

Complications of Spine Surgery

Editorial Comment

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Published online: 22 February 2012
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Spine surgery, like other methods of invasive intervention, has specific common, and not so common, complications that may occur in the normal course of treatment. Any physician so treating a problem must be cognizant of the anticipated course subsequent to his or her management to understand when recovery fails to proceed normally. Such an acute awareness of treatment adverse events or complications will allow institution of appropriate remedial measures necessary for the best patient care and ultimately outcomes. As surgeons, we believe it is important to acknowledge and study our failures. This symposium reports original research on the potential complications of spine surgery to inform the orthopaedic and neurosurgical communities about possible best practices.

The articles in this symposium encompass the spectrum of complications from diagnosis to surgical technique to postoperative healing. Complication rate and common complications are explored in basic science and clinical research settings. We believe study of complications is essential to improving the ultimate outcome of spine care. We hope readers enjoy this symposium.

All ICMJE Conflict of Interest Forms for authors and *Clinical Orthopaedics and Related Research* editors and board members are on file with the publication and can be viewed on request.

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Fig. 1 Dr. Radcliff is shown.



Fig. 2 Dr. Vaccaro is shown.