



**HELP YOUR LSS PATIENTS STAND LONGER
& WALK FARTHER WITH LESS PAIN**

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LUMBAR SPINAL STENOSIS (LSS) WITH
NEUROGENIC CLAUDICATION

LSS is one of the most commonly diagnosed and treated pathologic conditions affecting the spine



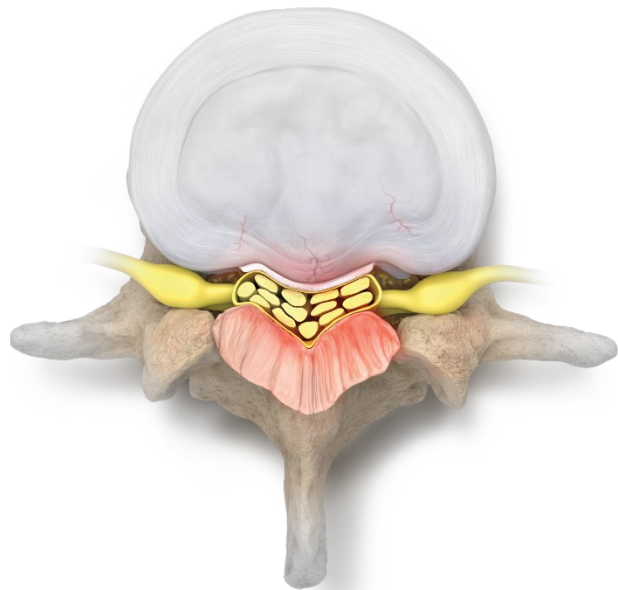
LSS is prevalent in 10–15%
of patients aged 60+²

