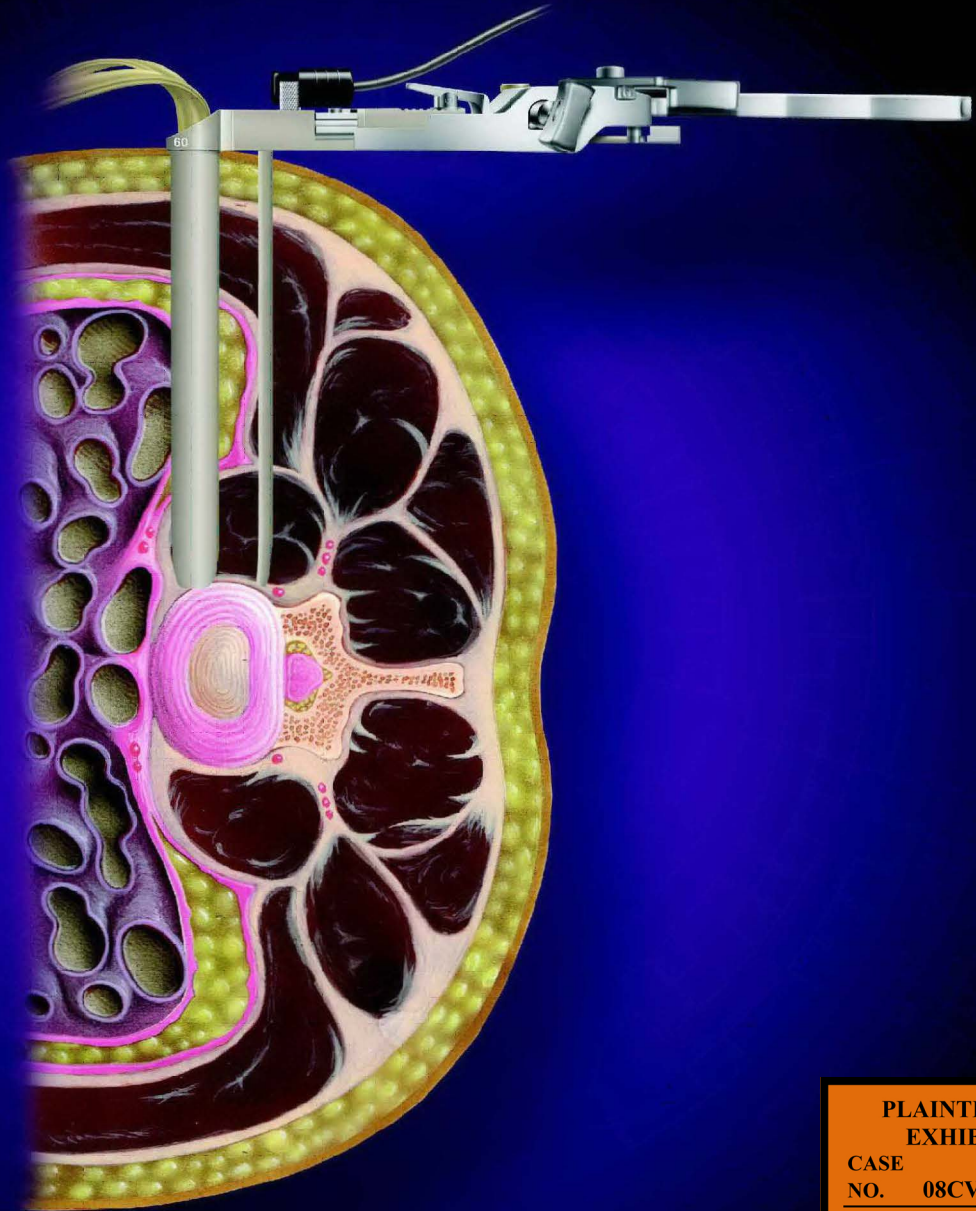


XLIF®

S U R G I C A L T E C H N I Q U E

MAXCESS® II



PLAINTIFF'S
EXHIBIT

CASE
NO. 08CV 01512

EXHIBIT
NO. **PX1698**

NUVASIVE®
Creative Spine Technology®

N0000001

CONTENTS

Preface	1
XLIF® Instrument System	2
General Instrument System	3
MaXcess® II Access System	4
NeuroVision® System	8
Presurgical Preparation	9
- Equipment Requirements	9
- Surgical Considerations	9
XLIF® Surgical Technique	10
- Patient Positioning & Operating Room Setup	10
- Anatomic Landmark Identification & Initial Incisions	11
- Retroperitoneal Access	12
- Retroperitoneal Approach	13
- Transpsoas Approach	14
- NeuroVision EMG Monitoring	15
- Access	17
- Annulotomy & Disc Space Preparation	20
- Implant Sizing and Placement	21
- Closure	21
- Catalog	22

N0000002

Luiz Pimenta, M.D.

