

Introduction

Previous studies and earlier chapters have used a range of vertebrae, including bovine, ovine and porcine among others. While all of these vertebrae have important uses for developing methodology and understanding certain characteristics, none share the trabecular structure, thickness of cortical shell, axial strength of stiffness. Hence, in order to understand the mechanical effects of vertebroplasty, human tissue is required.

Here, 14 lumbar vertebrae from four cadaveric spines have been used, with the details shown in tab:vertebrae.

table[ht!] Details of the lumbar sections used from four cadaveric spines. tab:vertebrae tabularc—c—c—c■
Spine Name Vertebrae Sex Age