLESSYS® are applied routinely and in combination with Shril®.

Level 3: TESSYS® and iLESSYS® are applied with Shril® for advanced and challenging pathologies.

Level 4: Posterior cervical intervention and assisted spinal stabilization is performed.

Level 5: Top-user, also conducting training and education on all joimax® systems.

Level 6: Mastering all joimax® systems. Scientific research, presentations and publications.

Faculty Program

- Expert meetings
- Fellowship programs
- User meetings
- Supervised surgeries
- Workshops
- Visitation

Level 2 Competent

- Endoscopic lumbar/sacrocaudal facet joint and sacroiliac pain treatment: MultiZYTE®
- Endoscopic intradiscal pain therapy: intENTIS®
- Endoscopic transforaminal discectomy: TESSYS® and TESSYS® Pro
- Endoscopic interlaminar discectomy: iLESSYS® and iLESSYS® Pro
- Endoscopic transforaminal foraminotomy: TESSYS® combined with Shril®
- Endoscopic interlaminar lateral recess decompression: iLESSYS® Pro with Shril®

Level 3 Advanced

- Endoscopic transforaminal lateral recess decompression: TESSYS® Pro
- Endoscopic unilateral laminotomy for bilateral decompression: iLESSYS® Delta
- Advanced endoscopic transforaminal and interlaminar access (migrated disc herniations): TESSYS® Pro, iLESSYS® Pro
- Endoscopic posterior cervical discectomy: iLESSYS® Pro/Delta and CESSYS® Dorsal
- Transforaminal endoscopic and percutaneous stabilization: EndoJIF®, Percusys®

Level 4 Proficient

- Endoscopic transforaminal thoracic discectomy: TESSYS® Thx
- Endoscopic anterior cervical discectomy: CESSYS®
- Endoscopic lumbar, cervical and thoracic unilateral laminotomy for bilateral decompression: iLESSYS® Pro/Delta and CESSYS® Dorsal
- Endoscopic lumbar and thoracic bilateral laminotomy for bilateral decompression and stabilization: iLESSYS® Pro/Delta, TESSYS® Pro/Thx

Advanced level course on Endoscopy

Chairperson



Christoph Hofstetter
University of Washington
Seattle, USA



SMISS
ANNUAL FORUM 2022
SEPTEMBER 29 - OCTOBER 1, 2022

joimax
Endoscopic Spine Experts

NON-CME CADAVERIC LAB (optional) -
ENDOSCOPIC SPINE SURGERY
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2022 | 7:30 AM - 4:00 PM

BASIC TRAINING COURSE

for full-endoscopic spine surgery in conjunction with the Mazama Spine Summit

For more information, please visit: www.mazamasummit.org

Program

7:00 AM - 7:30 AM	Breakfast	Dr. Robert Hirsch
7:30 AM - 8:30 AM	Basics of Endoscopic Spine Surgery	Dr. Robert Hirsch
8:30 AM - 9:30 AM	Basics of Endoscopic Spine Surgery	Dr. Robert Hirsch
9:30 AM - 10:30 AM	Basics of Endoscopic Spine Surgery	Dr. Robert Hirsch
10:30 AM - 11:30 AM	Basics of Endoscopic Spine Surgery	Dr. Robert Hirsch
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM	Basics of Endoscopic Spine Surgery	Dr. Robert Hirsch
12:30 PM - 1:30 PM	Basics of Endoscopic Spine Surgery	Dr. Robert Hirsch
1:30 PM - 2:30 PM	Basics of Endoscopic Spine Surgery	Dr. Robert Hirsch
2:30 PM - 3:30 PM	Basics of Endoscopic Spine Surgery	Dr. Robert Hirsch
3:30 PM - 4:30 PM	Basics of Endoscopic Spine Surgery	Dr. Robert Hirsch
4:30 PM - 5:30 PM	Basics of Endoscopic Spine Surgery	Dr. Robert Hirsch

July 9th and July 10th, 2021

Microsurgical Spine Center
1619 9th St. SE, Suite 102, Puyallup, WA 98372

NASS INDUSTRY CADAVER WORKSHOP

Begin or Advance your Endoscopic Skills at NASS!

Date: September 29, 2021 Time: 5:00-8:00pm

Chul Kim, M.D., Ph.D.
Brian Kwon, M.D.
Chul-Inhoon A. Young, M.D.
James Yoo, M.D.
Purvoo Rajimbari, M.D.

Join us for a webinar with Endoscopic Spine Expert Dr. Ji-Sung (Luke) Kim

Topic: Introduction and History of Transforaminal Endoscopy for Discography

Speaker: Dr. Ji-Sung (Luke) Kim
Professor, Department of Neurosurgery, Seoul St. Mary's Hospital, The Catholic University of Korea
KUSC Health Development Work Group
JG Spine, MD, USA

Date: Friday, April 21, 2023 Time: 7:00-8:30pm EST
7:30 AM Eastern Time, 12:30 AM Asia Time

zoom Please see registration information below.

SPINE 2024 SUMMIT

FEBRUARY 21-24, 2024

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- *Elevate endoscopic spine surgery as standard of care*
- *Make spine care more enjoyable for patients and surgeons*
- *The vision*



