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May 20, 2014

**NCSS *e*News**

The North American Spine Society (NASS) has released a set of insurance policy coverage recommendations covering 13 treatments, surgical procedures, and diagnostics, including:

*>* [*Cervical Artificial Disc Replacement*](https://www.spine.org/Documents/PolicyPractice/CoverageRecommendations/CervicalArtificialDiscReplacement.pdf)

*>* [*Endoscopic Discectomy*](https://www.spine.org/Documents/PolicyPractice/CoverageRecommendations/EndoscopicDiscectomy.pdf)

*>* [*Epidural Cervical Injections*](https://www.spine.org/Documents/PolicyPractice/CoverageRecommendations/CervicalEpiduralInjections.pdf)

*>* [*Interspinous Device without Fusion*](https://www.spine.org/Documents/PolicyPractice/CoverageRecommendations/InterspinousDevicesWithoutFusion.pdf)

*> [Interspinous Fixation with Fusion](https://www.spine.org/Documents/PolicyPractice/CoverageRecommendations/InterspinousFixationWithFusion.pdf%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)*

*> [Laser Spine Surgery](https://www.spine.org/Documents/PolicyPractice/CoverageRecommendations/LaserSpineSurgery.pdf%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)*

*> [Lumbar Artificial Disc Replacement](https://www.spine.org/Documents/PolicyPractice/CoverageRecommendations/LumbarArtificialDiscReplacement.pdf%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)*

*>* [*Lumbar Discectomy*](https://www.spine.org/Documents/PolicyPractice/CoverageRecommendations/LumbarDiscectomy.pdf)

*> [Lumbar Epidural Injections](https://www.spine.org/Documents/PolicyPractice/CoverageRecommendations/LumbarEpiduralInjections.pdf%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)*

*> [Lumbar Fusion](https://www.spine.org/Documents/PolicyPractice/CoverageRecommendations/LumbarFusion.pdf%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)*

*> [Lumbar Laminotomy](https://www.spine.org/Documents/PolicyPractice/CoverageRecommendations/Laminotomy.pdf%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)*

The NASS reported that the recommendations were developed by a task force that drew heavily on level 1 data, and best available evidence.

Link to *Health Leaders Media* article:

[*http://www.healthleadersmedia.com/print/QUA-304593/NASS-Aims-for-Transparency-in-Spine-Care*](http://www.healthleadersmedia.com/print/QUA-304593/NASS-Aims-for-Transparency-in-Spine-Care)

Link to NASS site:

[*https://www.spine.org/Pages/PolicyPractice/Coverage/CoverageRecommendations.aspx*](https://www.spine.org/Pages/PolicyPractice/Coverage/CoverageRecommendations.aspx)

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