YOU SEE THESE PATIENTS EVERYDAY



Easy to identify due to limited mobility and pain

Neurogenic claudication (NC) is a common symptom of LSS

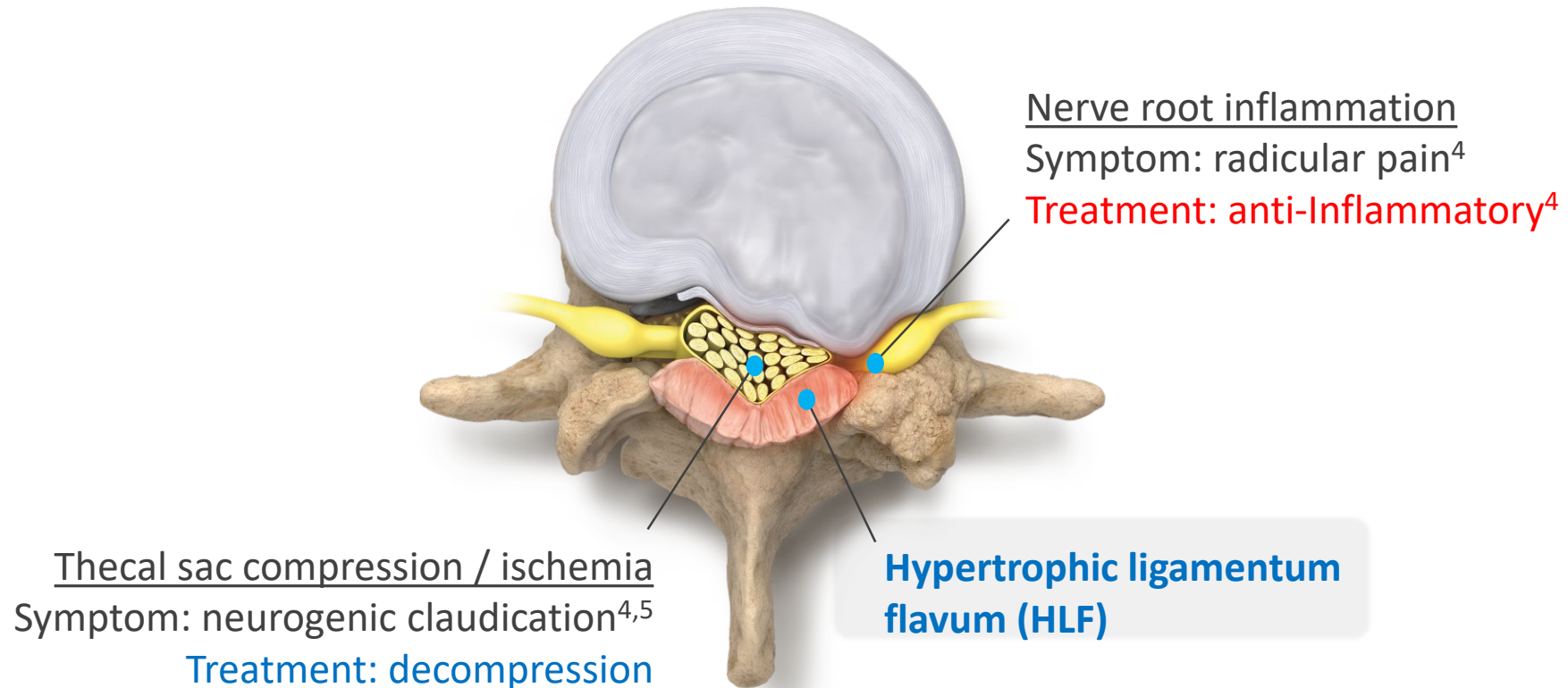


Narrowing of spinal canal leads to LSS and NC symptoms



of LSS patients have neurogenic claudication³

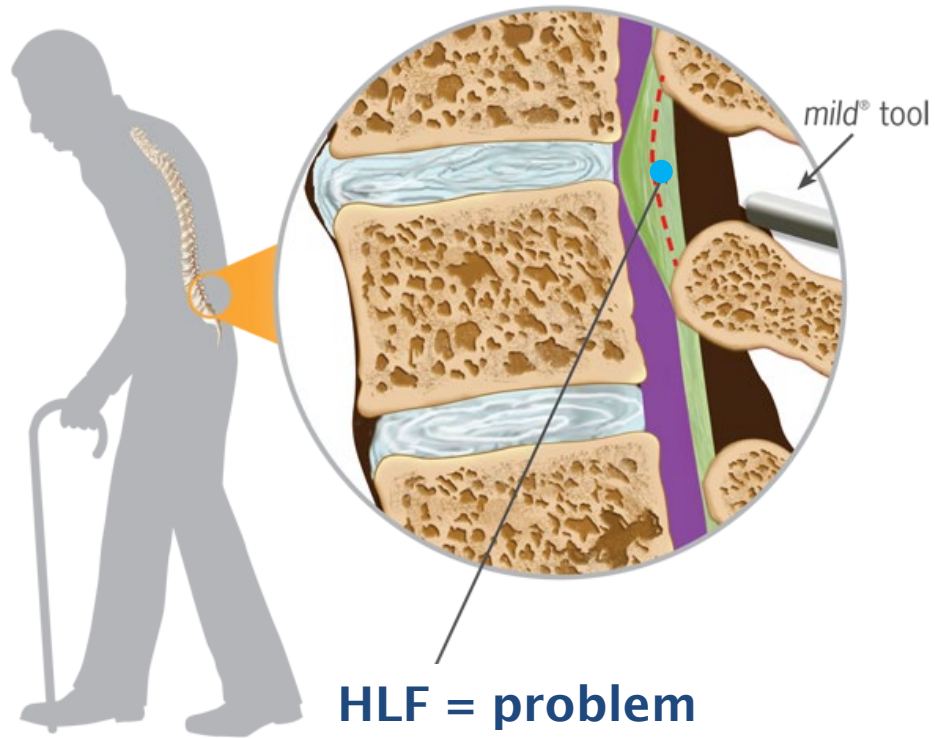
mild REMOVES A ROOT CAUSE OF NC



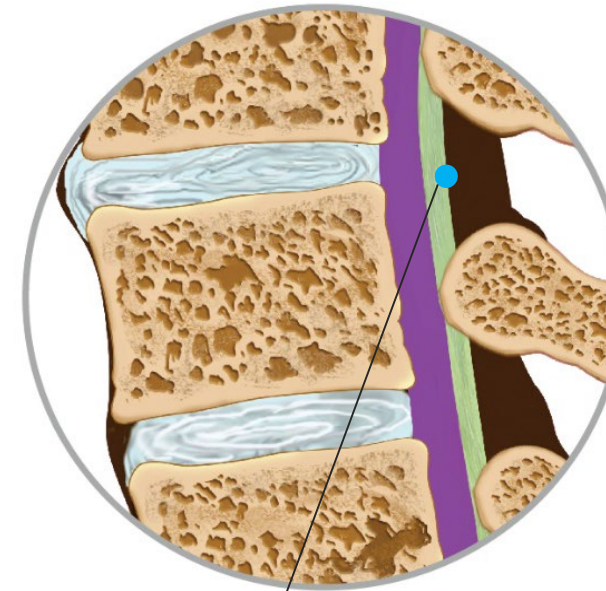
Decompression is required to effectively treat LSS with NC

mild REMOVES THE PROBLEM & LEAVES NOTHING BEHIND

Before *mild*

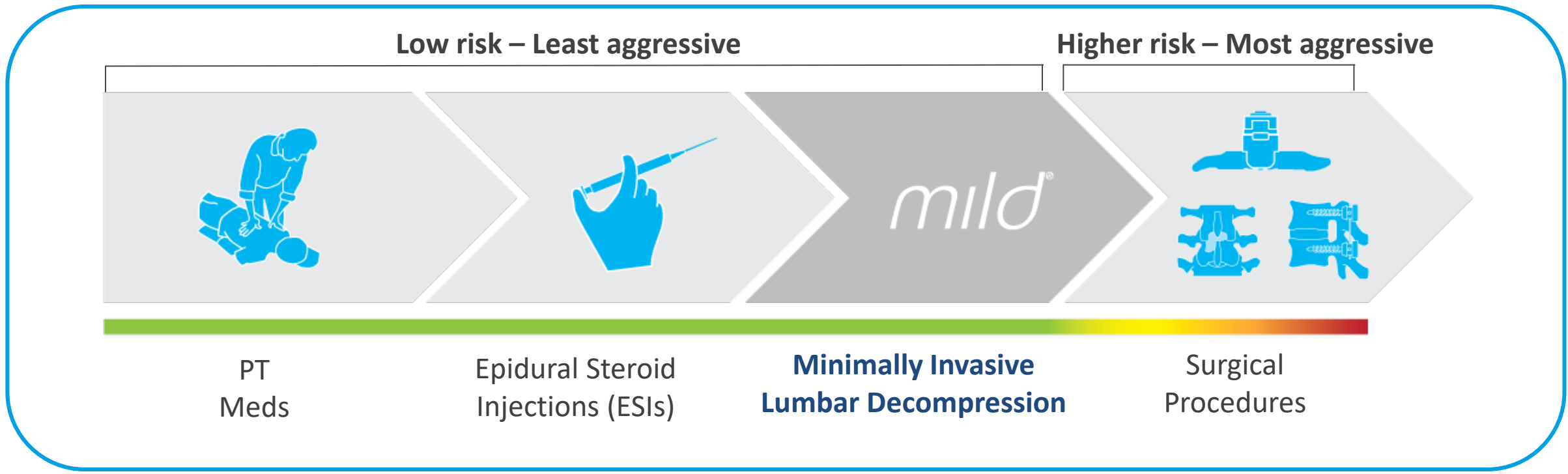


After *mild*



Debulking the ligament reduces spinal canal pressure and helps to alleviate NC symptoms⁶

