FacetINK



MINI Surgical Technique



FacetLINK

Trans-Articular Screws



	Thread diameter	
	4.5mm	5.0mm
ength mm]	25	25
	30	30
	35	35
	40	40
	45	45
	50	50
	55	55

Step One

Room Set Up, Table Selection, and Positioning

- Screw trajectories are "downward"
- Often helpful to arrange the monitor at the base of the bed
- Images can be viewed without the need to turn your head away from your working area



Step One

Room Set Up, Table Selection, and Positioning (continued)



- Legs extended to facilitate lumbar lordosis
- Table capable of fluoroscopic imaging without interference from radio-opaque structures. Views including:
 - AP
 - Lateral
 - Oblique (Scotty-Dog)



Step Two

Identify Surgical Level, Obtain True Fluoroscopic Views



Step Three

Exposure





Please Note:

It is important that the exposure include full visualization of the Pars Interarticularis, so that the maximum possible amount of bone stock at the waist can be retained when performing the decompression.

Step Four

Template Decompression

Please Note:

Care should be taken to ensure that a minimum of 6mm of Pars Interarticularis will remain on each side following the decompression.





Surgical Pearl:

Ensure the resection gauge is in the midline so that the decompression retains the Mid-Lateral Pars on both sides symmetrically.

A bovie or sharp instrument can be used to demarcate the lateral boundary of the minimum and maximum decompression

Pars Integrity



Stability of the fixation depends upon adequate bone stock at the waist of the pars.

Step Five Perform Desired Decompression

Straight edges along the medial edge of the pars interarticularis will allow the implant to sit flush within the decompression





Step Five Perform Desired Decompression Avoid a lateral angulation with the Kerrison! As the decompression continues cephalad, the angulation should be straight to convergent



Step Five (continued)

High Speed Burr and Bone Dust Collector Option

A high speed burr can be used, and has the advantage of being combined with a "bone dust trap" for graft collection

 1.) Meticulous cleaning of soft tissues off lamina
2.) Two suckers are used – use the bone dust collector line during gross decompression
3.) Use a matchstick – fine diamond drill fittings do NOT work well as they get too hot and scorch the bone

4.) Vancomycin









Step Six

Check Width with Bilateral Resection Gauge

The Bilateral Resection Gauge has two sides (min. and max.), which can be used to verify that the implant will fit within the bounds of the decompression.



When placing the MINI device, it is helpful to remove *approximately a third* of the caudal spinous process in order to provide easy visualization of implant placement and provide more local autograft for the fusion.

Step Seven

Select Implant and Attach Inserter

The

STANDARD/MINI Inserter captures the device with a stable, screw based interface allowing for control during positioning across the defect.



Fusion Step

Remove the facet capsule and the dorsal aspect of the joint, taking care to preserve bone stock needed for the fixation. Prepare the dorsal aspect of the inferior articular process and the dorsolateral aspect of the superior articular process with a burr.



Care should be taken to strike a balance between joint preparation and preservation of bone stock. Debridement of the *dorsal* aspect of the interarticular joint surfaces *and the adjacent superficial bone is routine.*

Step Eight Temporarily Place Implant

Place the implant in the desired position and squeeze the inserter handle until the appropriate coverage is achieved.



NOTE: Guidewin Management



Step Nine

Trajectory Orientation – AP View



Prior to expansion of the device, it is helpful to palpate the medial aspect of the pedicle with a Woodson or a Nerve Hook. This allows confirmation of the adequacy of the decompression and to proceed with the need for little to no AP fluoroscopy when placing the K-wires.







Facet file xible Trajectories – Radiographic

- Traditional TFPS starting point is a fixed point rgeting
- Screw starting point for our devices is a function of the decompression
- Cross connection of screws adds biomechanical strength and affords more flexibility for screw trajectories
- Regardless of starting point, desired endpoint is inferolateral aspect of the pedicle on the AP View



Cross-connection results in a "Tripod" effect, increasing biomechanical strength and offering a "cone of acceptability" in screw targeting



Flexible Trajectories – Radiographic Targeting

Trajectory Orientation – Lateral View





Target trajectory under Lateral Fluoro is the bottom of the pedicle near where it meets the vertebral body





Trajectory Orientation – Lateral View

The MINI devices offer flexibility in the trajectory because of the:

• Cross connection of the screws

• "Clamping" effect of the flanges upon the facets



Trajectory Orientation – Lateral View

The result is the ability to achieve biomechanical performance without directing the trajectory through the center of the facet complex (which forces a higher and more difficult starting point).



This may well simplify screw placement

— Traditional TFPS Trajectory

🔶 "Chin"

- Lower starting point afforded
- by device design characteristics

A more caudal starting point and a more shallow angle generally results in fewer soft-tissue and bony obstructions when placing your K-wire...

Starting point can be moved caudally to any point above the "chin"

Lateral Targeting

From the Technique:

An example of a more traditional trajectory – note starting point <u>at the inferior</u> <u>endplate of the superior</u> <u>vertebral body</u>. Steep angle requires manipulation around the spinous process of the level above, and potentially a stab incision in a heavier patient.



Note this traditional starting point is significantly cephalad to the "chin". This trajectory is fine, but not a requirement.

Lateral Targeting

Transitional Syndrome

Although this starting point seems "traditional" with respect to the inferior endplate of the superior body, this is due to the hyperlordotic nature of the level and the associated retrolisthesis.



This screw trajectory passes straight through the center of the joint, into the pedicle and enters the vertebral body.

