



Have you been told that you need Spinal Surgery?

If possible, many patients choose to get a second opinion. But, many patients seem unprepared to ask appropriate questions. Here are a list of questions that you should ask the surgeon:

1. Based on my examination, workup and treatment history, can surgery be beneficial?
2. Have I exhausted the reasonable non-surgical options?
3. Is there more than one surgical option?
4. Is the surgery recommended by my Surgeon a reasonable option?
5. What are the reasons I can expect a successful surgical outcome?
6. What are the reasons I may not have a successful surgical outcome?
7. What are the risks of not having surgery?
8. What are the specific risks of the recommended surgery?
9. If I postpone the surgery, is there anything I can do to better my chances for a successful outcome?
10. Can you define what is considered a successful outcome for the surgery?
11. Can you predict my chances for achieving that successful outcome?
12. If you were in my situation, would you proceed with the surgery?
13. If the surgery is not successful, is there another option for my situation in the future?

Are you in need of a second opinion? Contact Dr. Shim:

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