

Management of Vertebral Compression Fractures, Thoraco-Lumbar

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VCFs

Comments:

1. If treating non-surgical, wait 3 months before P.T. (until Fx healed radiographically).
2. Very limited role for bracing in this category of Fx.
3. This algorithm does not apply to vertebroplasty.
4. Chronic Fx (>3 months) may not respond to Vertebral Augmentation Procedure unless special conditions:
 - Fx nonunion ("clefts")
 - Certain tumors
 - Persistent high-level bone edema
5. In general, patients with dementia and unable to give informed consent not considered for Vertebral Augmentation Procedure.
6. Certain Fx patterns and certain tumor patterns not candidates for Vertebral Augmentation Procedure.
7. Spinal stenosis at fracture level not an absolute contraindication to Vertebral Augmentation Procedure unless high-grade retropulsion and/or neuro deficit. (Minor neuro *symptoms* not a contraindication)



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