*Fast &
Furious Endoscopist*

W Minimally Invasive
Spine fellowship

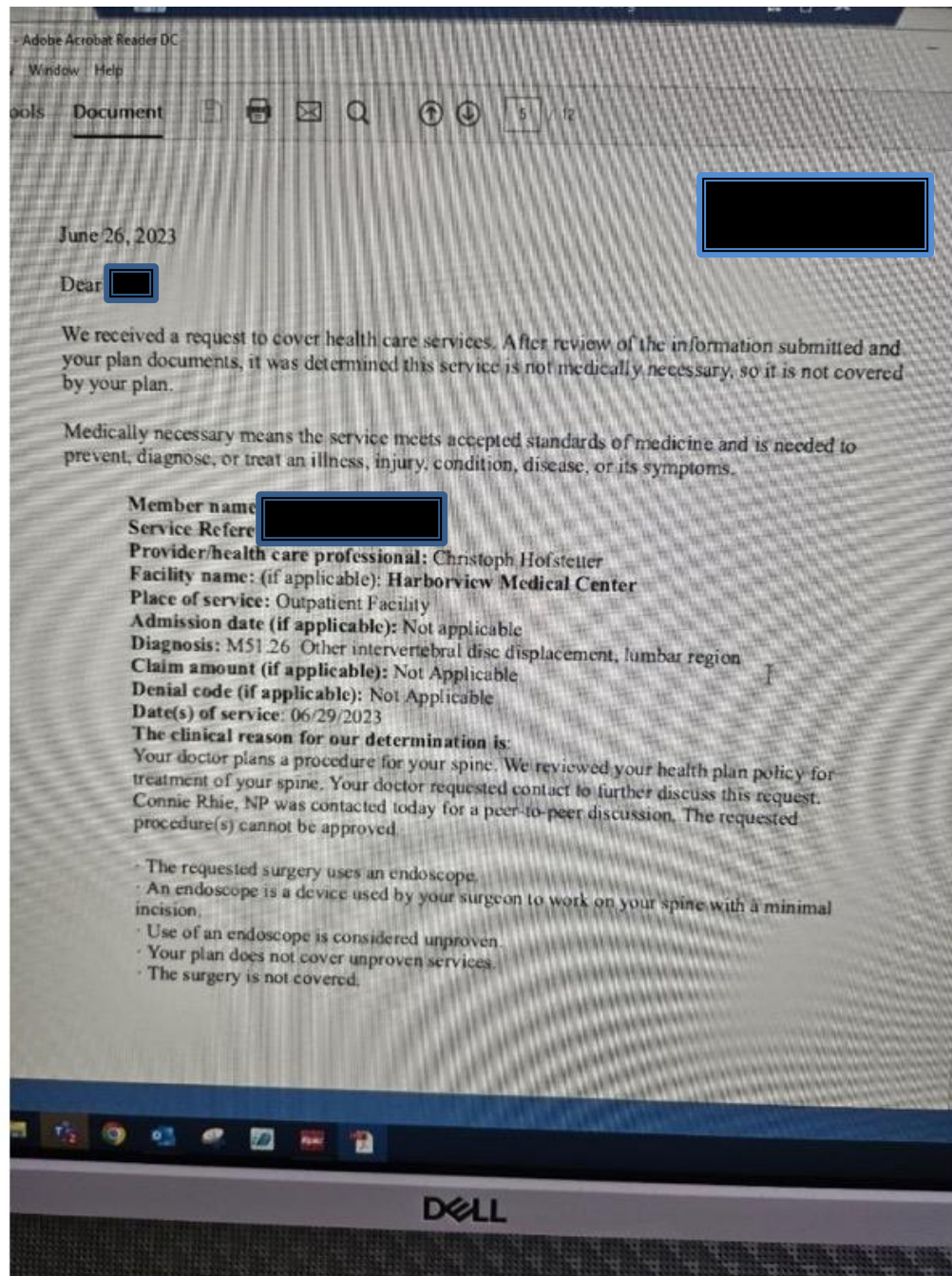
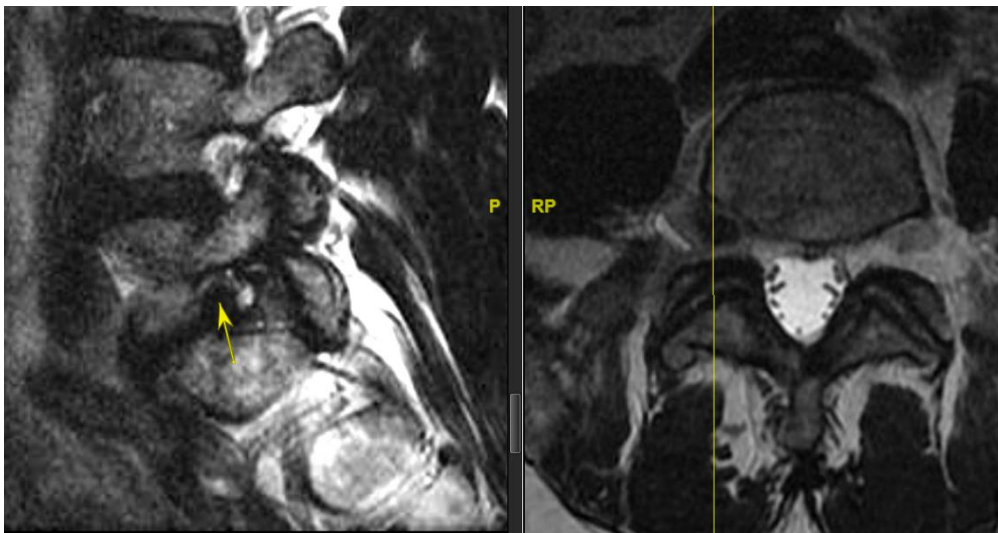
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61 yo male with RLE pain and weakness for 3 months

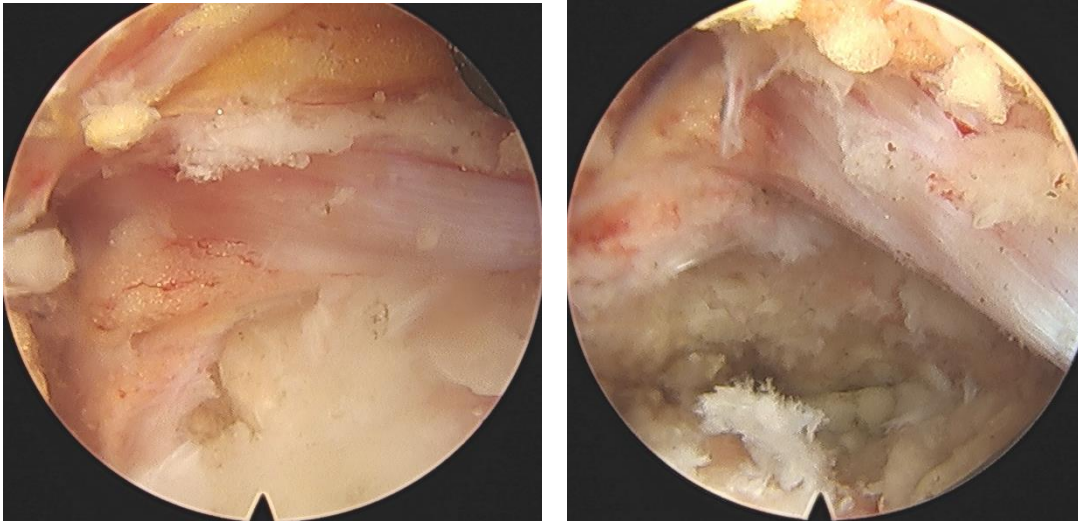
Exam: Gluteus medius 4/5, EHL 4/5

Hofstetter, Christoph Paul, MD (Physician) • Neurosurgery • Encounter Date: 7/3/2023 • Signed
61-year-old male with right lower extremity pain and weakness on examination the patient has right-sided gluteus medius weakness 4+/5, ankle plantarflexion weakness 4/5, EHL weakness 4/5 the patient is larger foramina L5-S1 disc herniation. Traditional surgery requires resection of the right L5-S1 facet joint in order to gain access to this area. Alternatively the patient may undergo a minimally invasive approach that uses the foramen/superior articular process as surgical corridor. (Hasan at al. 2020). This approach will hopefully avoid the need for a resource intense and expensive single level arthrodesis surgery. This type of approach is impossible to perform without using minimal invasive technique. Using a more aggressive traditional surgery in my opinion causes harm to the patient. Possible complications with foraminal decompression includes postoperative paresthesias. The risk of recurrent disc herniations with foraminal discs is approximately 5 to 10%. Other possible locations include



61 yo male with RLE pain and weakness for 3 months

Procedure: L5/S1 TELD using trans SAP technique



Hi Dr. Hofstetter, sorry I didn't see this chat.
Ten days and I am doing well. Having no pain while standing or walking is amazing.

14 hours ago

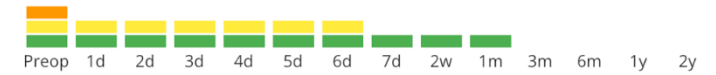
Lower back is sore along with my legs that are not use to squats!

