

Problems Of Geriatric Spine Surgery

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After having more aged populations, the number of spine surgery in geriatric patients is increasing. The three main problems in geriatric spine surgery are: (1) Poor bone quality (osteoporosis), (2) Continuing degeneration and more deformity, and (3) More comorbidities. Surgery on elderly patients need special attention to these items. Weaker bone due to osteoporosis needs more fusion, less mobility preservation, needs additional support or bone augmentations. More deformity in aged patients need longer and balanced fixations. More comorbidities in aged patients may result with more systemic complications and outcomes are less satisfactory.

This talk will discuss the problems of aging spine and try to give more precise criteria for patient selection.