



Spine Surgery Just a Few Questions

The purpose of this form is twofold.

To allow you as the patient to be clear in your own mind what is happening and why.

To leave blank areas to ask your surgeon if you do not have the answers.

Questions for the patient to answer

What is the name of the surgical procedure that I have been recommended ?

What are the reasons that I understand as to why I need to have surgery ?

What will be the outcome of the surgery ?

What other options have I been suggested to try first ?

Is there any other option other than surgery ?

When do I have to have the surgery ?

If I do not have the surgery what could happen ?

What happens if I delay the surgery ?

How long till the surgery works ?

If the surgery does not work what do we do then ?

Questions for the Patient to ask the Surgeon

Is there anything that I have to do prior to the surgery ?

Where will the surgery be done ?

Inpatient or Outpatient ?

Anaesthetic

Local

Regional

General

Does this hospital do this procedure commonly ?

How long will the surgery take ?

How successful will the operation be ?

What is your experience with this operation ?

When did you last perform this surgery ?

What are the complications to expect from this operation ?

Short term

Long Term

What complications have you had with this operation ?

If get a complication can it be fixed or is it for good ?

Would other specialists in your field also recommend to proceed with surgery at this point ?

Is there a possibility of a different operation to the one intended and what might it be ?

If I am having a biopsy when will I know the results ?

Will I need any Implants / Are they safe / Are they necessary / Do you have any financial interest in those implants ?

How much will the surgery cost / is that cost average or above or below the average charge of other surgeons ?

Is there any way to reduce the costs of the surgery ?

Other Questions ?

Questions about after the surgery

Will I have much pain postoperatively and how will it be treated ?

How long will I be in hospital ?

How long will it take to get over the surgery ?

Will I be able to go straight home ?

Will I need any special care at home ?

How do I get home from hospital ?

Do I need any one with me at home ?

When do I need to see my Local Doctor

Do I have a follow up appointment ?

Do I need any physiotherapy ?

When Can I drive ?

When can I return to work ?

What problems can I expect post operatively ?

What is a postoperative wound infection and how do I deal with it ?

What Medication will I have to take Post-operatively and for how long ?

Is it likely I will need any further Treatment ?

Will you be available in my post-operative period ?

If I have a problem post-operatively who do I call ?

Do I need to get a second opinion ?

If you feel that prior to commencing the surgery you are not at your best, can I be notified to make the choice if I wish to proceed or to postpone the surgery ?

LIST ANY OTHER QUESTIONS THAT YOU MIGHT HAVE FOR THE SURGEON

LIST ANY CONCERNS THAT YOU MAY HAVE IN GOING AHEAD WITH THE SURGERY

Disclaimer: This form is a guide only and does not replace a consultation with your doctor we accept no liability for any decisions that you make as a result of using this form.

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