mild offers a durable and safe early LSS treatment option



LSS TREATMENT ALGORITHM

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PATIENT OUTCOMES & SAFETY

Vertos
MEDICAL



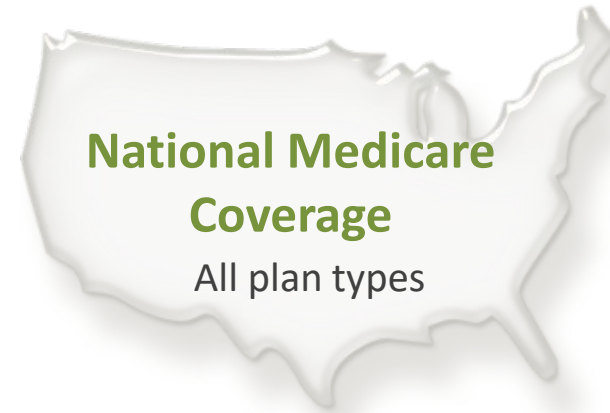
> **25k** patients treated to date



14 clinical trials including
Level 1 data⁶



Published in **20+** peer-reviewed
journal articles

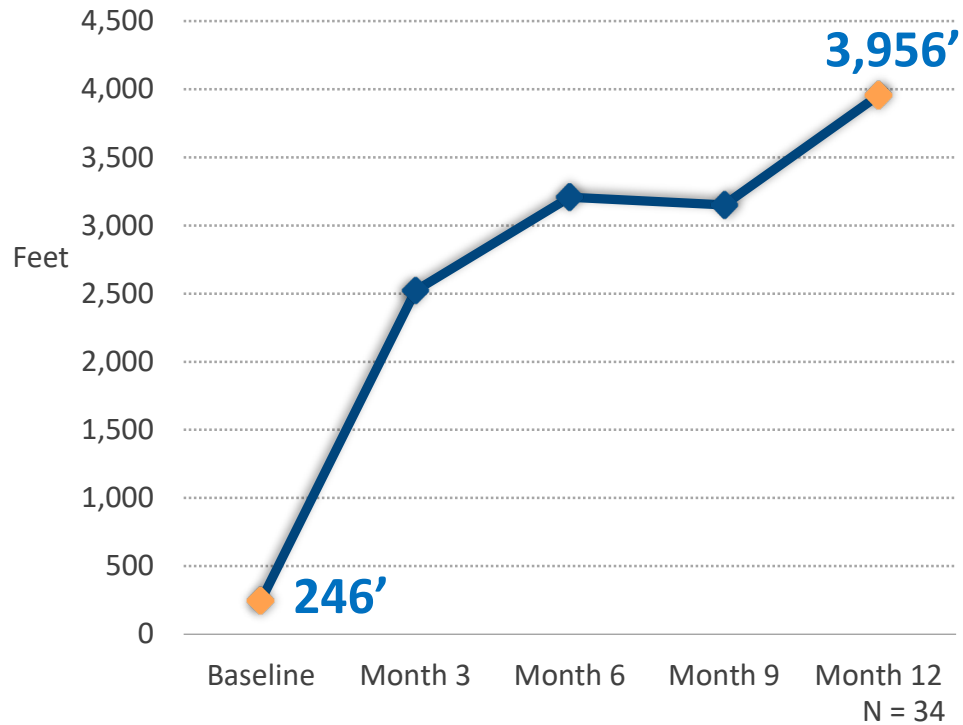


Simple coverage requirements

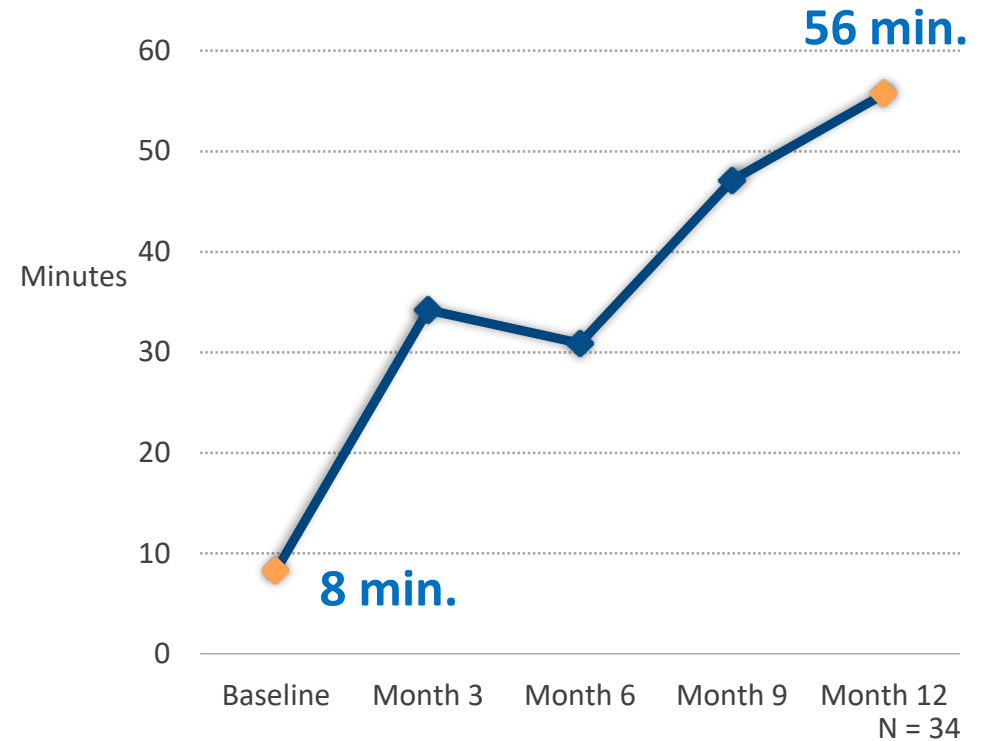
- Medicare beneficiaries- regardless of age
- Diagnosis of LSS with NC
- No surgery in lumbar region in previous 12 months (laminectomy, laminotomy, fusion, interspinous process decompression, or *mild*)

