



MEDCO FORUM[®]

PRESENTING INNOVATIVE PRODUCTS & SERVICES TO HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS

VOLUME 12 NUMBER 38

SEPTEMBER 2005

MICROSPINE LLC, THE WORLD LEADER IN MINIMALLY INVASIVE SPINAL SURGERY

REPRINT

MicroSpine Center is dedicated to treating spinal disorders using state-of-the-art endoscopic laser surgery techniques. Founded in 2001 by board-certified orthopedic surgeon Anthony R. Mork, MD, and board-certified anesthesiologist/pain management specialist Scott M.W. Haufe, MD, MicroSpine offers patients the alternative of truly minimally invasive spinal surgeries for a variety of spinal disorders.

MicroSpine's technology allows its physicians to perform almost any spine surgery via a minimally invasive approach. Such procedures include cervical endoscopic discectomy, lumbar endoscopic discectomy, laminoforaminoplasty, hemilaminectomy, endoscopic thoracic spine surgery, facetectomy, sacroiliac joint surgery, lumbar facet joint surgery, cervical facet joint surgery, cervical laminoforaminoplasty, spinal ligament surgery, endoscopic hardware removal, spondylolisthesis spine surgery, and sacral decompression.

Each one of these procedures is performed endoscopically through incisions of 1 inch or less, which is our definition of truly minimally invasive spine surgery. MicroSpine procedures are performed on an outpatient basis, using local anesthesia and intravenous sedation that maintains patient comfort, yet allows the patient to remain awake and coherent during the procedure.

Dr. Mork has personally performed nearly 3,500 endoscopic spine surgeries, which makes possible greater safety and better outcomes, where most surgeons perform other procedures in addition to spine procedures. Dr. Mork has dedicated his practice and MicroSpine to *only* spine procedures.

Accurate Preoperative Diagnosis is the Key to Success

Because many patients have complex pain problems, MicroSpine physicians have developed a unique algorithmic diagnostic system to identify each component of the pain. Going beyond the usual MRI evaluation, MicroSpine's diagnostic "pain mapping" technique can include discograms, selective nerve root blocks, facet injections, nerve blocks, sympathetic blocks, and sacroiliac joint injections, to confirm the exact source of pain prior to surgery. Based on the diagnostic results, our physician can utilize minimally invasive arthroscopic laser techniques, which can often resolve even the most complicated pain syndromes in a step-by-step process. Guesswork is eliminated, which is essential when the surgical incision is so small.

Portal Systems Enable Precise MicroSpine

MicroSpine's procedures are performed through a portal system of 1/4 to 1/2 inch in diameter that passes through the muscles

and ligaments with minimal damage to the surrounding tissues. The portal system gradually creates a small opening down to the spine, through which the physician inserts lasers, magnification optics, suction, high-speed burrs, and surgical instruments. Once the portal is established, the physician can begin decompressing the painful nerve by removal of bone, disc, or scar tissue. Our fiber optics and portal system allows our physicians to approach the spine at a multitude of angles, thus providing a unique view of the spine, which gives us the possibility to treat problems that some conventional surgeries cannot.

Patients Turn to MicroSpine after Failed Back Surgery

More than half of MicroSpine's patients present for treatment after failed open back surgery. MicroSpine's physicians are among the very few in the world who are capable of performing the microspinoscopy procedures necessary to help relieve

pain related to failed open back surgery. MicroSpine's success rate with these patients ranges from 50% to 80%, depending on the condition, comparable with conventional open surgery. We stress that our surgeries are often an alternative to conventional open surgery, with far fewer complications, that can be performed on an outpatient basis instead of inpatient basis.

If you are interested in joining our team and changing the future of minimally invasive spinal surgery, call us toll-free at 1-888-642-7677, or fax your Curriculum Vitae to 1-850-892-3818, Attn: Administration.

MicroSpine is located in the heart of the Emerald Coast of Florida. Dr. Mork is Board

Certified by the American Board of Orthopedic Surgery. He also is a Fellow of the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons and of the Academy of Minimally Invasive Spinal Medicine and Surgery.

Dr. Haufe is a Diplomate of the American Board of Pain Medicine and of the American Board of Anesthesiology. He has extensive training in all aspects of pain management, including surgical implantation of spinal cord stimulators and morphine pumps, radiofrequency thermocoagulation, epiduroscopy, and cryotherapy.



For more information concerning MicroSpine, write to MicroSpine Center, 100 Coy Burgess Loop DeFuniak Springs, FL 32435; call 1-888-MicroSpine (1-888-642-7677); fax at 1-850-892-4212, or visit the company's Web site at www.MicroSpine.com.

