

Parviz Kambin

The early endoscopic surgeons targeted disc pathology through a corridor that would become known eponymously for its originator, Dr. Parviz Kambin.

Kambin was born in Tehran, Iran on May 21, 1931. He received his doctorate degree in medicine from Tehran University Faculty of Medicine in 1956. He continued his post-graduate training as an intern at St. Joseph's Regional Medical Center. He then moved on to do a four-year residency at New Jersey Orthopaedic Hospital and New York University, and received his American Board Certification in Orthopaedic Surgery in 1965.

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](#).

During a meeting with Adam Schreiber from Switzerland, Mario Brock from the University of Berlin and J.A.N. Shepperd from the UK, a desire to establish an international society dedicated to the research and teaching of the emerging technology was expressed. Dr. Hijikata from Toden Hospital, Japan, had described the removal of nuclear tissue from the [intervertebral disc \(nucleotomy\)](#) for the treatment of herniated discs in 1975.

Professor Schreiber adopted the above technique and utilized this procedure in his practice.

[Parviz Kambin](#) resisted the term of nucleotomy in the title of the newly formed society. He believed that the dislodged herniated disc fragments should be accessed and removed. Kambin was elected the first President of the newly organized society. He coined the term Minimal Intervention in Spinal Surgery by registering the Society as a nonprofit organization dedicated to education and research in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The name of [International Society for Minimal Intervention in Spinal Surgery](#) (ISMIS) was established on April 10, 1990.

His first textbook, entitled Arthroscopic Microdiscectomy, Minimal Intervention in Spinal Surgery, was published in 1991. The Society was formed under the auspices of the Société Internationale de Chirurgie Orthopédique et de Traumatologie (International Society of Orthopaedic Surgery and Traumatology).

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