

MINIMALLY INVASIVE SURGERY

A nerve root block or transforaminal epidural is a targeted injection administered to relieve pain surrounding a specific set of nerves branching out from the spine

What is Minimally Invasive Spinal Surgery?

Minimally invasive spine surgery is a technique, where the surgeon makes smaller incisions in the back than standard surgery. This method often causes minimum damage to nearby muscles and other tissues, leading to less pain and faster recovery after surgery.

I work with a team of three Consultant Surgeons, Consultant Radiologist and a very experienced Physiotherapy team and discuss all complex cases in our fortnightly multidisciplinary team meeting (MDT) to be able to provide a first class service.



Minimally Invasive Spine Surgery

This technique of surgery reduces the damage of surrounding soft tissue and much smaller incisions reducing the pain and patient recovery period significantly

What are the benefits of Minimally Invasive Spinal Surgical Techniques?

Instead of using large incisions (cuts), minimally invasive procedures use the least invasive route and small cuts, so that your recovery, post-operative pain and hospital stay as well as complications including post-operative infections and thrombosis (blood clots) are significantly reduced.

There is no compromise to your procedure and success rates are often just as good, if not better. I will be discussing all the benefits and risks of the procedure with you at your consultation. If you have any concerns about the procedure please ask me during your consultation.

Getting Ready for surgery

There are risks of an anaesthetic and surgery, such as developing pneumonia etc. Elderly people have higher rates of complications from surgery. So do people with excess weight or medical illnesses such as Type 2 diabetes, heart disease, if you smoke or if you have multiple medical problems.

You must inform my anaesthetist, the nurse looking after you, preassessment team and me of all the medications you are taking, any allergies that you may have including drug reactions as these can seriously impact your surgery and recovery. Drugs such as aspirin, clopidogrel, and other blood thinners may need to be reviewed or stopped under guidance before surgery. If you are diabetic, especially on insulin, this needs to be highlighted early.

Do try if time permits to stop smoking, lose weight, and make some lifestyle changes as these will make your recovery smoother.



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