Kambin Triangular Working Zone

Parviz Kambin is a Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery and has an Endowed Chair of Spinal Surgery at Drexel University, College of Medicine. He has been recognized by the College of Physicians of Philadelphia and his work in part has been exhibited in the Mutter Museum. Together with several colleagues, he assisted in the establishment of the International Society for Minimal Intervention in Spinal Surgery in 1988 and was elected the first president of the society in 1990. He coined the term "Minimally Invasive Spinal Surgery" and is credited in the Dorland's Medical Dictionary for describing the Kambin Triangular Working Zone.

In 1990, Parviz Kambin described a triangular safe zone bordered by the exiting root anteriorly, the traversing root medially, and the superior endplate of the lower lumbar vertebra inferiorly ¹⁾. The anatomical description of this safe zone allowed the field of endoscopic spine surgery to outgrow the technique of percutaneous nucleotomy, which was limited by the use of small needlelike instruments. Kambin's triangle was a working corridor that allowed larger instruments and working channels to be introduced in even closer proximity to foraminal pathology without injuring the exiting nerve.

1)

Kambin P: Arthroscopic Microdiscectomy: Minimal Intervention Spinal Surgery Baltimore, MD, Urban & Schwarzenberg, 1990

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