WALKING & STANDING IMPROVEMENT

Mean walking distance at each follow-up

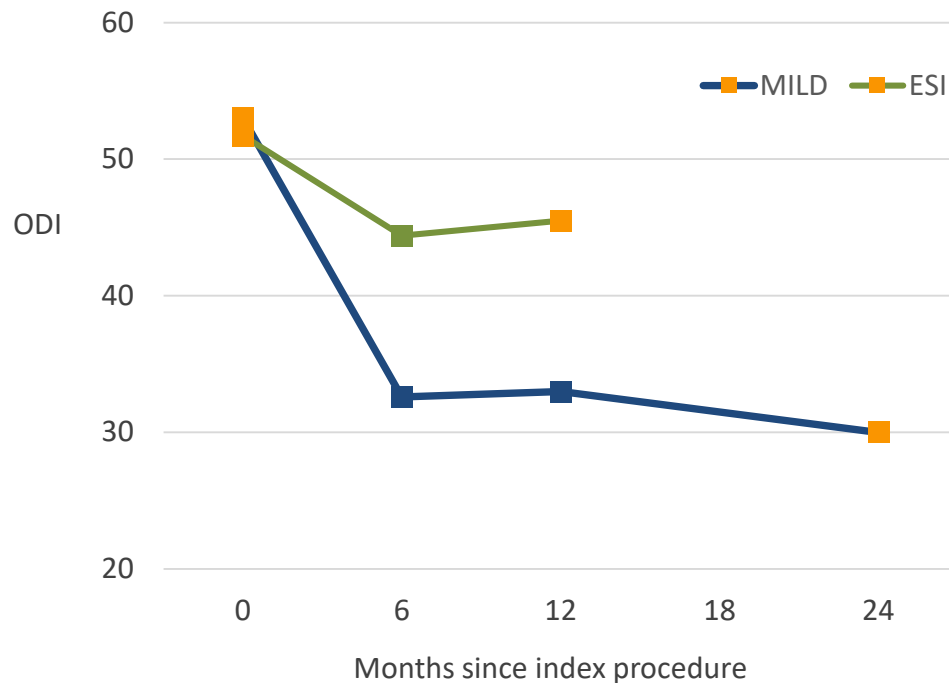


Mean standing time at each follow-up



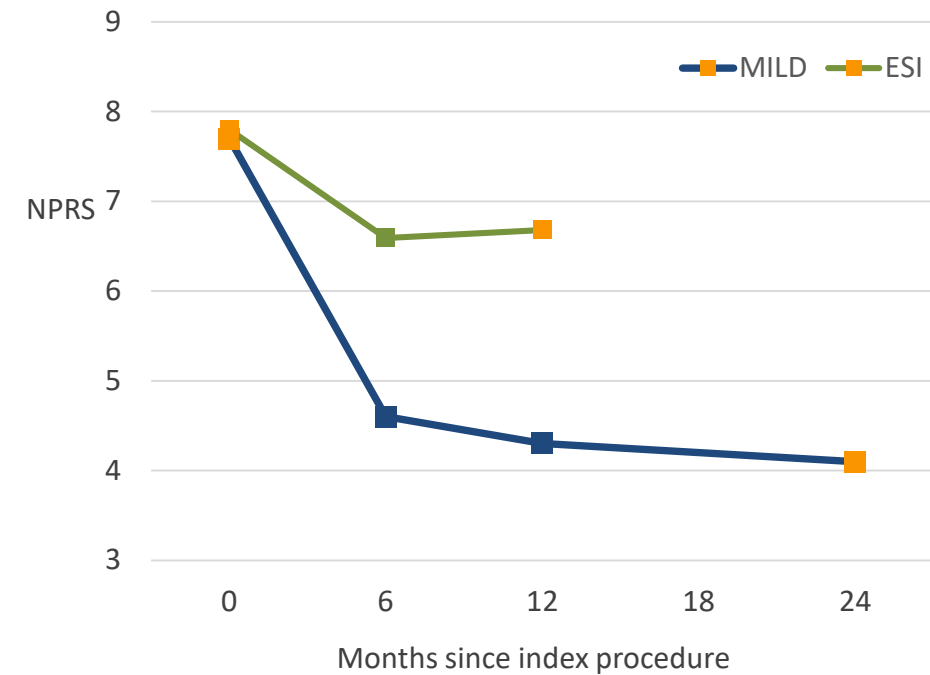
DURABLE FUNCTION & PAIN IMPROVEMENT

Oswestry Disability Index (ODI)



Mean ODI improvement of 22.7-points at 2 years
(10-point improvement is clinically significant)

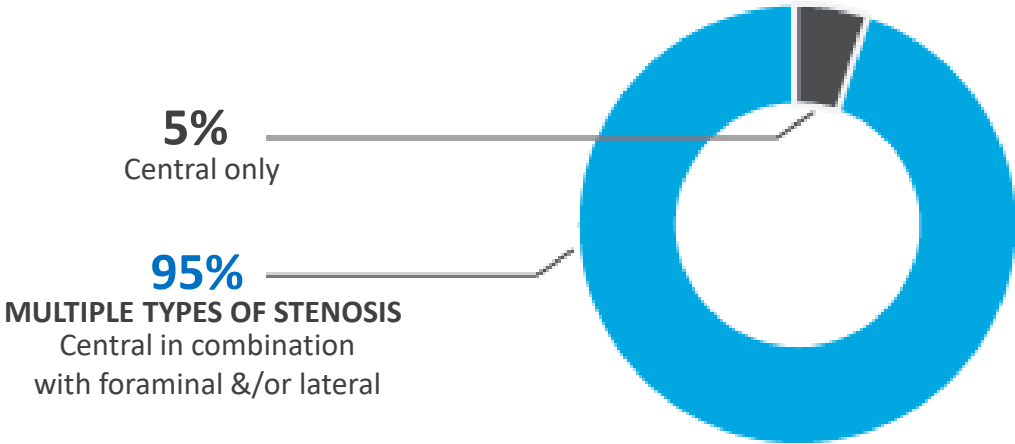
Numeric Pain Rating Scale (NPRS)



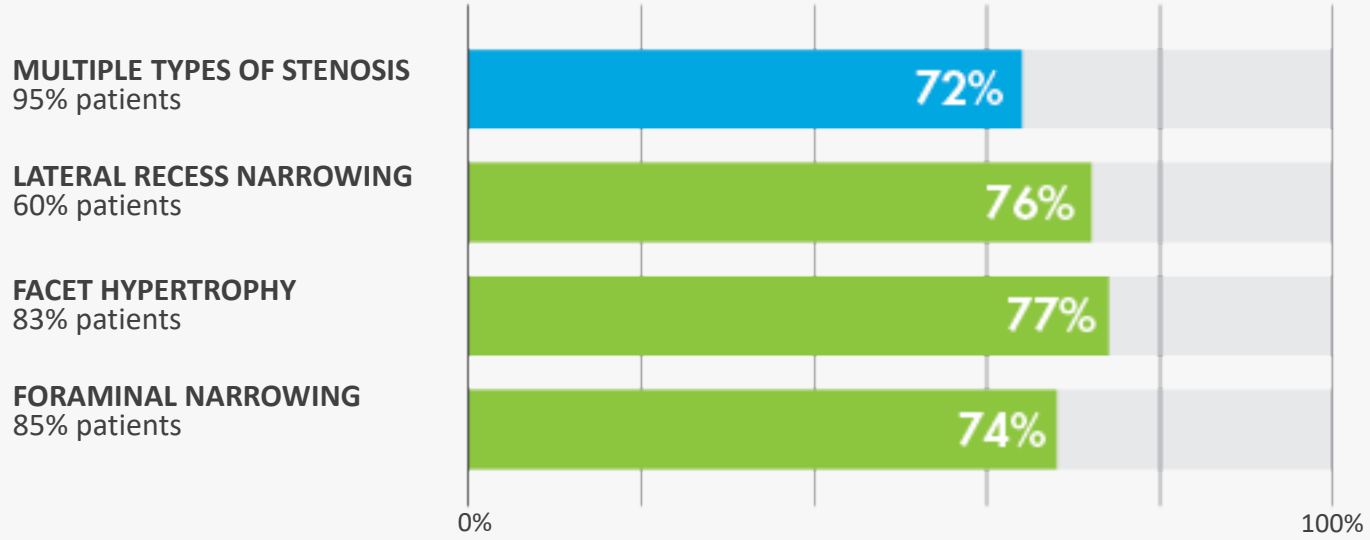
Mean NPRS improvement of 3.6-points at 2 years
(2-point improvement is clinically significant)

SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT IN PATIENTS WITH COMORBIDITIES

% Patients by stenosis type(s)



ODI Response Rate*



*Percent of patients achieving ODI improvement of ≥ 10 points at 2 year follow-up.

OUTPATIENT PROCEDURE SAFE BY DESIGN



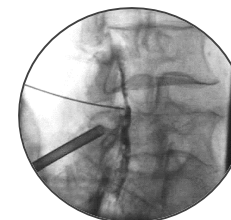
Tiny incision

Size of a baby aspirin



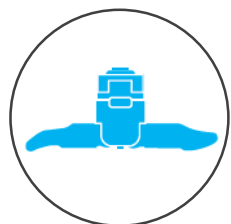
Instruments

Designed for safety



Constant visualization

Via epidurogram



No implants



No general anesthesia



No sutures

CLINICALLY PROVEN TO BE AS SAFE AS AN ESI⁶

2-year Outcomes	<i>mild</i> ⁶	Interspinous Spacers (ISS)		Surgical Decompression ^{10,11}	Fusion ¹²⁻¹⁶
		Superion ^{®9}	X-STOP ^{®9,10}		
Reoperation	5.6%	20.0%	14.4–26.0%	6–7.8%	12.5–16.9%
Device- and procedure-related AEs	1.3%	Device-related 11.6% Procedure-related 14.2%	7.5% 15.9%	Intraoperative 9.9% Postoperative 12.3%	23.3% 18% early – 6% late
Device- and procedure-related serious AEs	0%	8.4%	9.5%		
Lumbar spine fractures	0%	16.3%	8.5%	—	4.2%
Removal of hardware	No implants	16.3%	12.4%	No implants	4.3%

Clinically demonstrated safest decompression procedure¹⁷

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PATIENT IDENTIFICATION,
CONSULTATIONS &
ASSESSING OUTCOMES

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STEP 1: IDENTIFY PATIENTS WITH NC SYMPTOMS

Pain, numbness and/or heaviness
PRESENT when:

Standing



Walking



Pain, numbness and/or heaviness
RELIEVED by:

Bending



Sitting



Limited functionality is a key indicator of NC

NC ID questions

1. Where do you experience discomfort?
2. Does sitting or bending forward relieve your discomfort?
3. How long can you stand before you need to rest?
4. How far can you walk before you seek relief?
5. Which daily activities are affected due to your discomfort?

Document ICD-10 M48.062 on patient file

Lumbar Spinal Stenosis

Identifying Neurogenic Claudication

Pain/Numbness PRESENT When:

- Standing
- Walking

Discomfort: Pain, tingling, and numbness in the lower back, legs, or buttocks that worsen with lumbar extension (standing or walking).

Pain/Numbness RELIEVED By:

- Bending
- Sitting

Relief: Symptoms improve with lumbar flexion (bending or sitting forward).

Patient Assessment Questions

Legs/Back/Buttocks

- Where do you experience discomfort?

Relief

- Does sitting or bending forward relieve your pain?

Standing/Walking Tolerance

- How long can you stand before you need to rest?
- How far can you walk before you need to rest?

Activity Limitations

- Which daily activities are affected due to your discomfort?

Mobility Questionnaire

Patient Information

Date of Birth: _____

Mobility

Do you experience significant pain/discomfort?

- None
- Buttock(s)
- Pain
- Lying Down

Is there any numbness or tingling during these activities?

- Throbbing
- Staking
- Sharp
- Numbness
- Shooting
- Electric Shock

How often does your pain/discomfort occur?

How long does it last?

How often do you need to rest?

How long does it last?

What is your pain/discomfort? (E.g., washing dishes, getting the mail)

Treatments Received

What treatments have you tried for back, leg, or buttock pain/discomfort? Did they help? Please mark all that apply.

Treatment	Helped	Did Not Help	Last Date of Treatment
Physical Therapy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Chiropractor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Acupuncture	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Heat/Ice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Medication	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Other, Please List: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____

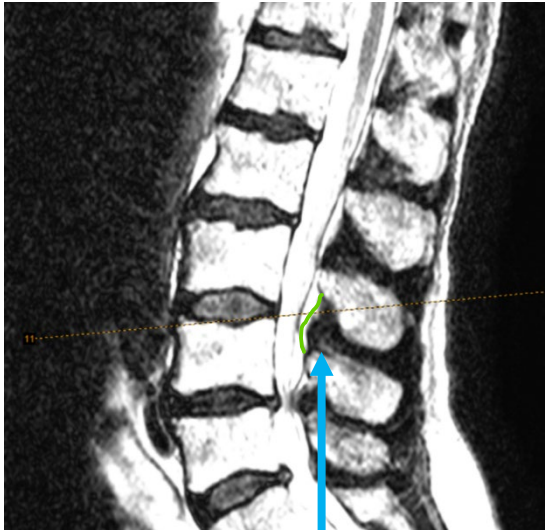
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Educational tools to guide a simple and efficient patient ID process

STEP 2: CONFIRM WITH IMAGING

Use MRI to CONFIRM:

