

# Preparing for Your Spine Surgery:

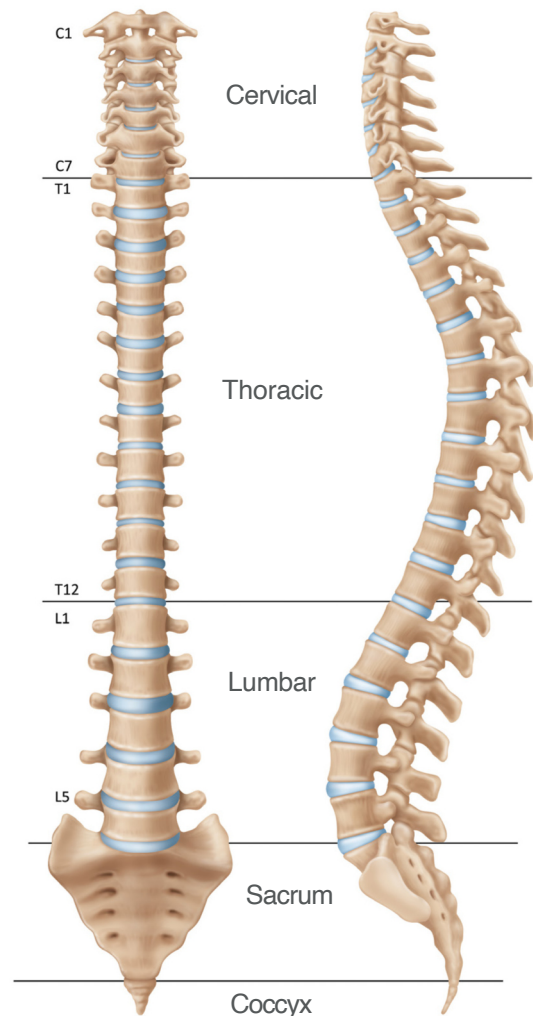
## Laminectomy

Dr. Desai has recommended spine surgery to treat your condition. This information will help you understand and prepare for your surgery. Your care provider can show you where in your spine your surgery will occur.

### The spine

The spine consists of 33 connected bones called vertebrae (Figure 1). Between each vertebra lies a disk that serves as a cushion.

Figure 1. The spine



## Laminectomy

The spinal cord and nerves are surrounded by the vertebrae. A laminectomy is a type of surgery that removes the back part of the vertebrae in the spine called the lamina (Figure 2). This surgery is used to enlarge the spinal canal to remove pressure on the spinal cord or nerves. Pressure on the spinal column can be responsible for pain or weakness that radiates down your arms or legs depending on the level of the spinal column that is affected.

Figure 2. Removing the lamina to relieve pressure on the spinal cord

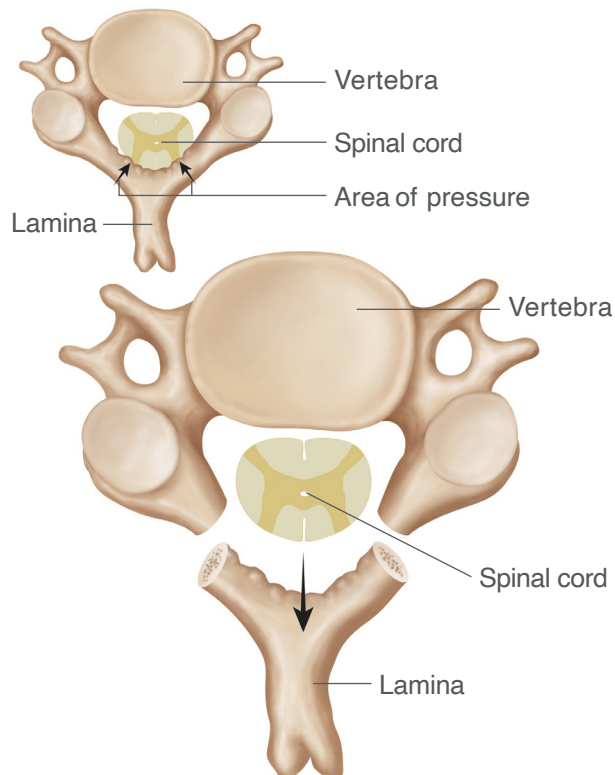
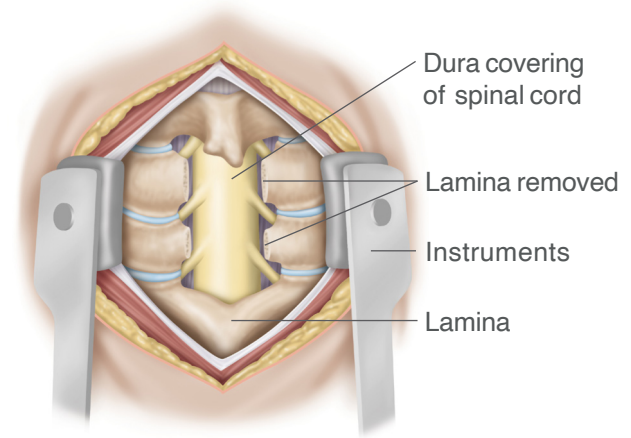


Figure 3. Exposing the lamina and spinal cord



## Meet Your Surgeon



Dr. Parth N. Desai, M.D., is a fellowship-trained orthopedic spine surgeon who provides comprehensive spine care to patients in the Conyers and Covington area. Though originally from Georgia, Dr. Desai completed his spine training at Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Chicago, IL. He completed his undergraduate at the University of Georgia and medical school at Mercer University. Dr. Desai specializes in the full spectrum of spinal conditions involving the neck and back, including herniated discs, spinal stenosis, degenerative disc disease, spinal instability, adult and pediatric spinal deformity, and trauma. Dr. Desai uses a holistic approach to the treatment of neck and back conditions, and considers surgery to be a last resort option. Dr. Desai has expertise in minimally invasive spine surgery, spinal deformity correction, and in the treatment of failed neck and back surgery.



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ORTHO ATLANTA