

Vertebroplasty

Vertebroplasty, a minimally invasive treatment for spine fractures caused by osteoporosis or cancer, was designed to provide rapid back pain relief and help prevent further weakening of the spine. By stabilizing the fracture, vertebroplasty quickly resolves pain and restores quality of life.

STEP 1

After numbing an area of the back, a tube is inserted through a small incision and positioned under x-ray guidance. One or two needles are then inserted into the collapsed vertebra to collect diseased bone tissue, called a biopsy, so it can be studied.

STEP 2

The weakened area in the vertebra is filled with bone cement to stabilize the fracture. Once filled, the tube is removed. In some cases, the cement may need to be injected in both the left and right sides of the vertebra.

END OF PROCEDURE

The cement hardens to create an internal cast that stabilizes the vertebral body, providing mobility and pain relief.