- Lumbar spinal stenosis
- Hypertrophic ligamentum flavum verified ≥ 2.5 mm
- Spinal stability: \leq grade 2 spondylolisthesis
- Interlaminar access



NC symptoms are caused by hypertrophic ligamentum flavum (HLF), which contributes to 50-85% of spinal canal narrowing¹⁸

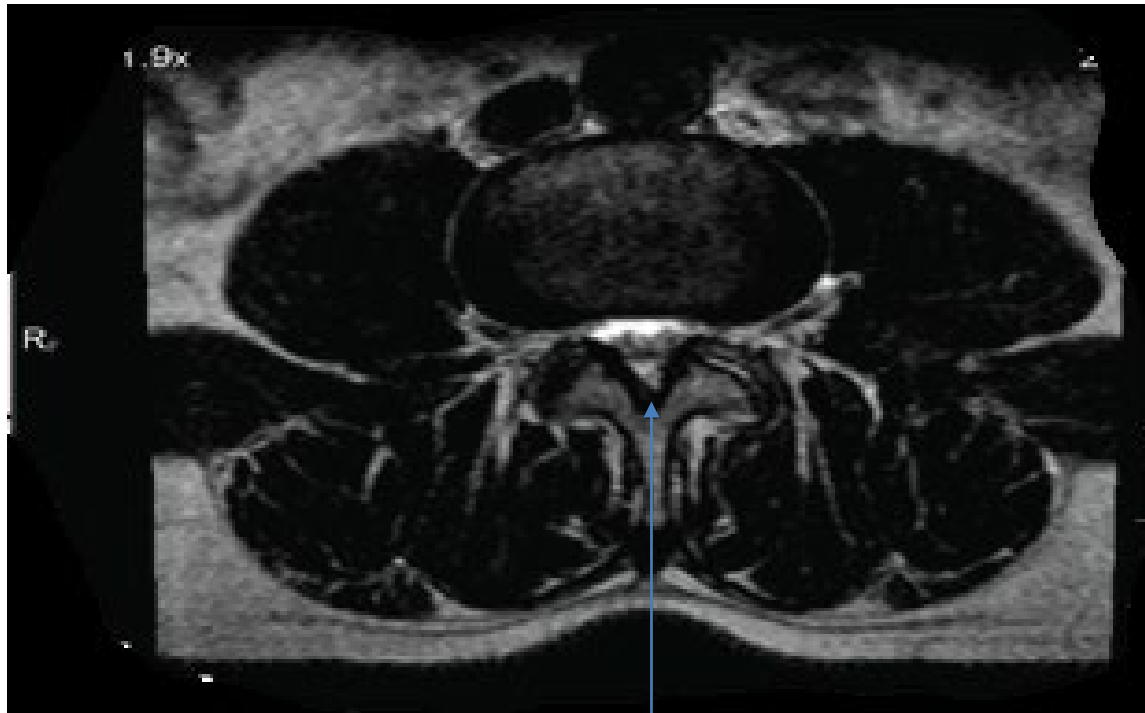
Use ESI as a diagnostic tool

- Post interlaminar ESI, administer contrast
- Assess ligament thickness/buckling
- Follow-up with MRI review to confirm assessment and plan procedure



Limited dye flow will highlight HLF and levels impacted

What does a 2.5mm ligament look like?



2.5 mm

- 2.5 mm is the starting point and all spinal canals are different. Look for the thickened ligament impinging on the central canal.
- If there is a ligament $\geq 2.5\text{mm}$, *mild* is least invasive step in the LSS treatment algorithm.

STEP 3: EDUCATE CANDIDATES & SET EXPECTATIONS

mild is a safe procedure that can help patients stand longer and walk farther with less pain⁷

mild procedure

Before mild After mild

mild tool

mild excess

Clinical studies show that *mild*[®] is a **safe** procedure that can help you **stand longer** & **walk farther** with less **pain**.

Safe Procedure:

- Low complication risk
- Outpatient procedure
- No general anesthesia
- No stitches or implants left behind

Significant Improvement:

- Standing time increase from **8 to 56** minutes³
- Walking distance increase from **246 to 3,956** feet³
- **53%** pain reduction¹

Return to the daily activities of your life, such as cooking a meal, taking a stroll in the park, or grocery shopping.

To learn more, talk to your doctor or visit www.mildprocedure.com/moreinfo

*Results may vary.
Data based on average of responder group at 1 year from MEDAL 1 study.
Based on SPIN study. ³Benefits based on clinical data from Cleveland Clinic study.
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MEX000018v01

Vertos MEDICAL
Aliso Viejo, CA

Performed through a tiny incision, smaller than a baby aspirin:

5.1 mm { 

- Low complication risk
- Outpatient procedure
- No general anesthesia
- No stitches
- No implants
- Resume light activities within a few days

STEP 4: CONDUCT FOLLOW-UP VISITS

The image shows a screenshot of the 'mild Move More Questionnaire' form. The form is titled 'mild Move More Questionnaire' and includes fields for 'PATIENT NAME', 'DATE OF BIRTH', and 'DATE'. It contains two sections of questions. The first section asks about standing and walking before the procedure, and the second section asks about standing and walking after the procedure. It also includes a section for recommending the procedure to family or friends. The form is branded with the Vertos Medical logo.

During follow-up visit:

- Assess and document post-op outcomes
- Inspect incision
- Discuss conditioning plan: PT prescription
- Schedule 6-month appointment to measure optimal outcomes and consider assessing for other treatments

