

European Spine Journal

Open Operating Theatre – in sound and picture

Since last year the European Spine Journal has offered a new innovative platform – the **Open Operating Theatre** (OOT). Films of selected thematically complex operations can be viewed in a password protected domain to be found on the homepage of Springer Publisher www.springer.com as well as later on at www.eurospinefoundation.org and www.eurospine.org films of selected thematically complex operations can be viewed. These films have been made in cooperation with international spine specialists from throughout the world. The goal of this project is to enable know-how transfer and to make it possible to compare and promote the comparison of operation techniques amongst spine specialists. The central focus of these films is to combine the visual presentation together with the personal commentary made by the surgeon.

Who can participate in the OOT?

Theoretically every experienced spine surgeon can participate in the OOT. The Editors of the European Spine Journal have the right to decide whether a submitted film should be published.

The film project process

The European Spine Journal Editors define in advance the topic, the chosen OP technique and the timeframe with the interested surgeons. As a general rule, the surgeon will need to plan two full working days to write the abstract, edit the story board of the film and record his commentary of the operation sequences.

How is the filming done?

In Europe, the Board can organise a team of film specialists. The European Spine Journal covers the costs for this. Generally the film team travels to the operation location a day in advance to set up the equipment. Filming is then done using a camera mounted on a crane with marginal disturbance for the actual operating team. Alternatively filming can be done by a local film team, as long as the required standards can be discussed and guaranteed in advance.

The surgeons' obligations

The participating surgeons agree to provide the Board with all the requested details prior to the operation (patient data, X-rays, anticipated OP technique, etc.). Additional data such as postoperative X-rays, etc. have to be sent to the European Spine Journal within three weeks of the operation. The surgeon also writes an abstract on the case, which is then published in the European Spine Journal.

Profit for the surgeon

The published Abstract is indexed as a publication. By having his own personal film published, the surgeon gains Impact Factor and also increases his reputation within his personal spinal community network.

Did we arouse your interest?

If you are keen to know more about this innovative project or if you want to participate, please contact info@OOT-ESJ.ch for more information.

We thank you for your interest and remain,

with best regards,

Max Aebi
Editor-in-Chief
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<http://www.springer.com/journal/586>

European Spine Journal

Editor-in-Chief: Gunzburg, R.

ISSN: 0940-6719 (print version)

ISSN: 1432-0932 (electronic version)

Journal no. 586