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Minimally Invasive Combined Direct Lateral and Posterior Transpedicular Approach for 360⁰ Resection of a Lumbar Aneurysmal Bone Cyst with Spinal Stabilization

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1 IMAGES IN SPINAL CARE**2 Minimally Invasive Combined Direct Lateral and Posterior Transpedicular Approach for 360°
3 Resection of a Lumbar Aneurysmal Bone Cyst with Spinal Stabilization**

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5 A 23-year-old female presented with intractable and progressive low back pain for 6 months
6 despite conservative management. Her physical examination was unremarkable. Magnetic resonance
7 imaging (MRI) of lumbar spine revealed a large expansile lytic lesion with fluid-fluid levels (Figure 1) in
8 the L4 vertebral body consistent with an aneurysmal bone cyst (ABC). Computed tomography (CT)
9 demonstrated an expansile osteolytic mass with a thin rim of sclerosis (Figure 2A, 2B). CT-guide biopsy
10 confirmed the diagnosis of ABC. Given her persistent symptoms and failed course of conservative
11 management, a minimally invasive combined direct lateral and posterior transpedicular approach was
12 used to achieve 360 degree, complete resection of the lesion along with spinal stabilization. She had
13 immediate and dramatic improvement in her back pain post-operatively. She demonstrated no deficits
14 in left thigh sensory or motor function. Post-operative x-rays showed proper placement of hardware
15 (Figure 2C & D). Patient remained clinically well at 2-year follow-up with minimal back pain (VAS 1/10)
16 with return to full time school and work.

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19 Figure Legends:

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21

22 Figure 1: Pre-operative MRI demonstrating the characteristic “fluid-fluid levels” of ABCs.

23 Figure 2: Pre-operative CT demonstrating destruction of L4 vertebral body (A&B); post-operative x-rays
24 demonstrating completion of partial corpectomy, insertion of expandable cage, and placement of
25 posterior percutaneous screws for stabilization.



