

(TF-OLLIF) is a novel method for LIF in which the disc space is accessed by drilling through hypertrophic facets with an OLLIF approach. We provide a proof-of-concept report on the TF-OLLIF surgical technique and report the clinical and perioperative outcomes for the first 29 patients who underwent this procedure. **Methods** This is a retrospective single surgeon cohort study of 29 patients with lumbar spinal stenosis (LSS) who underwent TF-OLLIF procedures between 8/2018 and 1/2021. The primary outcome was a change in the Oswestry Disability Index (ODI) one year after surgery. Secondary outcomes were surgery time, blood loss, hospital stay, and complications. The TF-OLLIF was performed using the approach and instrumentation of OLLIF. When osseous hypertrophy is reached during the approach, an 8 mm drill is used to drill through the obstructing bone with continuous neuromonitoring. Discectomy and interbody placement are performed with subsequent posterior pedicle screw fixation. **Results** ODI improved from 49% pre-op to 31% at one-year follow-up. Estimated blood loss ranged from  $97.6 \pm 93.3$  ml for one level TF-OLLIF to  $146.2 \pm 60.3$  ml for a 3+ level TF-OLLIF. Operative time ranged from  $57.4 \pm 19.5$  minutes for a one-level TF-OLLIF to  $102.9 \pm 27.8$  minutes for a 3+ level TF-OLLIF. The average length of hospital stay (LOS) was  $0.4 \pm 0.8$  days for one-level TF-OLLIF and  $1.6 \pm 1.9$  days for 3+ level TF-OLLIF. Complications included five cases of nerve root irritation immediately postoperatively, with three of these patients still reporting mild L5 distribution numbness at the last follow-up, which was not clinically limiting. **Conclusion** The first 29 cases of TF-OLLIF demonstrated that it is a safe method of interbody fusion that yields good clinical results. This is an important development for practitioners of OLLIF as it enables interbody placement with OLLIF instruments and approach even for challenging L5-S1 levels without compromising surgical outcomes

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Abbasi H, Storlie NR, Aya KL. Transfacet Oblique Lateral Lumbar Interbody Fusion: Technical Description and Early Results. *Cureus*. 2022 Jul 3;14(7):e26533. doi: 10.7759/cureus.26533. PMID: 35928391; PMCID: PMC9345626.

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