14 hours ago

Thank you so much for the update. Let's take it easy and keep our fingers crossed 🙏

Me
14 hours ago

ODI



VAS

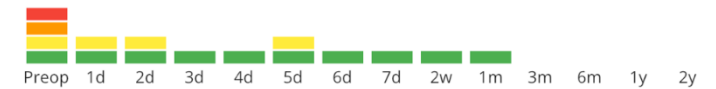
VAS Back



VAS Left Leg



VAS Right Leg

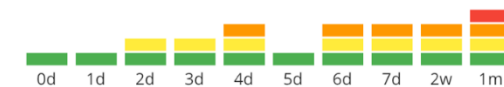


DOI

Preop 1d

HEALTH DATA

Steps



Randomized trials demonstrates non-inferiority of FESS

Eur Spine J (2017) 26:847–856
DOI 10.1007/s00586-016-4885-6

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

A randomised controlled trial of transforaminal endoscopic discectomy vs microdiscectomy

J. N. Alaistair Gibson¹ · Ashok S. Subramanian¹ · Chloe E. H. Scott¹

SPINE Volume 33, Number 9, pp 931–939
©2008, Lippincott Williams & Wilkins

■ Full-Endoscopic Interlaminar and Transforaminal Lumbar Discectomy *Versus* Conventional Microsurgical Technique

A Prospective, Randomized, Controlled Study

Sebastian Ruetten, MD, PhD,* Martin Komo, MD, PhD,* Harry Merk, MD,†

Pain Physician 2015; 18:61-70 • ISSN 1533-3159

Randomized Trial

■ Bilateral Spinal Decompression of Lumbar Central Stenosis with the Full-Endoscopic Interlaminar Versus Microsurgical Laminotomy Technique: A Prospective, Randomized, Controlled Study

SPINE Volume 33, Number 9, pp 940–948
©2008, Lippincott Williams & Wilkins

■ Full-Endoscopic Cervical Posterior Foraminotomy for the Operation of Lateral Disc Herniations Using 5.9-mm Endoscopes

A Prospective, Randomized, Controlled Study

Sebastian Ruetten, MD, PhD,* Martin Komp, MD, PhD,* Harry Merk, MD,† and Georgios Godolias, MD‡

Full endoscopic versus open discectomy for sciatica: randomised controlled non-inferiority trial

Pravesh S Gadjradj,^{1,2} Sidney M Rubinstein,³ Wilco C Peul,⁴ Paul R Depauw,⁵ Carmen L Vleggeert-Lankamp,⁴ Ankie Seiger,³ Job LC van Susante,⁶ Michiel R de Boer,^{3,7} Maurits W van Tulder,³ Biswadiet S Harhanzi¹

FESS is safe and efficient alternative when compared to MIS in the cervical, thoracic and lumbar spine

5 RCTs show rapid recovery with fewer complications following FESS

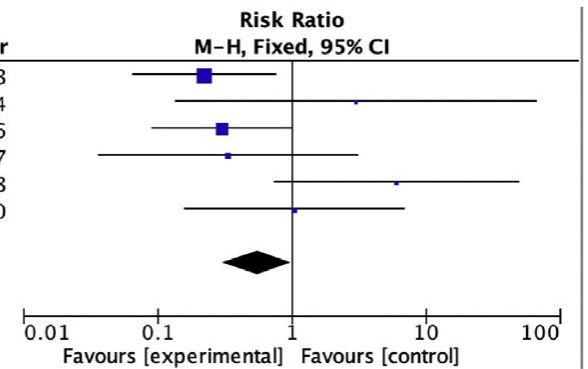
FESS is advantageous regarding operation, self reported pain, quality of life complication, traumatization, rehabilitation

Complications of Full-Endoscopic Lumbar Discectomy versus Open Lumbar Microdiscectomy: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

Chao-Chun Yang¹, Chien-Min Chen^{2,5,6}, Martin Hsiu-Chu Lin¹, Wei-Chao Huang¹, Ming-Hsueh Lee¹, Jin-Sung Kim³, Kuo-Tai Chen^{1,4}

6 RCT with a total of 591 patients were included

Study or Subgroup	FELD		OLM		Weight	Risk Ratio M-H, Fixed, 95% CI	Year
	Events	Total	Events	Total			
Ruetten, 2008	3	91	13	87	43.4%	0.22 [0.07, 0.75]	2008
Pan, 2014	1	10	0	10	1.6%	3.00 [0.14, 65.90]	2014
Pan, 2016	3	48	12	58	35.5%	0.30 [0.09, 1.01]	2016
Ding, 2017	1	50	3	50	9.8%	0.33 [0.04, 3.10]	2017
Gibson, 2017	6	70	1	70	3.3%	6.00 [0.74, 48.55]	2018
Meyer, 2020	2	23	2	24	6.4%	1.04 [0.16, 6.80]	2020
Total (95% CI)		292		299	100.0%	0.55 [0.31, 0.98]	
Total events	16		31				
Heterogeneity: $\chi^2 = 9.91$, $df = 5$ ($P = 0.08$); $I^2 = 50\%$							
Test for overall effect: $Z = 2.04$ ($P = 0.04$)							



Endoscopic spine surgery reduces the rate of overall complications by approximately 50%

Full-endoscopic surgery has higher rate of :

13 cohort studies:

- higher risk of transient dysesthesia (RR [3.70, 95% CI [1.54e8.89)
- Residual fragment (RR [5.29, 95% CI [2.67e10.45)
- Revision surgeries (RR[1.53, 95% CI[1.12e2.08)

Prospective multicenter study on infection with full-endoscopic spine surgery

Tobias Prasse, MD



1261 full-endoscopic spine surgeries compared with 5936 propensity-matched patient cohort from the NSQIP database (age, BMI, gender, co-morbidities)



University of Washington (Dr. Hofstetter)



BROWN

Brown University (Dr. Telfeian)



University of Utah (Dr. Mahan)



LIGAMENTA
Wirbelsäulenzentrum

Ligamenta (Dr. Wagner)

	N (%)	Propensity-Matched		p-value
		Open	Endoscopic	
Operative Level		5936 (82.5)	1261 (17.5)	<0.001
Cervical		466 (7.9)	90 (7.1)	
Thoracic		25 (0.4)	19 (1.5)	
Lumbar		5445 (91.7)	1152 (91.4)	
Number of operative segments				0.088
1		4811 (81.0)	1049 (83.2)	
2		1009 (17.0)	199 (15.8)	
3		103 (1.7)	12 (1.0)	
4		13 (0.2)	1 (0.1)	
Inpatient Total operative time (minutes)		1624 (27.4)	332 (26.3)	0.455
		99 ± 48	99 ± 77	0.746

Multicenter trial on infection with full-endoscopic spine surgery

1261 full-endoscopic spine surgeries compared with 5936 propensity-matched patient cohort from the NSQIP database (age, BMI, gender, co-morbidities)

Results:

Full-endoscopic: 1 surgical site infection (0.001%)

Traditional: 67 surgical site infection (1.1 %)

($P < 0.001$)

Conclusion:

Full-endoscopic spine surgery has a **16 times reduced risk** of surgical site infection compared to traditional surgery



University of Washington (Dr. Hofstetter)



BROWN

Brown University (Dr. Telfeian)



University of Utah (Dr. Mahan)



LIGAMENTA
Wirbelsäulenzentrum

Ligamenta (Dr. Wagner)

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UNITED TOOLS OF
ENDOSCOPIC SURGERY





W Minimally Invasive
Spine fellowship

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Electronic medical record-related burnout in healthcare providers: a scoping review of outcomes and interventions