Until now, widespread acceptance of minimally invasive techniques has evaded spine surgery. One reason for this is the inherent difficulties new technologies (endoscopes, optical trocars, CO₂) typically introduce while attempting to achieve the same surgical objectives as conventional surgery. This becomes a major obstacle for surgeons when trying to adopt these techniques.

The MaXcess[®] System provides maximum surgical access while minimizing the soft tissue disruption that often occurs during open surgery. The MaXcess System allows the fundamentals of conventional surgical techniques while eliminating the unfamiliar requirements of operating coaxially through tubular portals. Additionally, since there are no necessary adjunctive visualization tools (e.g., endoscope), the MaXcess System enables direct visualization of the patient's anatomy through conventional methods.

This guide describes the XLIF[®] technique that utilizes a direct lateral, retroperitoneal approach to access the intervertebral disc without muscular disruption or trauma to nearby structures.

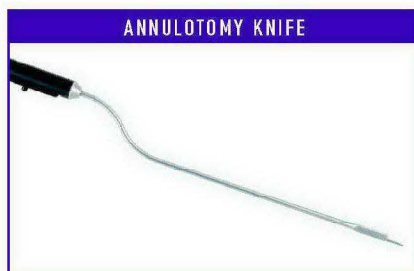
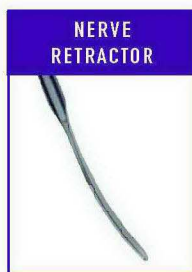
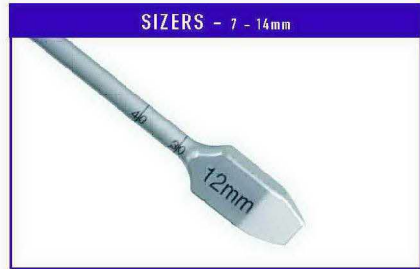
As we strive to decrease patient morbidity, we should require that these new minimally invasive techniques do not undermine surgical fundamentals that have served us well.

Obrigado,

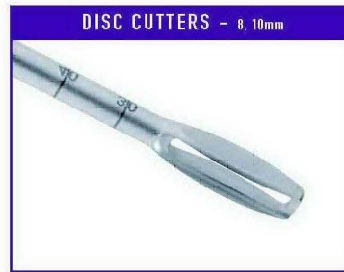
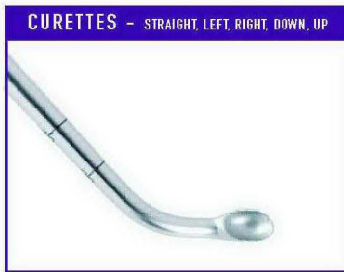
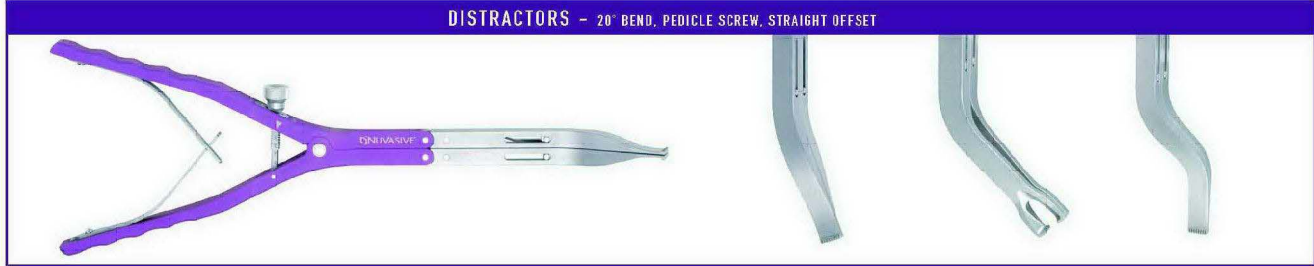
A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Luiz Pimenta".

Luiz Pimenta, M.D., Ph.D.
Hospital Santa Rita
São Paulo, Brazil

XLIF® INSTRUMENT SYSTEM



GENERAL INSTRUMENT SYSTEM



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