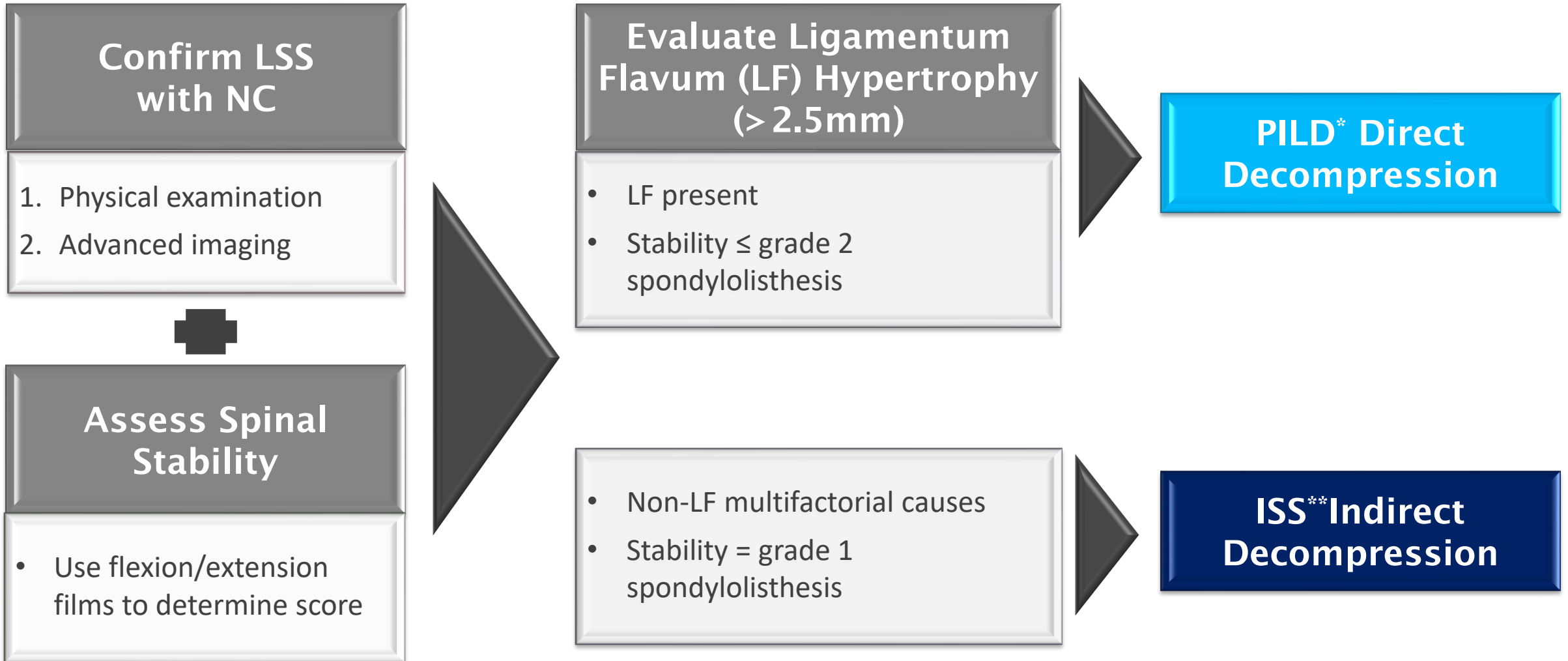
Remember: Patients often report soreness from increased mobility and muscle use

During follow-up visit, remind patients of the Cleveland Clinic study results and functional improvement over time⁸

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MIST GUIDELINES &
CLINICAL DECISION-MAKING
WORKFLOW IN YOUR PRACTICE

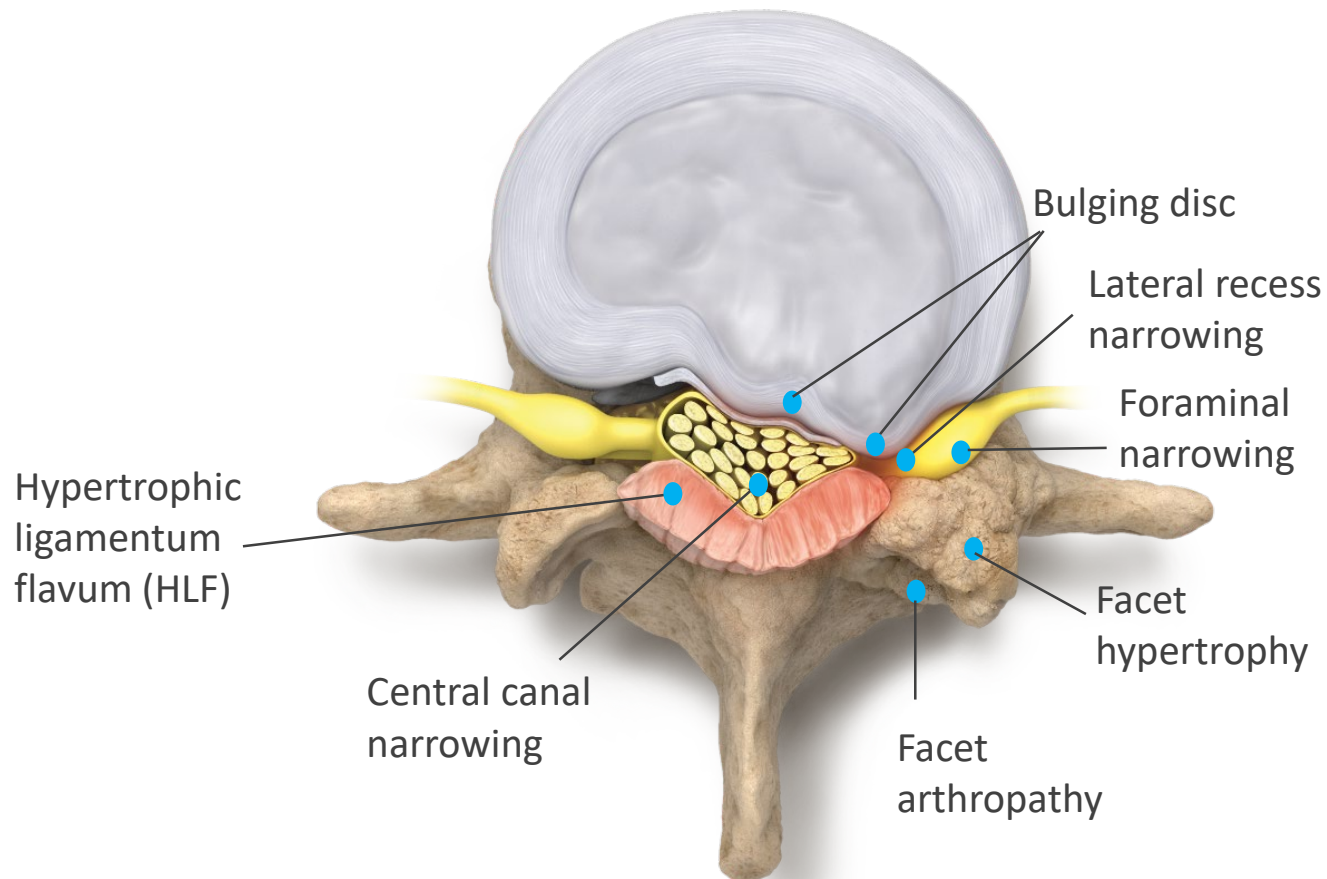
MIST GUIDELINES: DECISION MAKING WITH PREDOMINANT CENTRAL CANAL SPINAL STENOSIS¹⁹