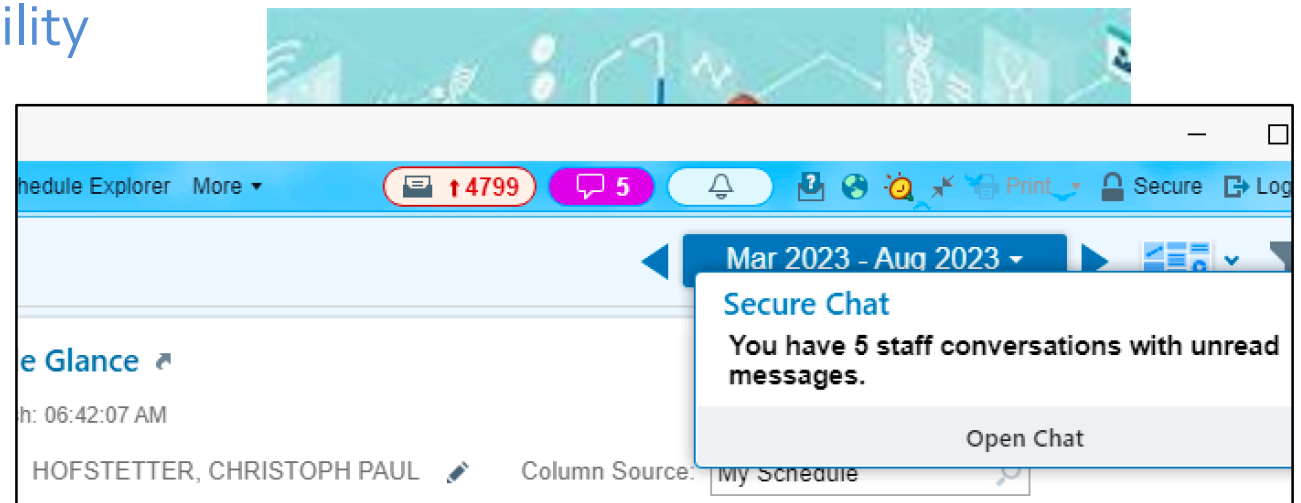
BMJ
Open

Calandra Li ,¹ Camilla Parpia ,¹ Abi Sriharan ,^{2,3} Daniel T Keefe ^{4,5}

Scoping review of 25 studies supporting EMR contribution to provider burnout

Main factors:

- Poor provider EMR functionality and usability
- Extensive time spent for documentation
- # of in basket messages
- Currently no strategies to remedy the issue





Hospital-based EMR:

- Billing and revenue cycle management
- Inventory Management
- Logistics and Resource Management
- Reporting and Analytics
- Patient information management



Physician-driven patient care companion

- Relevant outcome and biomarker tracking
- Asynchronous communication
- Define benchmark outcomes
- Quality improvement initiatives



App-based patient follow up– The Benefits

Patients:

- Tracking your recovery
- Easy access to the surgeon
- Electronic follow-up to avoid trips to the hospital
- Resources for recovery

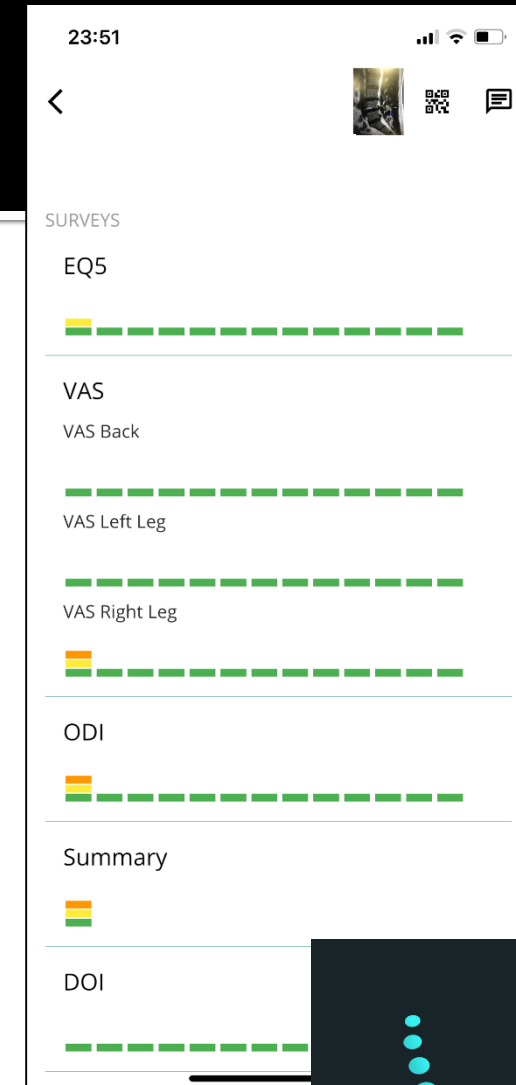
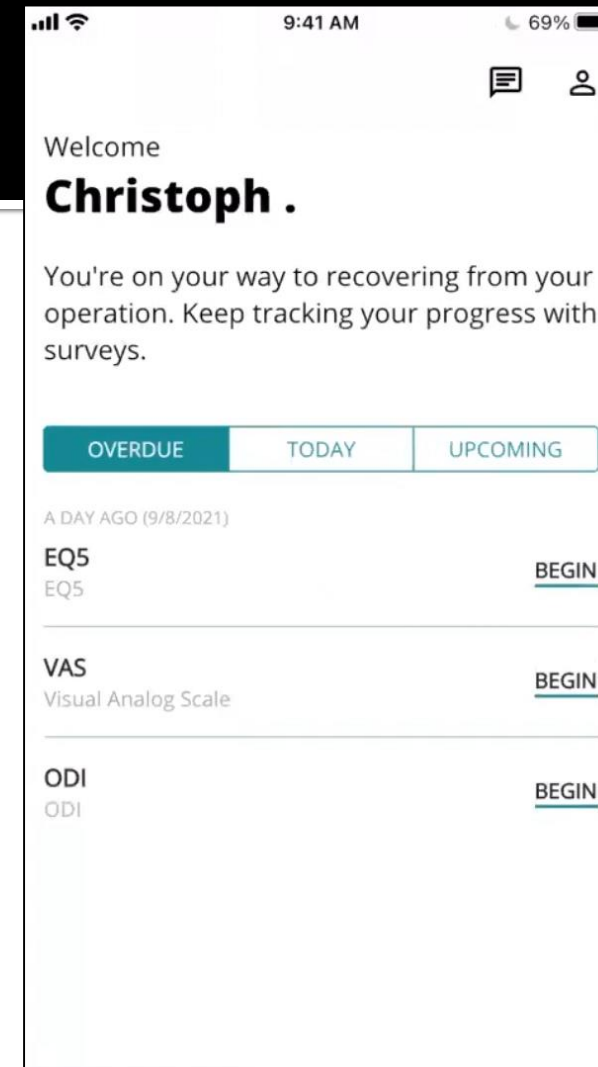
Challenges:

