

## Efficacy of Epidural Steroid Injection in Lumbar Spinal Stenosis

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### – Abstract –

**Study Design:** This is a retrospective study.

**Objective:** We wanted to evaluate the efficacy of epidural steroid injection (ESI) for treating lumbar spinal stenosis (LSS)

**Summary of Literature Review:** Treatment for lumbar spinal stenosis has generally consisted of some form of conservative treatment or surgery. Surgery may be contraindicated in many stenotic patients because of their significant comorbidities. Therefore, conservative management is necessary for those who cannot or do not want to undergo surgery.

**Materials and Methods:** From January 2002 to June 2003, we retrospectively analyzed 128 patients, 55 years or older, who received ESI (s). The average age of the men and women was 47 and 81, respectively. Their mean age was 76 (age range: 55-84). The injection materials were 2 ml methylprednisolone acetate (40 mg/cc) in combination with 3 cc normal saline and 3 cc lidocaine. The follow up period was 12 months to 30 months. We measured the outcomes by the duration and amount of pain relief, the change in functional status and the rate of performing surgery; patient satisfaction was assessed by a 5-item questionnaire.

**Result:** Of the 128 participants, 31% reported more than 2 months of pain relief, 41% reported less than 2 months of pain relief and 27% reported no relief from the injection (s). Sixteen percent subsequently had surgery. Sixty-nine percent reported improvement in their functional abilities. Seventy-two percent were at least somewhat satisfied with ESI as a form of treatment.

**Conclusion:** ESI is a reasonable treatment for LSS as it provided one third of our patient population with sustained relief and more than half with sustained improvement in function.

**Key Words:** Spine, Spinal stenosis, Epidural steroid injection.

1934 Mixer

Barr<sup>1)</sup> Brown<sup>2)</sup>

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		(CT),		(X-ray)		
A <sub>2</sub> (PLA <sub>2</sub> ) <sup>4,5)</sup>	3)	Phospholipase	128	55	가 47	가 81
	6,7,8)		56	85	76	
bar Spine Study <sup>2,9)</sup> 1~4		가	12	30	18	128
		Maine Lum-	73 (57%)			35
		가	(28%)			20
			(15%)	17 (13%)		
		methylprednisolone acetate 40 mg/cc 2 ml 2 cc, lidocaine 3 cc				
		'loss of resistance technique'		1		
가				1		
가				6		
가				2		
1952	3)		2			
				12		30
2002	1	2003	6	가	5	3가
		(MRI),		가	가	(Table 1).

**Table 1. Outcome Assessment Instruments**

Questionnaire for Nonsurgery Participants	
1.	From the epidural, did you have: No relief, relief > 2 months, relief < 2months
2.	How would you rate the overall pain relief that you have had from the epidurals?
	A. Initially: Full, partial, none
	B. Currently: Full, partial, none
3.	Do you think the epidurals have improved your ability to perform your daily activities?
	Yes, partially, no
4.	What was your overall satisfaction with the epidurals?
	Very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, very unsatisfied
5.	Would you repeat the epidurals if necessary?
	Yes, no
Questionnaire for Back Surgery Participants	
1.	Question 1 and 5 as above
2.	How would you rate your pain relief from surgery?
	Full, partial, none
3.	Has surgery improved your ability to perform your daily activities?
	Yes, partially, no
4.	What was your overall satisfaction with surgery?
	Very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, very unsatisfied

