

VERTEBRAL AUGMENTATION INFORMATION



Vertebral Augmentation using Balloon Kyphoplasty has been very successful in our practice. If you have a potential candidate, please complete a Vertebral Augmentation Request Form, an MRI Request Form and General Request Form for Nuclear Medicine Bone Scan. Fax these requests along with any pertinent prior imaging to 403-309-0093. Our Vertebral Augmentation Coordinator will review the information with a radiologist and arrange any appointments.

In order to be considered for consultation, the patient must:

- have a diagnosed osteoporotic or malignant compression fracture between T6 and L5;
- have failed, or be unable to tolerate, conservative therapy;
- have no radicular symptoms associated with the fracture;
- If osteoporotic, be actively using an antiresorptive agent or have attempted therapy but was unable to continue;
- have MR or nuclear medicine imaging that demonstrates an acute to subacute compression fracture;
- be able to discontinue blood thinning agents for a period of 5 days prior to the procedure.

Process

Once we have determined the patient may be a candidate for Vertebral Augmentation, we will arrange a consultation at CAMIS where the imaging is reviewed and the patient is examined. The procedure is explained and if the patient is agreeable, the procedure date is confirmed at the Red Deer Regional Hospital.

The Procedure

The procedure requires day stay and is performed in the interventional radiology suite. Following informed consent the patient is prepared for the procedure. The procedure is performed under conscious sedation and usually takes between 1.5 and 2.5 hours.

Follow-up

Following the procedure, the patient returns to the day room in a supine position and is reevaluated in midafternoon and discharged.

CAMIS performs follow-up at one and six weeks post procedure to assess outcomes.

If you have further questions, please contact Mr. Larry Lowe at 403-755-1052