

## Neurosurgery & Spine Group in West Hills Successfully Performs First TOPS™ Spinal Surgery in the Nation

***Neurosurgeon Dr. Jared D. Ament successfully performed the first Total Posterior Spine Surgery (TOPS) in the nation, preventing the need for spinal fusion, and preserving range of motion.***

July 7, 2023, West Hills, California — Neurosurgery & Spine Group (NSG) has earned national recognition for performing the first Total Posterior Spine Surgery (TOPS™) in the United States. The surgery, which was performed by Board-Certified, Fellowship trained Dr. Jared D. Ament marked the first [TOPS commercial surgery](#) outside of FDA trials. The spinal surgery was successfully performed on June 28, 2023, at West Hills Hospital for a female patient suffering from severe spinal stenosis, grade 1 spondylolisthesis, and neurogenic claudication.

Dr. Jared D. Ament, MD, MPH, FAANS, who specializes in complex and minimally invasive brain and spine surgery performed the groundbreaking surgery after serving as a principal investigator in FDA national trials.

The TOPS system from [Premia Spine](#) is a mechanical implant device that replaces bony and soft tissues that must be removed during lumbar spine decompression surgery. The TOPS device allows patients to avoid fusion surgery, which fuses segments of the spine together. By contrast, the TOPS implanted device is housed between two titanium plates and replaces anatomical structures such as the lamina and facet joint.

Clinical trials demonstrated that the three primary benefits of the TOPS lumbar spine surgery include immediate and sustained pain relief, stabilization of the posterior spine, and reestablished range of movement, including the ability to bend, walk, flex, and enjoy life.

“Fusion surgeries eliminate motion at the surgical site. Pain may be alleviated, but the patient will have limited mobility. Moreover, fusion surgery can lead to disease of adjacent structures in the spine. The TOPS surgery is an incredible alternative to fusion surgery, as it preserves motion by allowing for complete mobility of the affected area of the spine,” said Dr. Ament, who had performed the surgery repeatedly as part of the FDA trials. The FDA approved the device and surgery just weeks before Dr. Ament performed the surgery in June.

In addition to patients suffering from spinal stenosis, the TOPS implant device also offers hope for patients suffering from lumbar spondylolisthesis, another degenerative condition of the lumbar spine. Degenerative conditions of the lower spine such as stenosis and spondylolisthesis often result in symptoms including back pain, numbness and tingling in the extremities, loss of sensation in the feet, weakness in the feet, muscle spasms, difficulty walking or standing, and chronic stiffness.

At Neurosurgery & Spine Group, Dr. Ament and his partner Board-Certified Neurosurgeon Dr. Amir Vokshoor, MD, FAANS, are among the nation’s most prominent advocates for motion-preserving spine surgery and technology, including artificial disc replacement (ADR) and now artificial facet replacement with the new TOPS device. NSG prioritizes motion preservation by utilizing minimally invasive procedures wherever possible. As such, both are recognized experts in the field of artificial disc technology, neuro-navigation, and robotics.

[Book a consultation](#) with NSG today.