Oblique or "Scotty-Dog" View

• Allows a clear view of screw orientation relative to the facet joint



Step Ten

Determine Screw Length

Please Note:

It is important to consider closure of the implant/surface bone gap and the closure of the facet joint gap when determining optimal screw length. In general, taking 5mm off of the final measurement allows for closure of the facet without the risk of stripping the screw when the tip encounters the hard bone of the base of the pedicle. If the screw trajectory is more in the center of the pedicle, this step is not necessary.



Step Eleven

Prepare Pilot Hole

Care should be taken to ream only until the cortex of the superior articular process has been perforated. Reaming beyond this point may inadvertently drive the Guide Wire past the lateral cortex of the vertebral body and into the soft tissues, or will cause the Guide Wire to be pulled out as the drill is removed.



Step Eleven (cont.)

Prepare Pilot Hole

When advancing the reamer, it is important to stay "in-line" with the guidewire to avoid kinking or breakage. Reaming at an off-axis angle may also result in increased liklihood of guidewire binding within the cannulation, resulting in inadvertent guidewire removal when withdrawing the reamer.



Step Twelve

Deliver first screw

Care should be taken to strike a balance between joint preparation and preservation of bone stock. Debridement of the *dorsal* aspect of the inter-articular joint surfaces *and the adjacent superficial bone is routine.* Remove Guide-wire after 20mm of screw has been delivered to prevent inadvertently advancing the K wire.



Step Twelve (cont)

Deliver second screw.

To prevent asymmetrically applying torque to the device (which can displace it), stop tightening the first screw once it contacts the device. This usually means the head is about 5mm proud. Tighten the second screw, then do the final tightening on the 1st screw, with the torque limiting driver.

Verify the chosen screw lengths are optimal before proceeding to "final tight", to reduce the need for screw removal and replacement, and the difficulty in doing so.



Step Thirteen Final Screw Tightening The torque-limiting driver is used for final tightening of the two screws and the monorail screws. *It is possible to strip the screws on the cross connector if the torque limiting driver is not used.*





Important: Prior to tightening the monorail, squeeze the inserter







Final Construct





Pack Graft for the Fusion





Final Images



Discussion

• Thoughts, questions?
FacetlNK

HEMI Surgical Technique

Room Set Up and Prep

- Identical to MINI Technique
- Screw Targeting:
 - Identical to MINI for Ipsilateral Screw
 - Contralateral Trajectory similar to a Magerl Screw





FacetLINK HEMI

Trans-Articular Screws





ully-Threaded	
---------------	--

	Thread diameter	
	4.5mm	5.0mm
Length [mm]	25	25
	30	30
	35	35
	40	40
	45	45
	50	50
	55	55

Step Three

Exposure





Please Note:

It is important that the exposure include full visualization of the Pars Interarticularis, so that the maximum possible amount of bone stock at the waist can be retained when performing the decompression.

Step Four

Template and Perform Decompression

A bovie or sharp instrument can be used to demarcate the lateral boundary of the maximum decompression

Exposure should be carried out just lateral to the Pars Interarticularis to allow for clear visualization prior to bony resection. Care should be taken to ensure that a minimum of 6mm of Pars Interarticularis will remain following the decompression.



Step Four

Measure and Perform Decompression



Using your preferred technique, with either a high speed burr...



FacetLINK HEMI

Step Four

Measure and Perform Decompression

... or a Kerrison

If a Kerrison is used, avoid a lateral angulation to preserve Pars integrity!



Step Four

Perform Sublaminar Contralateral Decompression





Step Five

Check appropriate implant size

Gauge checks min (6mm) and max (8mm) widths. An ideal fit is achieved when the implant makes good contact to the Pars Interarticularis on its lateral side and to the spinous process on its medial side. Maximum dimension = 8mm



Minimum dimension = 6mm

FacetLINK HEMI

Fusion Step

Remove the facet capsule and the dorsal aspect of the joint, taking care to preserve bone stock needed for the fixation. Prepare the dorsal aspect of the inferior articular process and the dorsolateral aspect of the superior articular process with a burr.



Care should be taken to strike a balance between joint preparation and preservation of bone stock. Debridement of the *dorsal* aspect of the interarticular joint surfaces *and the adjacent superficial bone is routine.*

Step Six Select HEMI Implant



Recommendation: Surface Bone Preparation – It is helpful to plane:

- the lateral surface of the spinous process,
- the medial aspect of the resected pars,
- and the surface of the facet



Step Seven

Temporarily Position Implant

The medial flange should be in the upper 1/3 of the spinous process from a cephalocaudal perspective.
















































































Joint Compression













Step Nine

Trajectory Orientation, Contralateral Screw – Direct Vision Option

Please Note:

During placement of the laminar screw, exposure of the contralateral hemilamina can facilitate targeting of the Kwire and allows for direct dural protection with a Woodson elevator placed under the surface of the lamina. This can minimize dependence on flouroscopy for screw placement. The surface area for the fusion bed is also significantly increased by this small additional exposure.



Direct Vision Option

Additional Benefits

Please Note: Opening the contralateral side offers the ability to:

1.) Reduce fluoro through direct vision of the contralateral joint complex,

2.) Prepare the fusion on the contralateral side





FacetLINK HEMI

Oblique or "Scotty-Dog" View

 Allows a clear view of screw orientation relative to the facet joint





Spinal Outlet View

1241331



- Allows visualization of the laminar table
- Useful view to prevent ventral breach

 Dural shield can be used under lamina as an aid during targeting

Final Construct



Final Images



