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Surgeon Qualifications Required for Artificial Discs (Arthroplasty)

1. Be a Spinal Surgeon licensed to practice medicine in those states in which the surgeon provides professional medical services
2. Have completed a spine fellowship or a residency program with a significant focus on complex cervical and lumbar spine procedures or have equivalent clinical experience.
3. Have had extensive experience with anterior lumbar and cervical interbody fusions.
4. Have an identified approach surgeon at the spine surgeon's institution that has significant experience accessing the anterior lumbar or cervical spine or have own equivalent training and experience.
5. Have attended an Artificial Disc training course. Copy of this certificate is required for the preauthorization and peer review processes.
6. Have a practice with a primary spine focus that will provide a sufficient and regular volume of appropriately indicated patients for anterior lumbar or cervical procedures. Manufacturer's guidelines recommend a spine surgeon have extensive anterior spine experience and training.
7. Must be willing, prepared, and qualified to manage potential revision procedures, including:
 - posterior fusion with instrumentation;
 - early-stage anterior revision to reposition the prosthesis;
 - late-stage anterior revision, including: (i) prosthesis removal with anterior fusion and instrumentation, (ii) prosthesis removal with anterior and posterior fusion and instrumentation.
8. Be willing, as is important with any new technology, to maintain a current, best understanding of the state of the art in lumbar or cervical spine



arthroplasty. This should be done via regular literature reviews and participation at continuing education events highlighting new techniques, technologies and clinical results.

9. Must be willing, prepared, and qualified to manage potential complications including approach related injury of the inferior vena-cava, iliac veins, iliac artery, ureter, peritoneum or other soft tissues or organ systems.

