Postoperative Bacterial Infection with Pedicle Screws

Prospective multicenter study

Sample pedicle screws

Standard (n = 31)  105-107 bacterial colonies detected per screw  Risk of postoperative infection

In sterile protective guard (n = 31)  No contamination detected

Use of pedicle screw during spinal fusion surgery

Keeping pedicle screws encased in sterile cases avoids bacterial contamination before insertion and reduces the chance of postoperative infection

Keeping pedicle screws encased in sterile cases avoids bacterial contamination before insertion and reduces the chance of postoperative infection

Multicenter Trial Demonstrating Presence or Absence of Bacterial Contamination at the Screw-Bone Interface Owing to Absence or Presence of Pedicle Screw Guard, Respectively, During Spinal Fusion

Agarwal et al. (2020) | 10.1097/BSD.0000000000000976