- Efficient sign up
- Simple user interface



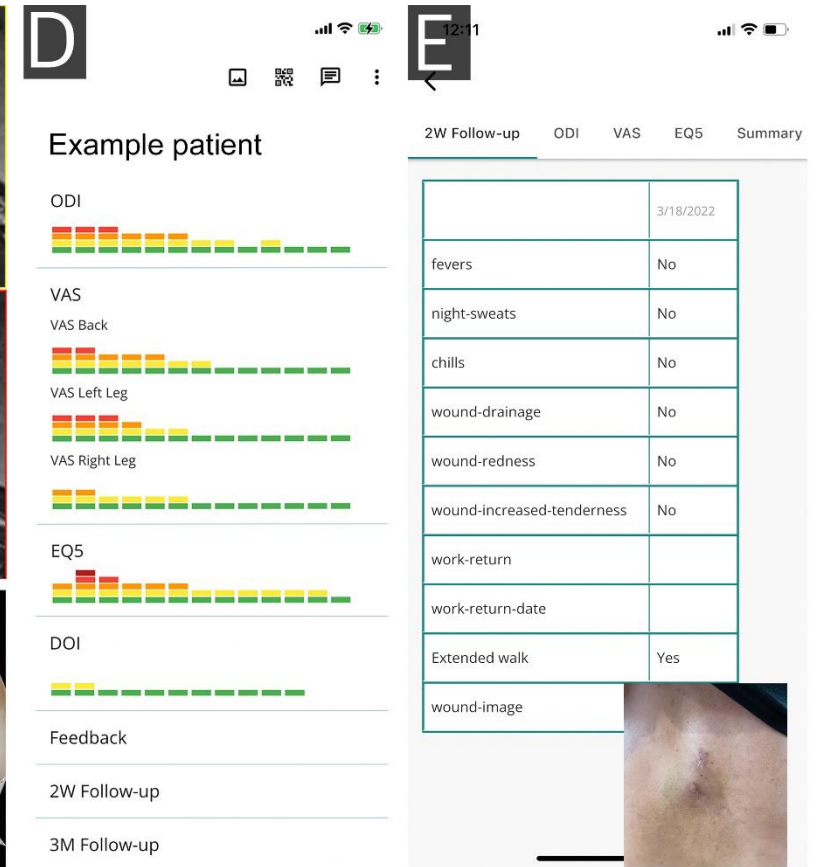
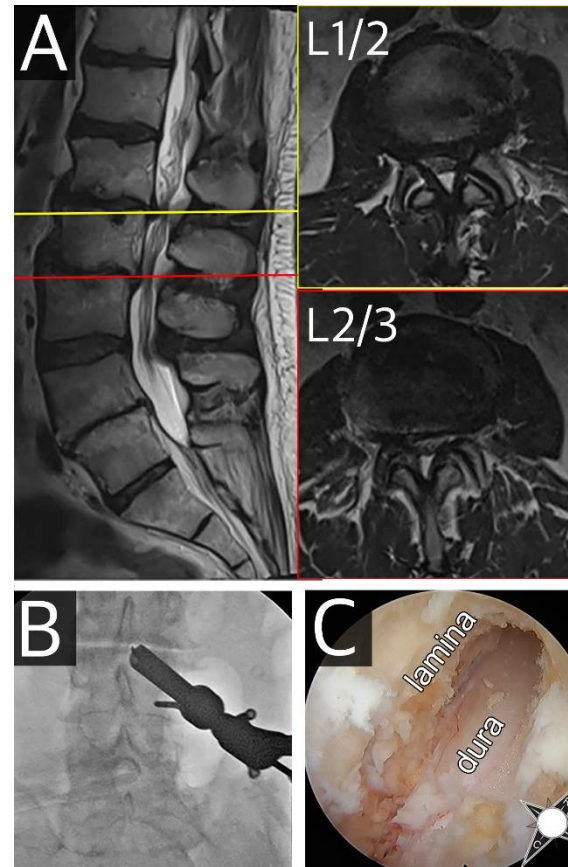
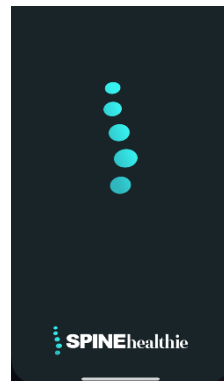
New clinic workflow

- Patients are signed up for the SPINEHealthie app during the preoperative visit
- Patients PROMs th first 7 days, 1 mo, 3 mo, 6 mo, 12 mo, 24 mo
- Virtual postoperative follow-up at 2 weeks and 3 months



SPINEHealthie smartphone app

- Real-time PROMs collection
- Physiological monitoring (steps)
- Chat
- Review of images
- Virtual follow-up



2W Follow-up ODI VAS EQ5 Summary

	3/18/2022
fevers	No
night-sweats	No
chills	No
wound-drainage	No
wound-redness	No
wound-increased-tenderness	No
work-return	
work-return-date	
Extended walk	Yes

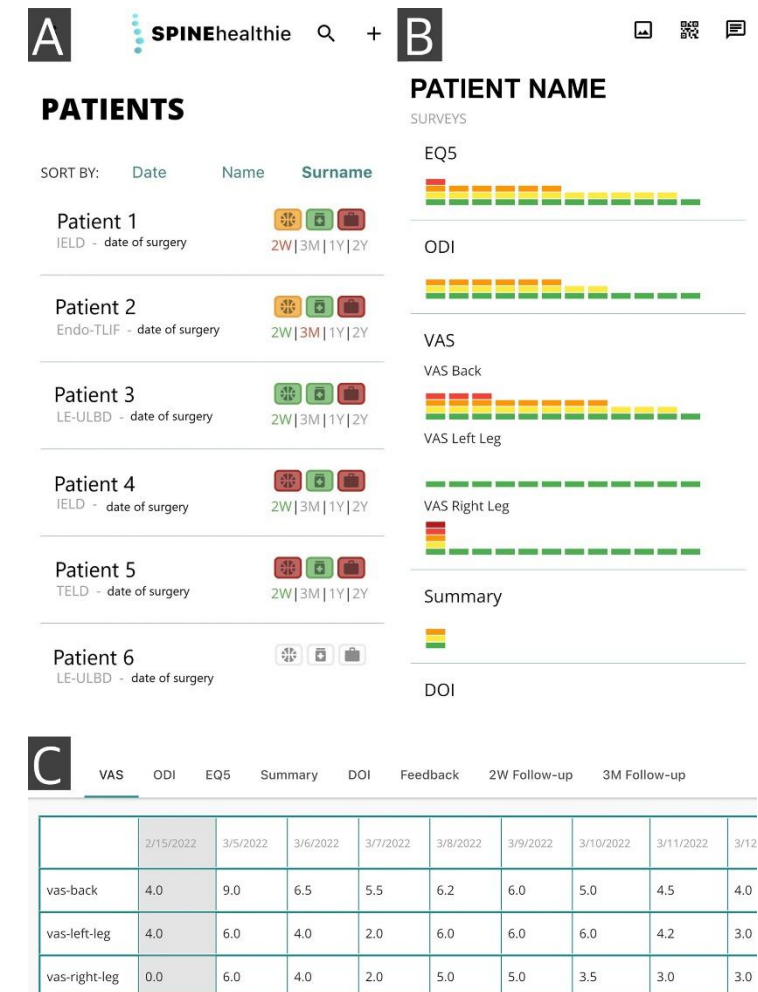


Remote patient monitoring following full endoscopic spine surgery: feasibility and patient satisfaction

Tobias Prasse, MD,^{1,4} Natalie Yap, BS,¹ Sananthan Sivakanthan, MD,¹ James Pan, MD,¹ John Ogunlade, DO,² Jan Bredow, MD,³ Peer Eysel, MD,⁴ Richard G. Ellenbogen, MD,¹ and Christoph P. Hofstetter, MD, PhD¹

