

# Lumbar Corpectomy

This procedure is performed to relieve the pain caused when diseased or damaged vertebrae bone blocks and pinches the spinal cord. It also corrects spinal column deformities. During this procedure, the patient lies on his right side and the surgery is performed through the left side.

## STEP 1

After an incision is made, care is taken to remove the diseased and damaged parts of the vertebrae bone. This relieves pressure from the spinal cord.

## STEP 2

The disc levels above and below are removed along with any diseased vertebrae fragments. The bone surfaces are cleared and prepared to receive the bone graft.

## STEP 3

Bolts are screwed into the vertebrae above and below the gap to help the surgeon perform the rest of the procedure.

## STEP 4

The surgeon opens the vertebral space and corrects the spinal column curvature. This is known as reduction of deformity.

## STEP 5

While the vertebral space is open, the bone graft is inserted. Closing the vertebral space secures the bone graft tightly into place.

## STEP 6

A piece of metal called a Zplate is placed onto the two bolts bridging the vertebrae levels above and below the bone graft.

## STEP 7

Two nuts hold the Zplate in place, and two additional screws are inserted.

## END OF PROCEDURE

The Zplate keeps the area secure while the bone heals. Over time the bone graft will fuse with the vertebrae above and below to create one solid bone segment.