1 2A , , , , 40 (31.3%)  
 , , , 52 (40.7%) , 36 (28%)  
 가 21  
 (univariate analysis) (16.4%)  
 (multivariate analysis) 71 (68%)  
 p<.005  
 ordinal regression analysis 13 (54%)  
 가 (proportional-odds ratio) 가  
 multinomial regression analysis Mantel-Haen- 9  
 szel test SAS version8.2 (42.9%), 8 (38.1), 3 (19%)  
 , 6 (28.6%), 10  
 (47.6), 5 (23.8%)  
 12 (57.1%) , 6 (28.6%)  
 , 3 (14.3%)  
 (Question 1) , ,  
 128 2 53  
 (41.4%), 2 40 (31.2%) 가  
 가 35 (27.3%) (p<.001)  
 42 (32.8%) 50 가  
 (39.1%) 36 (28.1%) (p=.008) 가 가  
 가  
 35 (27.3%) 43(33.6%) p=.073 가  
 , 50(39.1%) 가 (Table 3).  
 p=.05

**Table 2.** Univariate Analysis for Question 1 (2>m/<2 m/None) (N=128)

Variable	P value	Odds ratio
Surgery*	<.001	-
Gender <sup>†</sup>	.20	1.45 (men vs women)
Multilevel <sup>†</sup>	.97	1.04 (none vs some)
Diabetes <sup>†</sup>	.42	1.38 (none vs some)
Smoking <sup>†</sup>	.11	2.57 (some vs none)
No. of injection(1,2,>2) <sup>††</sup>	.008	
Age <sup>†</sup>	.91	1.03 (>72y vs <72)
Spondylolisthesis <sup>††</sup>	.093	

\* Mantel-Haenszel test; <sup>†</sup> ordinal logistic regression; <sup>††</sup> multinomial regression

**Table 3.** Multivariate Analysis\* for Question 1 (>2 m/<2 m/None) (N=128)

Variable	P value
No. of injection	.008
Age	.70
Gender	.25
Multilevel	.84
Diabetes	.17
Smoking	.64
Spondylolisthesis	.073

\* Multinomial regression

(Question 2A)  
 가 가 (p=.008),  
 가 가  
 (p=.047). 가 Johnsson  
 (p=.069) (Table 4).<sup>18)</sup> 가 C-fiber  
 가 가  
 (p=.003) 가 (p=.076) Amundsen<sup>19)</sup> Atlas<sup>9)</sup>  
 (p=.12)(Table 5). . Amundens  
 10  
 Mixer<sup>1)</sup> & Barr<sup>10)</sup> . Atlas  
 Murphy<sup>1)</sup>  
 . Lindahl & Rexed<sup>12)</sup>  
 70%  
 Phospholipase A2가 가<sup>12,14,15,16)</sup>  
 arachidonic acid 2  
 leukotrien prostaglandin 가 31.3% 10 가  
 Winnie<sup>17)</sup> 가 , Rosen<sup>20)</sup> Simotas<sup>21)</sup> 25%

**Table 4.** Univariate Analysis for Question 2A (1=full/2=partial/3=none): Nonsurgery Patients Only (n=107)

Variable	P value	Odds Ratio
No. of injection <sup>†</sup>	.008	2.11 (men vs women)
Age*	.86	1.18 (some vs none)
Gender*	.47	
Multilevel*	.63	1.17 (some vs none)
Diabetes <sup>†</sup>	.069	
Smoking*	.83	1.07 (<72y vs >72y)
Spondylolisthesis	.87	1.13 (some vs none)

\* Ordinal logistic regression; † multinomial regression

**Table 5.** Multivariate Analysis\* for Question 2A(1=Full/2=partial/3=none) (n=107)

Variable	P value
No. of injection	.003
Age	.85
Gender	.076
Multilevel	.77
Diabetes	.14
Smoking	.86
Spondylolisthesis	.97

\* Multinomial regression



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[Redacted]				
:	:	:	:	:
128	: 2002 1	2003 6	가 55	
acetate 40 mg/cc 2 ml		가 47 , 가 81	76	methylprednisolone 12
30		3 cc, lidocaine 3 cc		
:	: 128 2	40 (31.2%), 2	53 (41.4%)	가
가 35 (27.3%)	. 21 (16%)		가	. 69%
	, 72%			
2	6			
:				31%
_____				
:	:	:	:	:

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