

# McAfee scale

Class 0: No HO present.

Class I: HO present in islands of bone within soft tissue but not influencing the range of motion of the vertebral motion segment. Bone is not between the planes formed by the two vertebral endplates.

Class II: HO possibly affecting the vertebral range of motion. HO present between the two planes formed by the vertebral endplates but not blocking or articulating between adjacent vertebral endplates or osteophytes.

Class III: The range of motion of the vertebral endplates is blocked by the formation of HO and/or postoperative osteophytes on flexion-extension or lateral bending radiographs.

Class IV: HO causing inadvertent arthrodesis. Bony ankylosis. Bridging trabecular bone continuous between adjacent endplates and  $<3^\circ$  of motion of lateral flexion-extension radiographs <sup>1)</sup>.

<sup>1)</sup>

McAfee PC, Cunningham BW, Devine J, Williams E, Yu-Yahiro J. Classification of heterotopic ossification (HO) in artificial disk replacement. J Spinal Disord Tech. 2003 Aug;16(4):384-9. PubMed PMID: 12902954.

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