

Lumbar spine surgery infection

Any time surgery is performed, there is a risk of [infection](#). However, infections occur in less than 1% of spinal surgeries. An infection can be in the [skin](#) incision only, or it can spread deeper to involve the areas around the spinal cord and the vertebrae. A [wound infection](#) that involves only the skin incision is considered a “superficial” infection. It is less serious and easier to treat than the deeper infection. Surgeons take every precaution to prevent infections.

If the surgical wound becomes red, hot, and swollen and does not heal, it may be infected. Infections will usually cause increasing pain. You may run a fever and have shaking chills. The wound may ooze clear liquid or yellow pus. The wound drainage may smell bad. Contact your doctor immediately so the wound can be treated and antibiotic medication can be prescribed if necessary. The superficial wound infection can usually be treated with antibiotics, and perhaps removing the skin stitches. The deeper wound infections can be very serious and will probably require additional operations to drain the infection. In the worst cases, any bone graft, metal screws, and plates that were used may need to be removed.

From:

<https://neurosurgerywiki.com/wiki/> - **Neurosurgery Wiki**

Permanent link:

https://neurosurgerywiki.com/wiki/doku.php?id=lumbar_spine_surgery_infection

Last update: **2024/06/07 03:00**