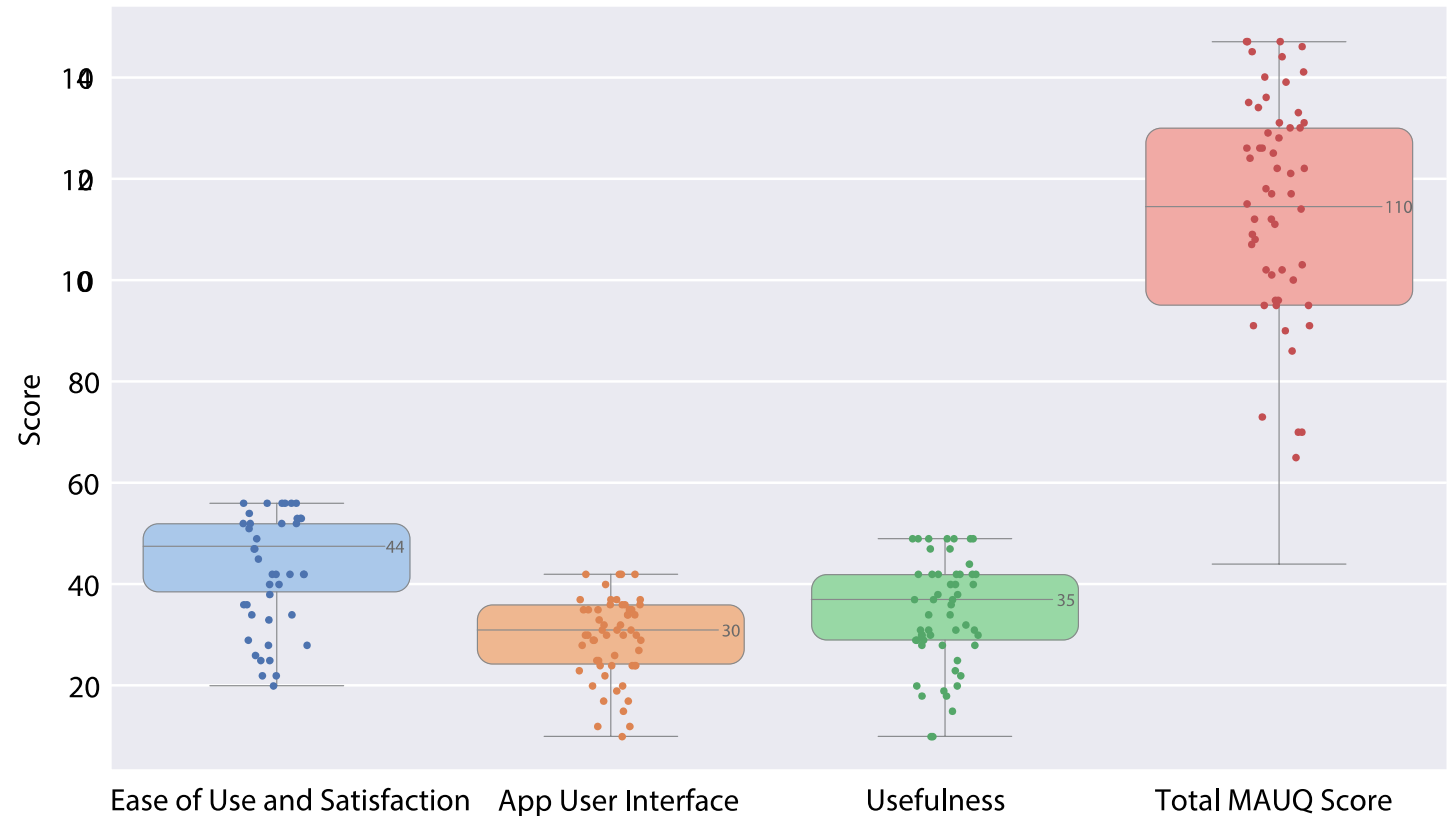


- 91% (n = 71) of patients elected virtual postoperative care for the first 3 months after surgery
- 85% of patients provided at least one PROM
- Three-month follow-up PROMs were available for 74.6%
- 100% of Patients were compliant with virtual postoperative follow-up



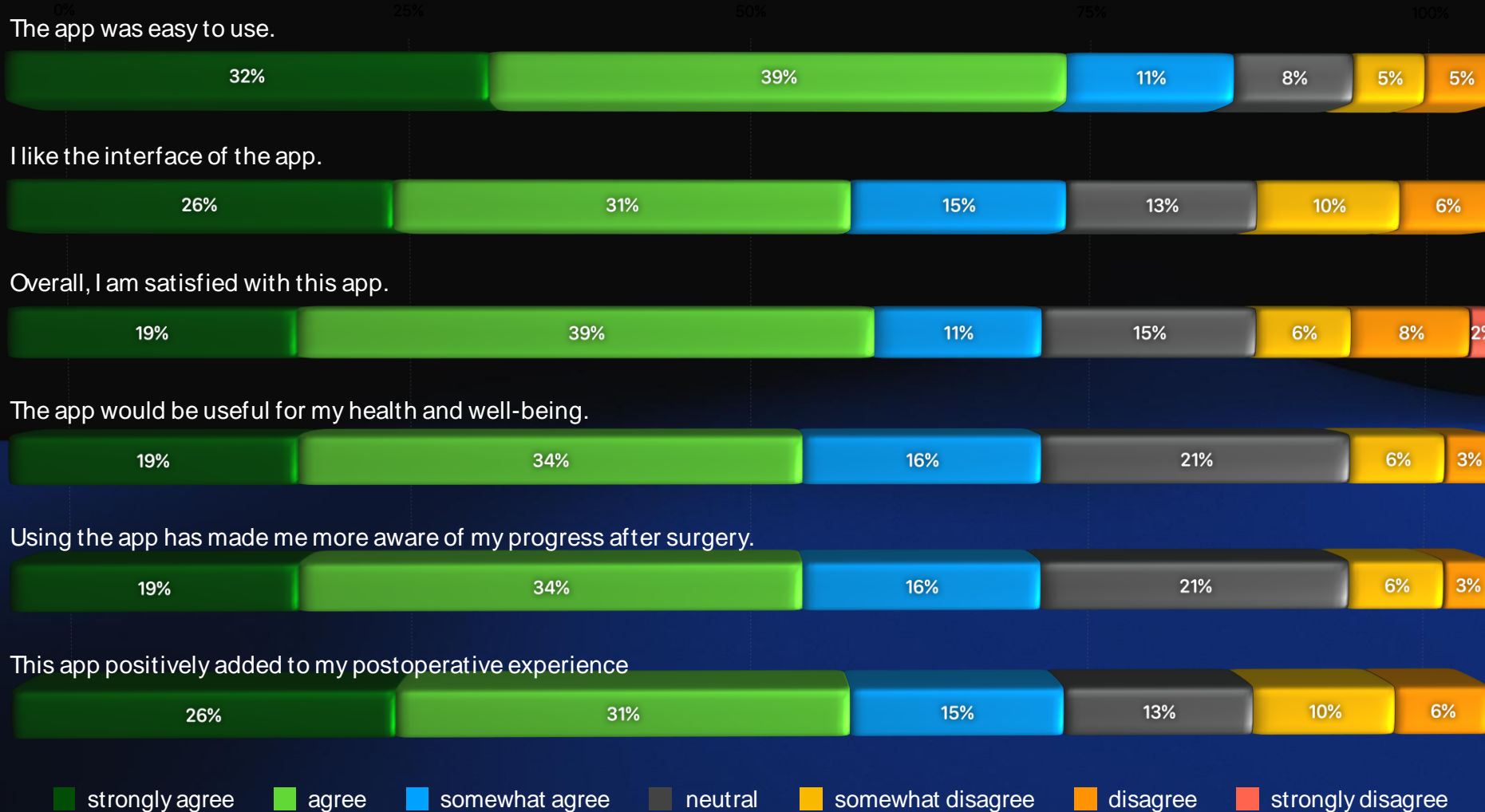
UW experience with app-based patient follow-up

