

McAfee-Mehren classification

Grade 0 No [Heterotopic ossification](#) (HO) present

Grade I HO is detectable in front of the [vertebral body](#) but not in the anatomic interdiscal space

Grade II HO is growing into the [disc space](#). Possible affection of the function of the [prosthesis](#)

Grade III Bridging ossifications which still allow movement of the prosthesis

Grade IV Complete [fusion](#) of the treated segment without movement in [flexion/extension](#) ¹⁾.

[Heterotopic ossification](#) occurs in three-fourths of the [patients](#) after [anterior cervical disc arthroplasty](#) at two years after surgery, but does not necessarily correspond to [clinical outcome](#), nor loss or preservation of [ROM](#). The [McAfee-Mehren classification](#) should be combined with ROM evaluation to properly study HO ²⁾.

¹⁾

Mehren C, Suchomel P, Grochulla F, Barsa P, Sourkova P, Hradil J, Korge A, Mayer HM. Heterotopic ossification in total cervical artificial disc replacement. Spine (Phila Pa 1976). 2006 Nov 15;31(24):2802-6. PubMed PMID: 17108833.

²⁾

Yang X, Bartels RHMA, Donk R, Depreitere B, Walraevens J, Zhai Z, Vleggeert-Lankamp CLA. Does Heterotopic Ossification in Cervical Arthroplasty Affect Clinical Outcome? World Neurosurg. 2019 Jul 31. pii: S1878-8750(19)32103-5. doi: 10.1016/j.wneu.2019.07.187. [Epub ahead of print] PubMed PMID: 31376560.

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