

Nicotine Policy/Procedure

Many insurance companies as well as some of our physicians require smoking cessation prior to undergoing spinal fusion surgery. There is a direct correlation between smoking and failure for fusion to occur post operatively. Surgery will NOT be scheduled until a negative nicotine result is received in our office. Patients are required to stop smoking one month (30 days) following the decision to proceed with surgery. Patients must abstain from nicotine 14 days prior to submitting to the test.

A prescription will be provided with an appointment date and instructions to present to your local hospital for testing. Test results will be faxed to this office approximately 7-10 days post testing. Please keep in mind that you might be asked to provide a repeat random test prior to the scheduled surgery date.