# **Texas Spine & Scoliosis**

MAIN OFFICE: 1004 West 32nd Street, Suite 200 • Austin, TX 78705 **Appointments & Referrals: 512-324-3580** Educational online encyclopedia on spine at: TexasSpineandScoliosis.com SATELLITE OFFICES: ROUND ROCK: 201 University Oaks #1260, Round Rock, TX 78665 KYLE: 5103 Kyle Center Drive, #103, Kyle, TX 78640 BURNET: 200 John W. Hoover Pkwy, Bldg 3, Burnet, TX 78611 BASTROP: 630 State Hwy 71 W Bastrop, TX 78602

# For those with chronic back pain, new outpatient "Intracept" procedure can provide lasting pain relief

It can be difficult to determine the exact cause or source of ongoing chronic low back pain lasting more than 6 months. One potential cause of chronic low back pain may be tied to the basivertebral nerve. The basivertebral nerve is actually found within the vertebral bone in the low back.



A new outpatient procedure provided by Texas Spine and Scoliosis is the Intracept Procedure, which is intended to intracept — and interrupt — the transmission of pain signals from the internal nerve inside the vertebral bone to the spinal cord and the brain.

The branches of the basivertebral nerve extend from the center of the boney vertebrae to the upper and lower surfaces of the vertebrae. With age and degeneration of the spine, additional stress can be placed on the vertebrae which can put pressure on the basivertebral nerve — leading to chronic low back pain. For those with chronic pain, this basivertebral nerve can be stuck in the ON position, continually sending pain signals to the brain.

With the Intracept procedure, the physician makes a 3mm to 5mm incision in the low back and a radiofrequency

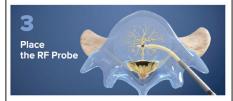
probe is then inserted to access the center of the vertebrae at the trunk of the basivertebral nerve. Heat is applied through the probe desensitizing the nerve making it unable to transmit a pain signal. Texas Spine and Scoliosis is one of the first spine centers in the State of Texas to provide this new procedure.



Following a 3-5mm incision, an Introducer is advanced into the vertebrae



A curved instrument is utilized to create a channel to the trunk of the basivertebral nerve



The Radiofrequency Probe is inserted into the curved path and placed at the trunk of the basivertebral nerve



Radiofrequency energy (heat) is used to ablate the basivertebral nerve, rendering it unable to transmit pain signals

### Who qualifies for Intracept?

This procedure only relates to those people with chronic low back pain for more than 6 months and have not received adequate relief



through other conservative care options for at least 6 months.

#### How long does the procedure take?

The average time for The Intracept Procedures is about 1 hour and 20 minutes. The procedure is typically done in an operating room in the hospital or an Ambulatory Surgery Center, with the patient going home later the same day.

### What are the outcomes?

Relievant Medsystems, which is the company that developed the Intracept Procedure, sponsored three clinical trials enrolling approximately 400 patients that demonstrated the safety and effectiveness of the Intracept Procedure. Pain scores improved 53% over 24 months for those receiving the procedure.

Dr. Eeric Truumees, Dr. Enrique Pena and Dr. Eric Mayer at Texas Spine & Scoliosis are proficient in the Intracept procedure. Appointments and more information available at: 512-324-3580.

# New treatment options correct spinal curves through a minimally invasive approach

Dr. Matthew Geck at Texas Spine & Scoliosis Center is one of few surgeons in a 5-state area proficient in "mini scoliosis surgery." Typical scoliosis surgery can require a 10inch incision. Conversely, with mini scoliosis surgery, Dr. Geck is able to use special instruments and work through three smaller incisions to straighten the curve. This lessens disruption to muscles and ligaments for a faster and less painful recovery. This technique can also be used with Flatback correction.

MINIMALLY INVASIVE

OPEN TECHNIQUE

# New artificial discs provide an alternative to spinal fusion, and reduce risk of future herniations at adjacent levels

New research from the North American Spine Society documents that artificial disc replacement in the cervical spine is now the preferred alternative to spinal fusion. The artificial disc reduces adjacent segment disease and lessens the risk of future disc herniations. Mobi-C was the first artificial disc FDA approved for two levels in the cervical spine. Several discs now have FDA approval. Texas Spine & Scoliosis spine surgeons are proficient with artificial disc replacement.

