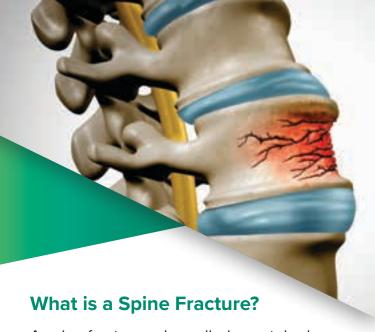


Minimally invasive treatment for spine fractures.





A spine fracture—also called a vertebral compression fracture (VCF)—happens when one of the bones in your spine weakens and collapses. These fractures can cause severe back pain and if left untreated, may lead to permanent deformity, breathing problems, or limited movement.



Treatment Options

Many patients start with pain medicine, back brace, and rest, but these options can take months and don't always relieve symptoms.

If pain continues, a minimally invasive procedure like vertebroplasty can quickly stabilize the fracture and relieve pain.

Vertebroplasty

- Outpatient procedure no hospital stay
- Done under local anesthesia (numbing medicine)
- A tiny needle is guided into the fractured bone using X-ray imaging
- In some cases, an extra step is done to restore height to the collapsed bone by inflating a small balloon inside the vertebra to create space (called Kyphoplasty)
- Medical cement is injected to strengthen the bone

Most patients go home within 2–3 hours, and about 90% feel significant pain relief within 24 hours.4







Cement Filled

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 Kado DM, et al. Arch Intern Med. 1999;159(1):1215-20.
 Huang MH, et al. J Bone Miner Res. 2006;21(3):419-23.
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What Causes Spine Fractures?

Nearly 1 million vertebral compression fractures occur each year in the U.S., most often from osteoporosis, a condition that weakens bones.

Common risk factors include:



Osteoporosis (especially in women over 50)



Smoking



Early menopause



Low body weight

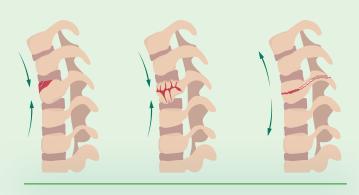


Certain medications



Family history of weak bones





Both men and women can develop osteoporosis, but it is more common in Caucasian and Asian women.

People who have had a VCF are also at higher risk for:

- More spine fractures (recurring)
- · Reduced lung function or pneumonia
- Blood clots
- Loss of mobility or strength
- Lower quality of life ^{1,2,3}

Do I Have a Spine Fracture?

Only a doctor can diagnose a spine fracture, using X-rays or MRI scans.

Common symptoms include:

- Sudden or ongoing back pain
- · Pain in the hip, abdomen, or thigh
- · Numbness, tingling, or weakness
- · Loss of height or a hunched posture
- Difficulty breathing
- Bladder or bowel problems

If you have these symptoms, talk to your doctor right away.

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P: (952) 960-9399 F: (952) 206-6467

8401 Golden Valley Rd Suite 340 Golden Valley, MN 55427