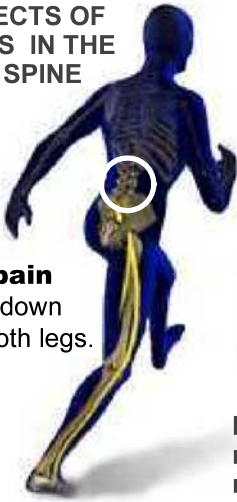
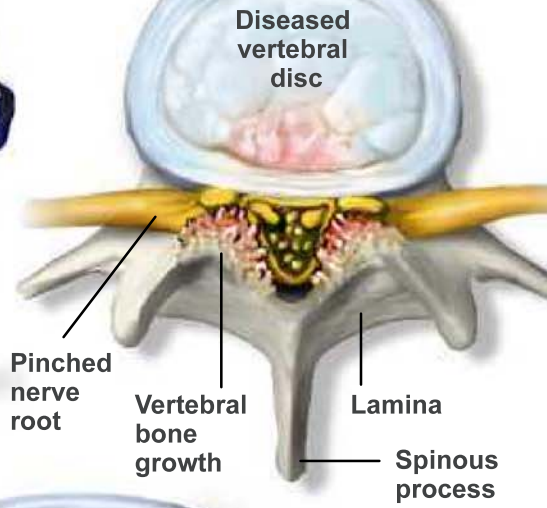


THE EFFECTS OF STENOSIS IN THE LUMBAR SPINE

Nerve pain
radiates down
one or both legs.



TOP VIEW OF AFFECTED AREA



Laminectomy

This procedure, performed through an incision in the back, removes the lamina to relieve pressure on the nerve roots and spinal cord.

STEP 1

First, the surgeon removes the spinous process (the portion of the vertebra that protrudes from the back of the spine). These are the bones that you feel when you touch the mid portion of your lower back.

STEP 2

The surgeon removes the lamina (the portion of the vertebra that covers the nerve roots and the spinal cord). Removing the damaged lamina opens up the spinal canal, taking pressure off the nerves.

STEP 3

There still may be some pinching due to pressure within the nerve foramina. The surgeon clears away any bone fragments that are pressing on the nerve roots.

END OF PROCEDURE

The spinal canal is now clear of any bone fragments, relieving pressure from the nerve roots and spinal cord. The surgeon checks the nerve roots to make sure they are free from pinching.

