

# Bloodless Spine Surgery: Pictures & Explanations

by *Kenneth K. Hansraj, MD*

The book is written for the general, non-medical public, especially for patients who need spinal surgery. The general purpose of the book is to explain in simple, non-medical terminology, which spinal procedures are amenable and which methods can be used to diminish the use of blood or blood products. It is designed as an introduction for patients to the field of blood management.

The book is organized in chapters concerning: common spinal disorders, medical investigations of the patient for spinal surgery, spine surgery, patient case reports, a dictionary of blood management terminology, and selected references.

The chapter on common spinal disorders contains 6 disorders. These are discussed with clear pictures and explanations of symptoms and treatment options for patients.

The chapter on medical evaluations of the patient for spine surgery contains many tables copied from *Clinical Orthopedics and Related Research* with special attention for Jehovah's Witnesses and the care for them.

The chapter on spine surgery contains a photographic depiction of the used materials and techniques during spinal surgery dedicated to the diminishing of blood loss.

The patient case reports are not very accurately depicted patient histories. They are not case reports in the strict sense of the word, but rather a kind of advertisement for the quality of the clinic in which the author works.

The dictionary of terminology for blood management is the major part of the book. It is an almost complete dictionary containing the ingredients of blood management as a whole. Every page is filled with simple explanations of the materials and techniques used accompanied with digital images of almost all discussed components. Most subjects include references.

The final chapter containing the selected references is clear and does indeed contain the most important references.

It is not quite possible to compare the book to other books on this subject for this book is specially written for patients. It is a new way of bringing information to patients.

## Author:

The author works as a spine surgeon and is the Director of the New York Spine Surgery and Rehabilitation Medicine in Poughkeepsie, New York. He has published 3 articles on spinal stenosis and 12 others on arthroplasties.

## Book reviewed by:

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