



Introduction to Spinal Endoscopy Course

SEPTEMBER 3, 2025 | Bariloche, Argentina



General Information

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Programme Goal

Advanced Endoscopic Spine Surgery

Endoscopic spine surgery is becoming the ultimate tissue preserving technique to treat a multitude of spine pathologies with accumulating evidence in support of its efficacy and reduced complication rate. This has generated huge interest among surgeons worldwide to learn and adopt this technology. This course will help you to make the first steps in spinal endoscopy or to widen the spectrum of the procedures you offer to your patients, allowing you to achieve highly rewarding and excellent surgical outcomes in disc and stenosis surgery in the lumbar spine.

Quick Facts

DATE & TIME	SEPTEMBER 3 2025 (09:00 hs - 13:00 hs)
VENUE BEC	Bariloche Convention Center Patagonia Argentina
MAX. ATTENDEES	60 delegates maximum
REGISTRATION FEES	WFSE member: 300USD - Non-member: 400USD
CME CREDITS	Accreditation for Continuing Medical Education will be provided by the World Federation of Spine Endoscopy Society & ARMISS Society
LANGUAGE	English
DRESS CODE	Smart casual
PARTICIPANTS WILL GAIN	A fundamental understanding of endoscopic spine surgery Observational training in interlaminar and transforaminal approaches The ability to identify and navigate relevant lumbar spine anatomy Observational experience in lumbar discectomy and decompression procedures Strategies for avoiding and managing complications
TARGET AUDIENCE	Senior trainees and trained surgeons, who are planning a career in spine surgery
IMPORTANT!	Requirements for Obtaining the Continuing Medical Education Certificate: 1. Mandatory attendance at 100% of the theoretical course 2. Successful completion of the self-assessment

Programme

AVAILABLE FROM JULY 1 - 2025

TIME / DURATION	Topic
09:00 - 09:30	Basic concepts in spinal endoscopy
Interlaminar	
09:30 - 10:00	Interlaminar endoscopic lumbar discectomy (IELD)
10:00 - 10:20	Lumbar endoscopic unilateral laminotomy for bilateral decompression (LE-ULBD, "over the top" decompression)
10:20 - 10:40	Knowledge check questions
Transforaminal	
10:40 - 11:00	Transforaminal endoscopic lumbar discectomy (TELD)
11:00 - 11:20	Transforaminal endoscopic lumbar foraminotomy (TELF)
Biportal	
11:20 - 12:20	Unilateral biportal endoscopy (UBE)
12:20 - 13:00	Knowledge check questions

Learning Outcomes

Endoscopy in Lumbar Spine

- Explain how to use the endoscope in spine
- Describe the relevant anatomy for lumbar endoscopy
- List and evaluate the different approaches to lumbar spine

Interlaminar Endoscopic Techniques

- Describe the interlaminar endoscopic technique (theatre set-up, patient positioning, planning, procedural steps, limitations)
- Describe interlaminar endoscopic lumbar discectomy (IELD)
- Describe lumbar endoscopic unilateral laminotomy for bilateral decompression (LE-ULBD, “over the top” decompression)

Transforaminal Endoscopic Techniques

- Describe the transforaminal endoscopic technique (theatre set-up, patient positioning, planning, procedural steps, limitations)
- Describe transforaminal endoscopic lumbar discectomy (TELD)
- Describe transforaminal endoscopic lumbar foraminotomy (TELF)

Unilateral Biportal Endoscopic Technique

- Describe the unilateral biportal endoscopic technique (theatre set-up, patient positioning, planning, procedural steps, limitations)

General

- Identify the ideal indications for novice surgeons and recognise the contraindications based on the evidence
- Describe pitfalls of the different procedures and discuss how to
- Prevent and manage complications

Course Completion Requirements

Participants must fulfill the following requirements to complete this course:

Achieve a minimum score of 70% on the self-assessment quizzes

Complete the course evaluations, including a reflective component

Recommended Reading

AOSpine Consensus Paper on Nomenclature for Working-Channel Endoscopic Spinal Procedures. Global Spine Journal. 2020 Apr; 10(2 Suppl): 1115–1215. DOI: 10.1177/2192568219887364

Endoscopic Spine Surgery (J Korean Neurosurg Soc 60 (5): 485-497, 2017) DOI: 10.3340/jkns.2017.0203.004

Endoscopic Disc and Decompression Surgery (Book chapter) Rütten, Hahn (AOSpine MISS)

Comparative Study Between Uniportal Full-Endoscopic Interlaminar and Tubular Approach in the Treatment of Lumbar Spinal Stenosis: A Pilot Study. Global Spine Journal 2020, Vol. 10(2S) 70S-78S

TELF: Percutaneous Endoscopic Lumbar Foraminotomy: An Advanced Surgical Technique and Clinical Outcomes. Neurosurgery, 2014, 75:124–133. DOI: 10.1227/NEU.0000000000000361

TE-LRD: Percutaneous Transforaminal Endoscopic Decompression on Lateral Recess Stenosis: Technical Notes and Outcomes of Two Years Follow-up. A Case Series Study. International Journal of Clinical and Experimental Medicine, 2018; 11(10):10731-10739. URL: www.ijcem.com/IJCEM0077613/ ISSN: 1940-5901

Complications of Percutaneous Endoscopic Lumbar Discectomy: Experiences and Literature Review. Zhu et al., J Spine 2017, 6:6. DOI: 10.4172/2165-7939.1000402

Unique Complications of Percutaneous Endoscopic Lumbar Discectomy and Percutaneous Endoscopic Interlaminar Discectomy. Pain Physician 2018; 21: E105-E112 • ISSN 2150-1149#

Complications and Limitations of Endoscopic Spine Surgery and Percutaneous Instrumentation. Kim HS, Sharma SB, Wu PH, Raoarane HD, Adsul NM, Singh R, et al. Indian Spine Journal 2020; 3:78-85

New Era of Percutaneous Endoscopic Lumbar Surgery: Lumbar Stenosis Decompression – A Technical Report. Choi et al., J Spine 2014, 3:5. DOI: 10.4172/2165-7939.1000182

Clinical Outcomes and Complications after Biportal Endoscopic Spine Surgery: A Comprehensive Systematic Review and Meta-analysis of 3673 Cases. Don Y. Park, Alexander Upfill-Brown, Nora Curtin, Christopher D. Hamad, Akash Shah, Brian Kwon, Yong H. Kim, Dong Hwa Heo, Cheol Woong Park, William L. Sheppard. DOI: 10.1007/s00586-023-07701-9

Course Structure

Theoretical Foundations and Live Demonstration

The course will consist of a theoretical component, followed by a live demonstration of surgical techniques on anatomical models and endoscopic tower, led by a renowned expert in the field. This format will enable participants to bridge the gap between theory and practice.

Registration Guidelines

Enrollment Limitation: Enrollment is strictly limited to 80 participants. No exceptions will be considered.

Course Registration Options: Participants may register for the introductory course, the advanced course, or both courses. Registration for each course must be completed separately.

REGISTRATION & INFORMATION

www.wfse-congress.com/contact

Pre-Congress Course & Workshop Registration: precongress@wfse-congress.com

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