- 80% of patients agreed that SPINEHealthie was a useful for postoperative care
- Top priorities for patients:
 - Communication with doctor
 - Physical therapy instructions
 - Review of images





Tobias Prasse, MD



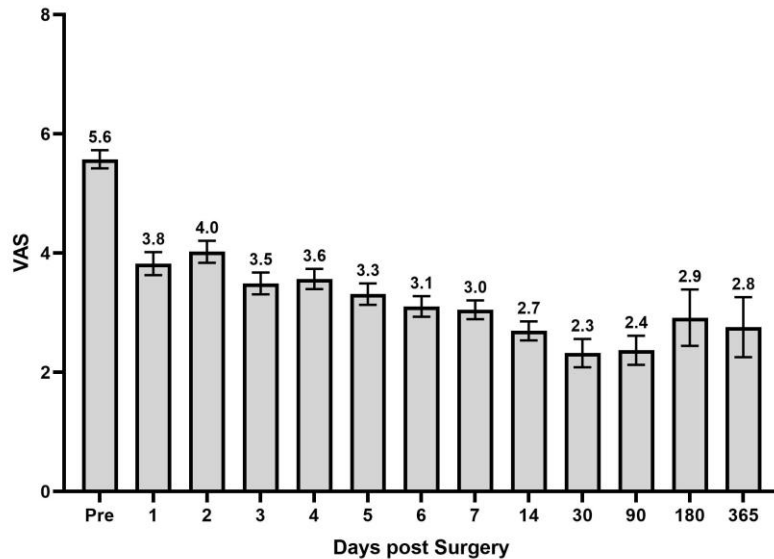
Endoscopic spine surgery is effective



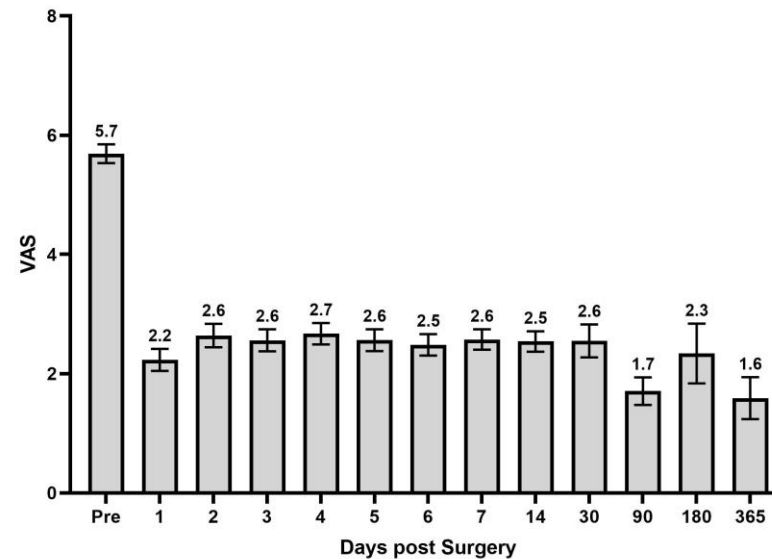
Jannik
Leyendecker

- 442 patients prospectively monitored with SPINEHealthie (388 lumbar)
- Immediate reduction of back pain and leg pain within days after surgery
- Functional improvement follows pain alleviation

