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Spine and Spine Disorders
&
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Finding the right level – Operating on Spine

Introduction: When we are operating on the spine, counting the level in spine is the one of the most important tasks we are burdened with, without ever making a skin incision. What do we do when the counting in the sagittal plane is different from the up view or when the radiologist official read differs from what we see in the or? This often happens in a transitional vertebra.

Methods: Retrospective cases (3-6) are presented.


Conclusion: Careful technique such as preoperative evaluation and recounting both in the up and a lateral view till absolute clarity on the level with all discrepancies resolved. Each case is unique.

Speaker Biography

Malini Narayanan is a Harvard-trained board-certified neurosurgeon who practices in the Washington D.C. Maryland area. She is the recipient of the following awards: 2018 Top Doctor, 2017 America's top Surgeon, 2015 Washingtonian top Doc for Spinal Surgery, 2013 Vitals Patient Recognition, and 2007 America's Top Surgeon. As a practicing neurosurgeon since 2007, her interests are cervical & lumbar spine disease, trauma, and brain tumours of adults. In the USA, she is one of approximately 450

board-certified female neurosurgeons in the country of approximately 6000 board-certified neurosurgeons. She founded and directs her practice, National Neurosurgery Solutions. Over the last twenty years, she has published numerous papers, posters and presentations at National Neurosurgery Conferences. She is an active member of the Congress of Neurological Surgeons, American Association of Neurological Surgeons and the Society for Minimally Invasive Spine Surgery. Her mission statement is "Patient first through dedication to the practice and advancement of neurosurgery". After receiving her undergraduate degree from University of Massachusetts (Amherst, Mass), she further continued her education through the master's degree program at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (Cambridge, Ma) in Electrical Engineering working on a retinal prosthesis for patients with Retinitis Pigmentosa. Her experience in Bioengineering spurred her interest in medicine, completing her medical degree at the University of Chicago's Pritzker School of Medicine (Chicago, Ill.) in 1998. Her relentless pursuit of excellence and love for neurosurgery led her to train in neurosurgery at the Harvard Medical School affiliated Brigham & Women's and Boston Children's Hospitals. There, she earned numerous accolades including the Congress of Neurological Surgeons Resident Research Award, 2003, where only two women have ever been awarded the accolade in the history of the award in the last 50 years. Returning to the University of Chicago, Dr. Narayanan augmented her surgical skills through a fellowship in paediatric neurosurgery at Comer's Children's Hospital (Chicago, Ill.), where she also completed her neurosurgical residency as chief resident.

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