

Vertebral tumor resection

The posterior only approaches for anterior vertebral pathology are being used more frequently due to advances in technique and instrumentation. In particular, in the thoracic spine, the classic [lateral extracavitary approach](#) provides a generous corridor for vertebral tumor resection and subsequent central cage placement once nerve roots are sacrificed. ^{1) 2)}

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5. Xu R, Garces-Ambrossi GL, McGirt MJ, Witham TF, Wolinsky JP, Bydon A, et al. Thoracic vertebrectomy and spinal reconstruction via anterior, posterior, or combined approaches: Clinical outcomes in 91 consecutive patients with metastatic spinal tumors. J Neurosurg Spine. 2009;11:272-84. [PubMed]

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Schmidt MH, Larson SJ, Maiman DJ. The lateral extracavitary approach to the thoracic and lumbar spine. Neurosurg Clin N Am. 2004;15:437-41.

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