For decades, LSS patients’ surgical options were limited to either decompression or decompression with spinal fusion. In 2012, the FDA approved the coflex® spinal implant, which is a small, U-shaped titanium device that provides spinal stability without the mobility loss associated with spinal fusion.

**How is the coflex® device implanted?**

After the surgical decompression, which removes pressure on the impinged nerves, your surgeon will insert the coflex® implant through the same incision. The implant is then positioned onto the laminar bone, which is the strongest bone in the back of your spine.

The unique design of the coflex® implant maintains stability in the spine while preserving more natural movement at the affected area.

**How do patients with coflex® compare to patients with spinal fusion?**

A 2013 published study comparing the coflex® device with spinal fusion found that the coflex® device had “advantages in perioperative outcomes,” and that “equivalent or superior 2-year clinical outcomes were seen with coflex®.” The article concluded that “coflex® is a safe, efficacious, and viable alternative to spinal fusion in the treatment of spinal stenosis with low back pain.”

**What are the benefits of coflex® vs. decompression with pedicle screws?**

In comparative research vs. spinal fusion, the data demonstrates that coflex® patients do better, faster.

Patients receiving the coflex® implant experienced faster relief of their symptoms, reported higher satisfaction rates with their outcomes, and required less post-operation pain medication than spinal fusion patients.

Decompression with the coflex® device is faster than decompression with pedicle screws, causes less blood loss and requires a shorter hospital stay.

**Is the coflex® device the right choice for me?**

To be a candidate for treatment for decompression with the coflex® device, you must be skeletally mature and must have moderate-to-severe spinal stenosis in your lower back. Symptoms of LSS include difficulty walking a long way, such as half a mile, and having pain in your lower back while standing that subsides when you bend forward.

In order to receive the coflex® implant, you must have been treated by a doctor for at least six months with non-surgical treatments.

---