

Bristol Regional Medical Center doctors treat patient with *OsseoFix*

Physicians at Bristol Regional Medical Center recently became the first in Tennessee to successfully treat a patient using the OsseoFix Spinal Fracture Reduction System in a landmark clinical trial. The OsseoFix is an innovative treatment for vertebral compression fractures, a painful medical condition that primarily affects patients with osteoporosis.

Dr. Morgan Lorio, an orthopedic spine surgeon with NeuroSpine Solutions in Bristol, performed the procedure and said it went smoothly and quickly. Dr. John Testerman, also an orthopedic spine surgeon, was an integral part of the case and assisted Lorio in targeting the spinal fractures.

The OsseoFix implant is made of a titanium alloy and pure titanium and forms a cage-like design inside the vertebral body. The device is placed in a controlled manner and is deployed so that it builds an optimal combination with the sponge-like bone found inside the vertebra. Bone cement is added to the deployed implant to strengthen the construct. The combination of bone, cement and the implant mimics the support system naturally present inside the vertebral body. The device is implanted through a minimally invasive surgical procedure.

The implant assists in preventing the collapse of the vertebra during surgery and during the period when the cement hardens. Therefore the highest possible stability of the vertebra is allowed. The procedure takes about 30 minutes per vertebra, which is extremely important for older patients, because reducing surgery time lowers stress on the body.

Testerman and Lorio are enrolling patients who may benefit from OsseoFix repair of vertebral compression fractures. To make an appointment with NeuroSpine Solutions call 844-0501.