

## Spinal surgery benefit criteria

All surgical procedures involving the spine and its supporting structures - including the cervical, thoracic, lumbar, sacral and coccygeal regions - are included under the lifetime limit, regardless of approach, level or technique, unless specifically excluded. This includes procedures addressing spinal alignment, stability, decompression or structural integrity, whether performed directly on the vertebrae or on adjacent stabilising tissues.

Procedures undertaken primarily for oncological (cancer), infectious or vascular disease, in which the spine is accessed or stabilised only as an adjunct, are not included within this benefit unless the spinal component is the primary focus.

Details of the lifetime limit that applies for the Spinal surgery benefit can be found in the applicable Health Plan document.

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