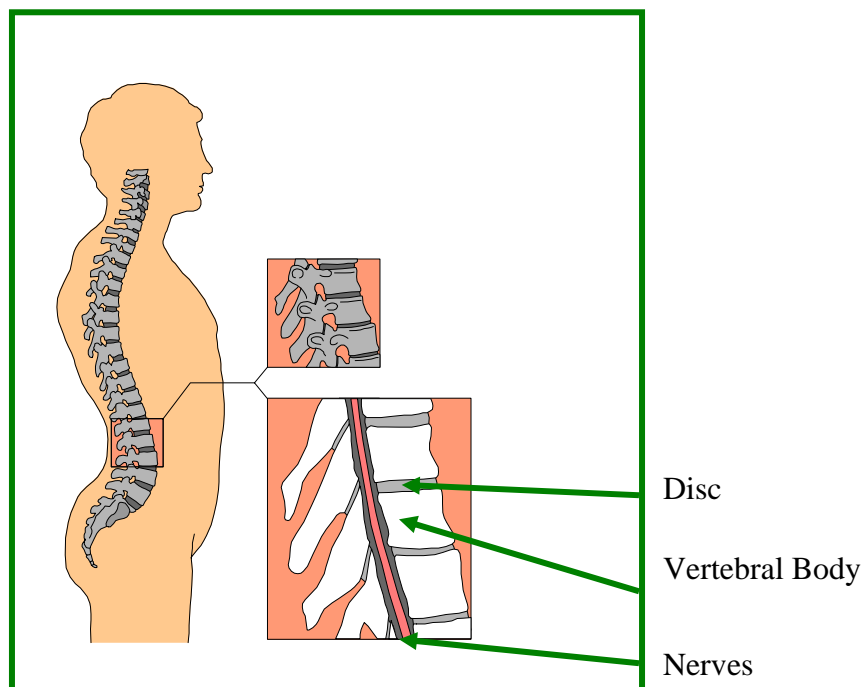


# *Microscope Assisted Lumbar Spinal Fusion*

## *What is Degenerative Disc Disease?*

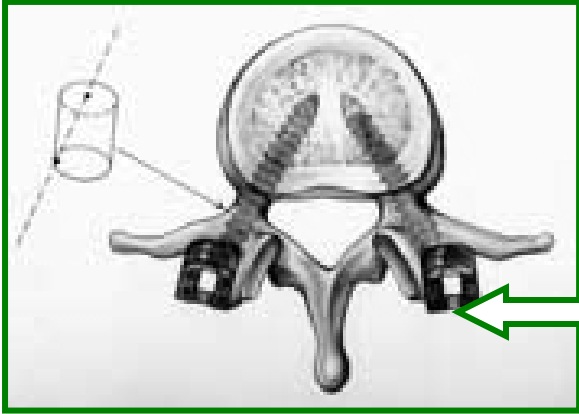
The Lumbar Spine is composed of the five Lumbar Vertebrae separated by the shock absorbing disc. The Nerves lie behind the discs. With aging or trauma, the discs bulge and may press against the nerves causing pain in the back and down the leg. This is called Degenerative Disc Disease



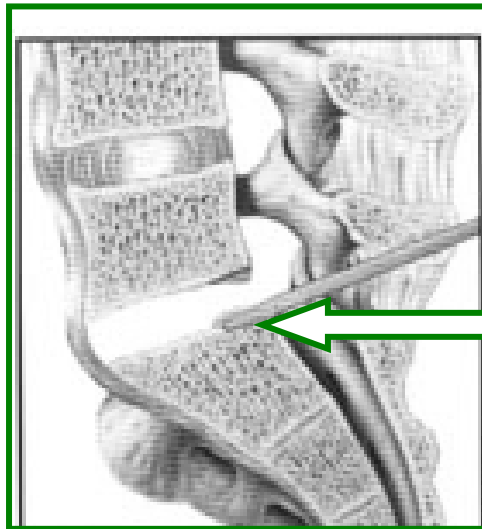
## *Overview of Microscope Assisted Lumbar Spinal Fusion*

We are now able to treat Degenerative Disc Disease that fails nonoperative treatment with microscope assisted Decompression and Instrumented Fusion. Using this technique, the spine can be stabilized with the use of internal spine instrumentation. This surgery leads to more reliable fusion rates and significant pain relief.

## *Microscope Assisted Lumbar Fusion (Continued)*



The pedicle screw is positioned in bone



In many cases, an interbody cage can be placed through the same incision to give added support to the fusion construct

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