



## Anterior Cervical Discectomy and Fusion (Intervertebral Spacer)



### Overview

This surgery removes a herniated or diseased disc and relieves neck and radiating arm pain caused by parts of the disc pressing on nerve roots.

### Incision Created

The surgeon performs this procedure through an incision on the front of the neck.

### Disc Removed

First, the surgeon removes the diseased or damaged disc. Removing the disc relieves pressure on pinched nerve roots, alleviating pain.

### Spacer Inserted

Next, the space above and below the removed disc is cleared and prepared for a vertebral spacer. A bone graft material is inserted into the spacer, and the implant is placed between the vertebrae.



### Metal Plate Attached

The surgeon may then screw a small metal plate over the area to hold the bones in place while the vertebrae heal.

### End of Procedure

During the healing process, the vertebral bone above and below the spacer will knit together to form a new bone mass called a fusion.