### FELLOWSHIP-TRAINED SPINE SURGEONS

#### MATTHEW GECK, MD

#### Board-certified Orthopedic Surgeon • Fellowship-Trained Spine Surgeon Co-Chief, Ascension Texas Spine & Scoliosis

Dr. Geck is a board certified orthopedic surgeon, fellowship-trained in spine surgery. He has performed more than 3,500 scoliosis surgeries and more than 100 mini scoliosis surgeries. Dr. Geck completed two fellowships in spine surgery, the first in adult and pediatric spine surgery at Jackson Memorial Hospital and a second fellowship at

Miami Children's Hospital on scoliosis and kyphosis surgery. Dr. Geck is the cofounder of the SpineHope program, a non profit organization that transforms the lives of children with spinal deformities worldwide.

#### JOHN STOKES, MD

#### Board-certified Neurological Surgeon • Fellowship Trained in Spinal Neurosurgery **Co-Chief, Ascension Texas Spine & Scoliosis**

Dr. Stokes is a board certified neurosurgeon, fellowship-trained in spinal neurosurgery with a practice 100% focused on spine surgery. He has performed more than 2,000 spine surgeries. He completed a fellowship at the Cedars Sinai Institute for Spinal Disorders in Los Angeles and UCLA. Dr. Stokes was a principal investigator in a FDA study of the Mobi-C artificial cervical disc.



#### **EERIC TRUUMEES, MD**

#### Board-Certified Orthopedic Surgeon • Fellowship-Trained Spine Surgeon

Dr. Truumees is a board-certified orthopedic surgeon, fellowshiptrained in spine surgery. Dr. Truumees has more than 20 years experience and specializes in cervical, thoracic and lumbar spine disorders. Dr. Truumees is a Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery at the University of Texas, Dell Medical School, and served as the 2020 President of the North American Spine Society.



#### **RORY MAYER, MD**

#### Board-Certified Neurological Surgeon • Fellowship-Trained Spine Surgeon

Dr. Mayer is a board-certified neurosurgeon with dual fellowship training in Neurocritical Care and Complex and Minimally Invasive Spine Surgery. He has been in practice for more than 15 years and has been a consulting neurotrauma surgeon to the National Football League. He specializes in adult scoliosis and deformity surgery.



#### ALEX CRUZ. MD

Board-Certified Orthopedic Surgeon • Fellowship-Trained Spine Surgeon Dr. Cruz completed a fellowship in spine surgery at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2021. He also completed an AO Trauma Fellowship at the Korea University in Seoul, South Korea in 2019. Dr. Cruz has expertise in minimally invasive and motion preservation procedures of the neck and back, including artificial disc replacement in the neck and low back.



#### **NON-SURGICAL SPINE CARE**

## KUNI B. AMIN. MD

#### Fellowship trained in Interventional Spine & Musculoskeletal Medicine **Board-Certified Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation**

Dr. Amin is board certified in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation and completed an Interventional Spine and Musculoskeletal fellowship at Ascension Texas Spine & Scoliosis. He is experienced in non-surgical, image guided spinal and musculoskeletal procedures. Dr. Amin has a special interest in Hip-Spine Syndrome in pregnant and postpartum patients.



# ERIC MAYER, MD

#### **Board-Certified Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation** Fellowship-Trained in Spine Medicine

Dr. Mayer is board-certified in Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation and in Sports Medicine. He completed a Fellowship in Interventional Spine and Musculoskeletal Medicine (ISMM) at the Cleveland Clinic. He has special expertise in clinical outcomes measurement systems, spinal interventional procedures, spine health, sports medicine and functional restoration.

#### LEE E. MOROZ, MD

#### **Board-certified Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation**

Dr. Moroz is board-certified in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. At Ascension Texas Spine & Scoliosis, Dr. Moroz specializes in helping patients return to activity without surgery. His focus of care is the diagnosis and assessment of back and neck pain problems. Dr. Moroz is proficient in pain relieving spinal injections.



### **ENRIQUE PENA, MD**

#### **Board-Certified Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation** Fellowship-Trained in Interventional Spine • Musculoskeletal

Dr. Pena is board-certified in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. Dr. Pena specializes in the non-surgical treatment of back and neck problems. Dr. Pena completed a fellowship in Interventional Spine, Musculoskeletal and Electrodiagnostic Medicine at The Spine Center at New England Baptist Bone & Joint Institute in Boston.



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