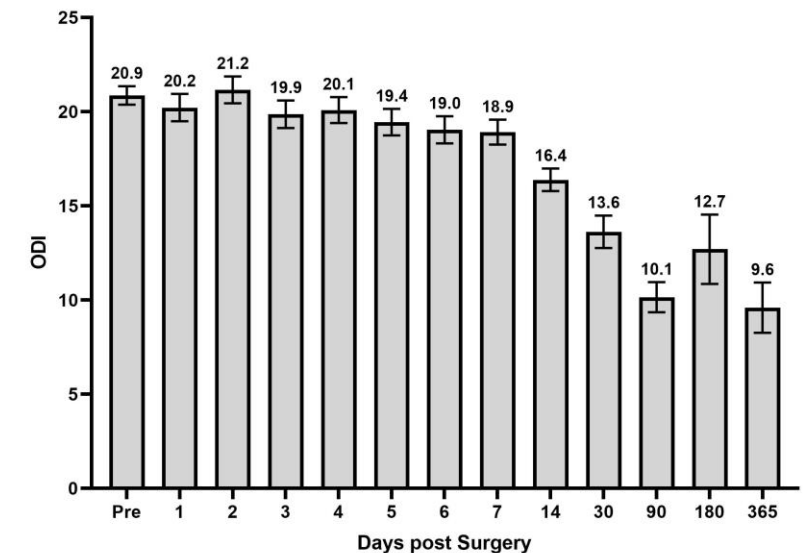
Back pain



Leg pain



ODI



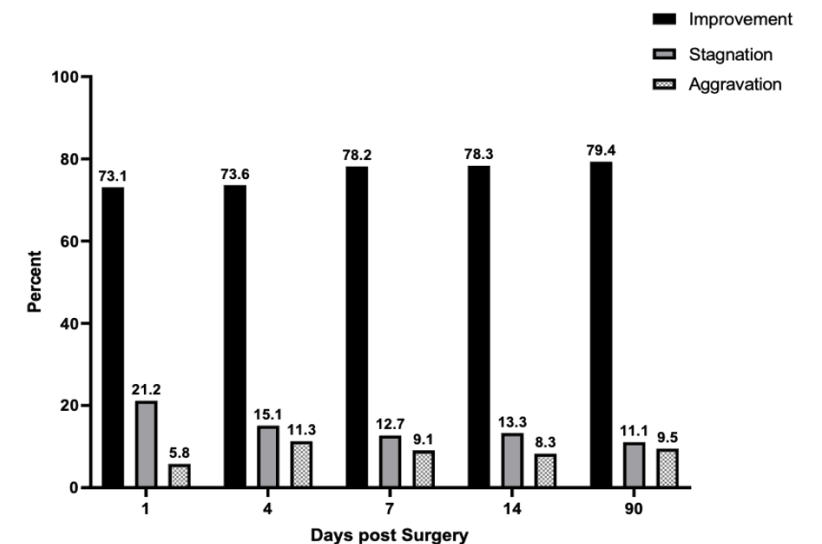
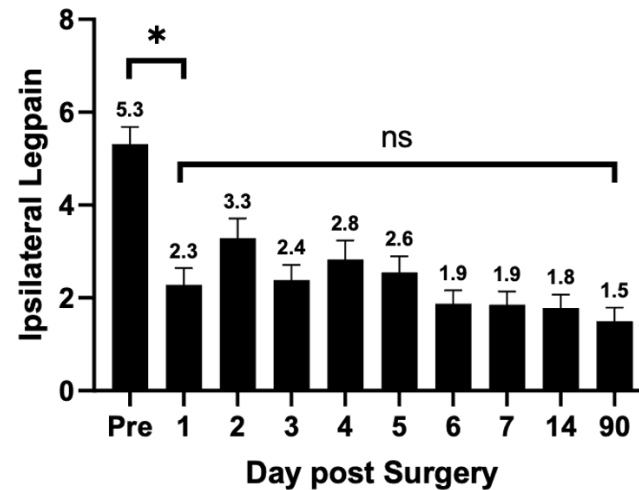
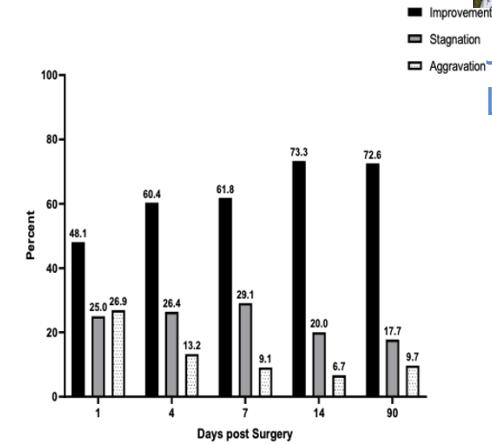
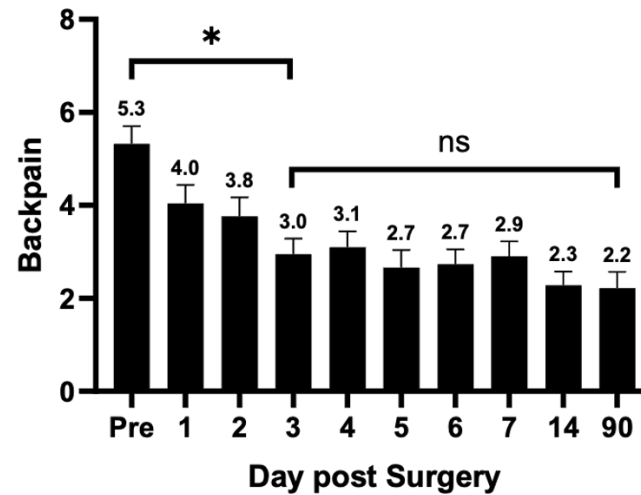
ESRG Ultra early PROMs – discectomy



Jannik
Leyendecker

88% of patients who have early improvement (first 3 postop days) report improvement of back pain

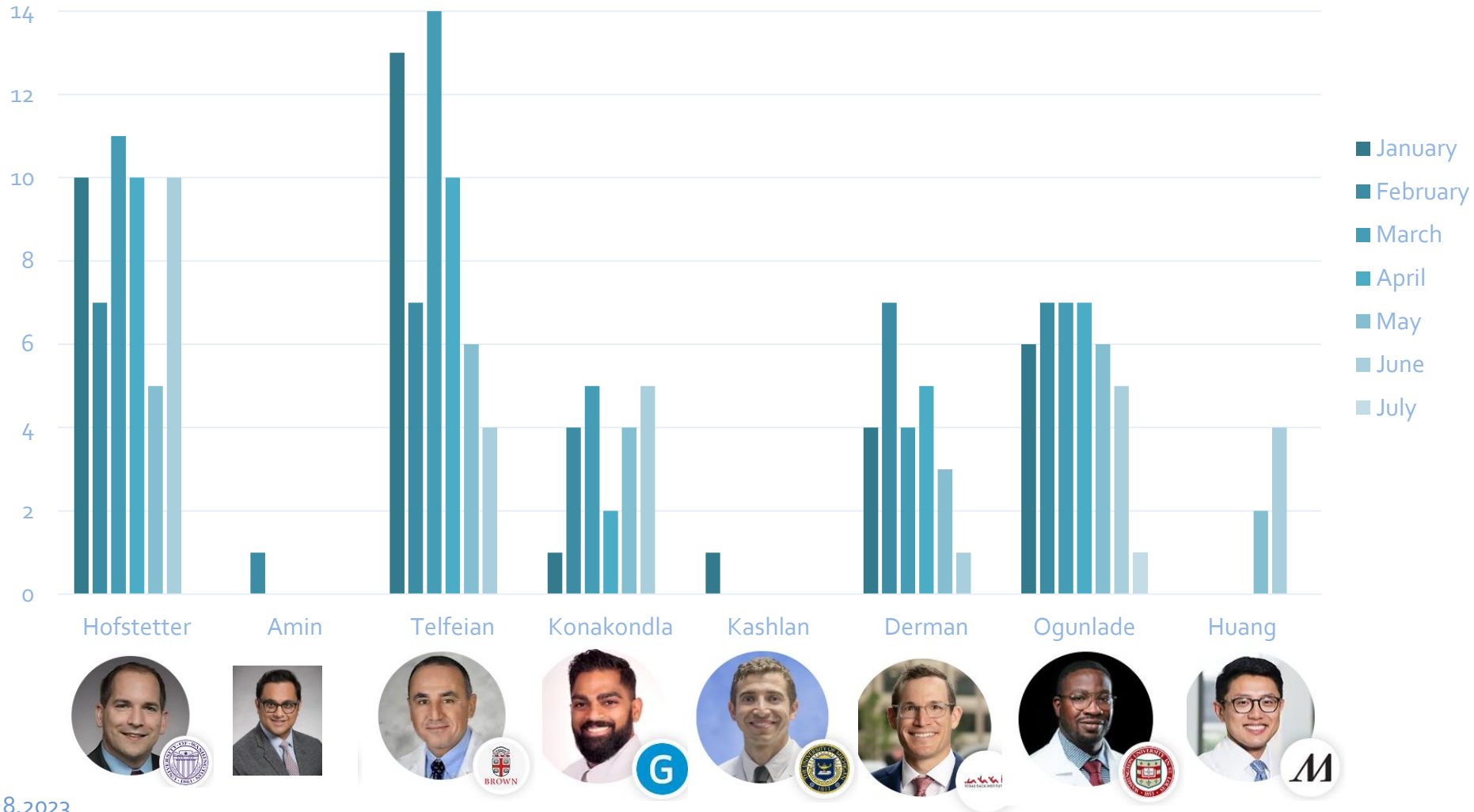
95% of patients who have early improvement (first 3 postop days) report improvement of leg pain



■ Improvement

ESRG – cases by surgeon January-July 2023

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Endoscopic Spine Surgery – A Paradigm Shift in Spine Care

- *Establish and teach full-endoscopic procedures*
 - *Elevate endoscopic spine surgery as standard of care*
 - *Make spine care more enjoyable for patients and surgeons*
- *The vision*



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ESRG Vision

- Decrease the burden of manual documentation using an app-based patient care companion (SPINEHealthie).
- Define benchmark outcomes following full-endoscopic spine surgery.
- Quality improvement efforts of surgical and perioperative care.
- Implement AI-based solutions for medical documentation and communication.



Christoph Hofstetter



Albert E. Telfeian



Peter Derman



Osama Kashlan



John Ogunlade



Sanjay Konakondla



Meng Huang



Saqib Hasan



Raymond Gardocki



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Mark Mahan



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Thank you



Questions?



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Atlas of Full-Endoscopic Spine Surgery

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 MedOne

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