Minimally Invasive. Maximum Results.

Getting the facts — when it comes to your health, nothing’s more important. That’s why Laser Spine Institute has created this easy-to-read resource aimed at answering the questions you and your physician want the answers to. We encourage you to read about our procedures, review our outcomes and patient satisfaction scores and research our team of board-certified surgeons.* We then invite you to share what you’ve learned with your health care providers.

Sharing information, providing the facts, partnering with your physicians to provide the best in health care — these are the cornerstones we’ve built our reputation on. And that’s why more than 50,000 patients have trusted us to help them find relief from chronic neck and back pain.

By the numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of patients we’ve helped</th>
<th>More than 50,000</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Patient recommendation rate</td>
<td>98%, compiled by a third-party provider</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infection rate</td>
<td>0.13% versus 4.7% national hospital infection rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complication rate</td>
<td>4% versus 9 to 19% hospital complication rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patient satisfaction rate</td>
<td>97%, compiled by a third-party provider</td>
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<tr>
<td>Return to daily activities</td>
<td>91% return to daily activities within 3 months after surgery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Return to work</td>
<td>86% return to work within 3 months of surgery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of facilities</td>
<td>Seven state-of-the-art surgery centers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Get the Facts on Minimally Invasive Spine Surgery

Laser-assisted vs. laser-based — what’s the difference?

The word “laser” may be in our name, but it’s how we use it to perform our minimally-invasive spine surgeries that may differ from what you think.

Unlike laser-based surgeries like LASIK, where the laser is actually used in place of a scalpel to cut tissue, Laser Spine Institute utilizes a laser-assisted technique in some of our procedures. Our surgeons make a less than one-inch incision to access the affected area and use the laser to ablate or vaporize soft tissue on a high setting. The laser may then be used ablate the nerves that lead to painful, arthritic facet joints. On a low setting, the laser can be used to shrink tissue. For example, our surgeons utilize the laser on a low-energy setting to treat a bulging disc by tightening up and shrinking the protrusion. In addition, the laser may be used to stimulate the cells in a disc and help produce more disc material as in our RegenaDISC® procedure.
What makes Laser Spine Institute's specialized surgeon training unique?

Because our procedures involve a small, less than 1-inch incision, we require highly skilled, well-trained surgeons that can precisely utilize advanced surgical instruments such as the laser. The minimally invasive spine procedures performed by our surgical team at Laser Spine Institute are not widely taught in residency programs. As a result, a surgeon must be professionally trained by a certified physician in the specialty of minimally invasive spine surgery to master the technique. And that's where we come in. Laser Spine Institute requires each surgeon complete an extensive training program. Upon successful completion, our surgeons can continue our mission of helping as many people as possible find relief from chronic neck and back pain.

Is outpatient surgery less expensive than a traditional open neck or back surgery?

Traditional open back surgery can have you in a hospital from 2-5 days, with an even longer recovery time once you get home. Laser Spine Institute's outpatient settings offer a quicker, more convenient and in many cases, more cost effective option. We frequently treat multiple conditions at one time, keeping time and cost to a minimum. Having seven state-of-the-art surgery centers in major cities provides our patients with a convenient way to reach us, keeping their time away from home minimal.

What makes Laser Spine Institute the leader in minimally invasive spine surgery?

Experience. There's no substitute for it. That's why it's important you know about ours. Laser Spine Institute successfully performs more minimally invasive spine surgeries each month than any other spine surgery facility in the world. By focusing on the spine, and only the spine, our surgeons have a decided advantage over other specialists who may operate on multiple areas like knees, elbows and hips as well as the spine.

Advantages to an outpatient vs. hospital setting

The studies are in and what they reveal about outpatient versus hospital surgeries may surprise you. But don't take it from us, read what leading experts are saying about the two medical environments and how choosing one over the other could result in some major advantages.

- Outpatient spine surgeries have lower complication rates than spine surgeries in hospitals including lower total complications, urinary tract infections, less blood transfusions and shorter operative times:

  “When comparing spine surgeries performed in a hospital versus an outpatient facility, results reveal complication rates are much higher in a hospital setting. The breakdown of complications are as follows (hospital compared to outpatient): 6.47% vs. 3.45% total complications, 1.2% vs. 0.3% urinary tract infections, 0.75% vs. 0.12% blood transfusions and 107 minutes vs. 78 minutes length of operation.” (Pugely, Martin, Goa, & Mendoza-Lattes; Outpatient Surgery Reduces Short-Term Complications in Lumbar Discectomy; Spine; 2013, Vol. 38, p. 268).

- Discectomy procedures, specifically, have lower complication rates in an outpatient setting:

  “Patients who underwent a discectomy continued to display higher short-term complications in a hospital setting than those who had surgery performed in an outpatient facility (5.4% vs. 3.5%) respectively.” (Pugely et al., Outpatient Surgery Reduces Short-Term Complications in Lumbar Discectomy; Spine; 2013, Vol. 38, p. 269).

- The cost for outpatient procedures is less than that of hospital procedures:

  “In terms of cost, the average explanation of benefits charged, outpatient versus inpatient, for a single-level cervical disc arthroplasty was $11,144.83 vs. $68,000, a single-level anterior cervical discectomy including a fusion was $29,313.43 vs. $61,095.49. A cervical disc arthroplasty was 84% less expensive in an outpatient setting, while an anterior cervical discectomy was 62% less expensive.” (Wohns, Safety and Cost-Effectiveness of Outpatient Cervical Disc Arthroplasty; Surgical Neurology International; 2010, Vol. 1, p. 3-4).

*For more information, visit LaserSpineInstitute.com/surgeons.
+Each patient is different. Results may vary.