*Percutaneous Image-guided Lumbar Decompression

**Interspinous Spacers

Comorbidities have been shown to be positive predictors for success¹⁹



Lumbar spine with LSS and comorbidities

- Comorbidities are not contraindications
- *mild* has been shown to treat multifactorial etiologies

mild CLINICAL DECISION-MAKING WORKFLOW

Identify NC

- Confirm symptomology
- Establish baseline mobility

Evaluate Imaging

- Symptomatic stenosis
- Assess ligament
- Evaluate stability (if needed)

mild Procedure

- May add steroid after procedure to decrease inflammatory response
- Prescribe conditioning / core exercise program for 6 months

Consider Assessing at 6 Months to Treat Other Conditions

Administer ESI for Radicular Pain & Diagnostic

mild Planning

- Post interlaminar ESI, administer contrast
- Assess ligament thickness/buckling
- Determine access in contralateral oblique view

ESI Failure

Assess ESI Effectiveness

- Follow up at 2 weeks: Does discomfort persist?

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PRACTICE INTEGRATION &
COMMITMENT

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MEDICAL

WHERE *mild* FITS IN YOUR PRACTICE

Effective treatment for NC

- Solution for undertreated population
- Patients stay in your practice longer
- Frequently need other treatments
- Does not eliminate future treatment options



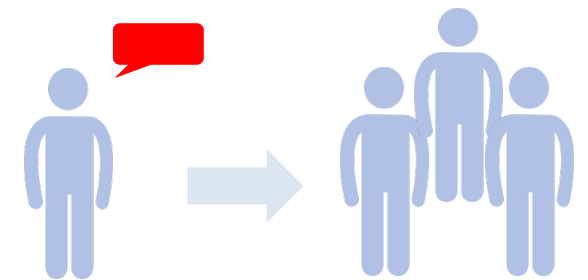
Option for underserved patient population

- Not surgical candidates
- Can't tolerate general anesthesia
- Early disease / don't want surgery



Differentiate your practice

- Positive word of mouth
- Attract new patients
- Differentiator to referring physicians



Staff engagement

Vertos access:

- Ensure patient evaluation is routine and patient flow process is in place
- Educate all patient touchpoints
- Assist in creating a trigger for MRI ordering and review
- Confirm radiologist is educated on *mild* and reports provide HLF measurement

Clinical efficiency

Scheduling:

- Schedule regular treatment times (weekly/monthly) and perform cases in blocks
- Perform cases solo once procedure comfort is established

Patient outcomes

Tracking:

- Ensure regular review of patient outcomes (walking/standing, pain) by practice staff

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NATIONAL MEDICARE
COVERAGE

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SIMPLE COVERAGE REQUIREMENTS & CLAIMS SUPPORT

All Medicare plan types covered (original, advantage, supplement)

- Medicare beneficiaries- regardless of age
- Diagnosis of LSS with NC
- No surgery in lumbar region in previous 12 months (laminectomy, laminotomy, fusion, interspinous process decompression, or *mild*)

BILLING GUIDANCE for the <i>mild</i> Procedure (NCT03072027) <small>Effective for procedures performed on or after February 16, 2017</small>		
<small>The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) established national coverage for the <i>mild</i> procedure under the national coverage determination (NCD) for percutaneous image-guided lumbar decompression (PLD) for lumbar spinal stenosis (LSS). The <i>mild</i> procedure is now covered for Medicare patients nationwide under a CMS-approved claim analysis study that will prospectively collect and analyze real-world data to demonstrate the role of the change in the continuum of care for LSS. See the NCD: Percutaneous Image-Guided Lumbar Decompression for Lumbar Spinal Stenosis (L50.13)</small>		
PATIENT ELIGIBILITY		
Inclusion Criteria	Exclusion Criteria	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Medicare beneficiary• Diagnosis of LSS with neurogenic claudication (NC)• ≥ 18 years old	Patients who have received a laminectomy, laminotomy, fusion, interspinous process decompression, or any of the lumbar region during the 12 months prior to the index date.	
FACILITY PAYMENT 2018 National Averages- Subject to Payer Indefinite		
CPT CODE	ASC	Principal Outpatient
22597 (APC 5146)	\$2,721.70*	\$8,908.00**
<small>Percutaneous laminectomy/laminotomy (dehysterical approach) for decompression of neural elements with or without ligamentous resection, discectomy, facetectomy and/or retractor, and/or interlaminar or intervertebral foramen (e.g., fluoroscopic, CT), single or multiple levels, lumbar or lumbosacral, lumbar.</small>		
<small>*National Average ASC Current Surge & Procedure for CPT 22597, Revised 1/1/17 **National Average Outpatient Hospital Current for CPT 22597, Revised 1/1/17</small>		
PHYSICIAN PAYMENT		
<small>Category III CPT codes do not have assigned relative value units (RVUs) for calculation of physician payment; the physician payment will be prospectively adjusted for each MAC. It is recommended that you contact your local MAC to determine specific payment levels in your area.</small>		
BILLING SPECIFICS		
Claims Identifying Information to Signify Patient is Part of a Study	CEI Study	
Procedure Code	NCT03072027	
Modifier to Category III CPT Code	QB	<small>Investigational clinical service provided in a clinical research study that is in an approved clinical research study</small>
Primary Diagnosis Code	M50.02	<small>Spinal stenosis, lumbar region with neurogenic claudication</small>
Secondary Diagnosis Code*	Z58.0†	<small>Enrollment for experimental or normal comparative and control in clinical research program</small>
Condition Code	35	<small>Qualifying clinical trial</small>
<small>*CMS does not allow the Z58.0 to be coded in the primary or secondary position.</small>		

The Reimbursement Group:

- Connects directly with your billers to ensure claims are set up properly and submitted correctly upon first submission
- Provides prior-auth support for Medicare Advantage & commercial payors

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