

Anterior Cervical Corpectomy

This surgery removes damaged or diseased vertebral bone and surrounding discs, relieving neck, arm and leg symptoms caused by pressure on the spinal cord and spinal nerves. The surgeon performs this procedure through an incision on the front of the neck.

STEP 1

The discs above and below the damaged vertebra are removed.

STEP 2

The diseased vertebra is removed, releasing pressure from the spinal cord and spinal nerves and relieving symptoms.

STEP 3

The space is cleared and prepared, and the bone graft is placed between the vertebrae. The graft is either an allograft from a bone bank or an autograft bone taken from the patient's own hip.

STEP 4

The surgeon screws a small metal plate over the area to hold the bones in place while the vertebrae heal.

STEP 5

During the healing process, the bone graft knits together with the vertebrae above and below to form a new bone mass called a fusion.

