The laminae, or the knobby bones you can feel if you run your hand along your spine, provide a roof for the spinal canal as protection for the spinal cord. During a minimally invasive laminotomy, our surgeons aim to preserve as much of the lamina as possible while relieving spinal nerve compression.

Unlike a traditional laminectomy — which typically requires a large incision, muscle disruption and complete removal of the back of the vertebral arch — our laminotomy procedure is performed using a less than 1-inch incision and muscle-sparing techniques.

A Laser Spine Institute surgeon will begin a laminotomy by inserting a series of dilating tubes, each larger than the last, through a less than 1-inch incision to access the spine. This technique allows the surgeon to avoid unnecessary muscle damage associated with traditional open neck or back surgery.

Once the final working tube is positioned, the dilating tubes are removed. Then, surgical tools are inserted to remove the bone and other spinal tissue that’s causing nerve compression.

By performing a laminotomy, our skilled surgeons will create more space in the spinal canal by removing a small portion of the lamina in the affected area, which takes pressure off nerve tissue that’s causing pain and symptoms. Before you consider a traditional laminectomy, review the advantages of our minimally invasive spine surgery.
Advantages of our minimally invasive spine surgery

- Be up and walking within a few hours of surgery^  
- Outpatient procedure  
- Less than 1-inch incision  
- Board-certified surgeons+  
- Patient satisfaction score of 96^  

Take your life back from chronic neck or back pain

Laser Spine Institute has performed more than 75,000 procedures to help patients find lasting relief without the lengthy recovery^ or complications of traditional open back surgery. Get inspired by one of our patient success stories.

Connect with us

^For more information, visit LaserSpineInstitute.com/results.
+For more information, visit LaserSpineInstitute.com/surgeons.
*Not a diagnosis. See LaserSpineInstitute.com/MRIreview for more details.
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