# Spinal Fixation System







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# Indication

- Degenerative spondylolisthesis with distinctive evidence of neurological impairment
- Vertebral fracture
- Spinal tumor
- Dislocation
- Scoliosis
- Kyphotic deformity
- Discogenic deformity
- Failed previous fusion

# Contraindications

- Bone absorption, osteopenia, and/or osteoporosis
- Any active or suspected latent infection of the spine
- Any mental or neuromuscular disorder which might create unacceptable risk of fixation failure or complications post-operatively
- Bone stock abnormalities, or deficiency which cannot provide adequate support and/or fixation to the implants
- Pathological obesity
- Open wounds
- Metal sensitivity, documented or suspected
- Pregnancy
- Excessive local inflammation reaction
- Other medical or surgical symptoms that may preclude the potential benefit of spinal implant surgery, such as the presence of tumors, congenital abnormalities, elevation of sedimentation rate unexplainable by other diseases, elevation of white blood count WBC), or marked left shift in the WBC differential count



# **Sterilization**

The SmartLoc Spinal Fixation System implants are delivered non sterile. Before use, the implants are to be removed from the package, cleaned and sterilized. Implants are recommended to be steam sterilized by the hospital using the following process parameters:

Steam Wrapped Gravity Cycle at 121 °C/250 °F for 30 minutes, Drying time 15 min

# System Components

Components of the SmartLoc Spinal Fixation System afford a high extent of versatility and simplicity in the course of spine surgery.

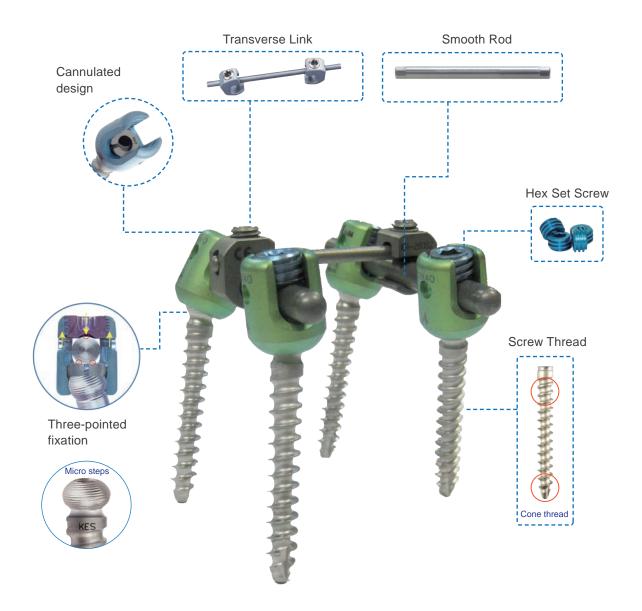
- 1. available in a variety of specifications & dimensions for the needs of comprehensive spinal surgery requirements.
- 2. Periphery components such as star set screws, connector blocks are available in complete range to accommodate key components for easy assembly to the users.
- 3. All components are documented in product catalog with full details for user's preference purpose.

Thus, it is not the intention of this manual to contain such information.



Spinal Fixation System

# System Overview



# Surgical Technique

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## Patient Positioning

The patient is positioned on a Spinal Frame in the prone position, using a four-point support. The Spinal frame is used to allow free suspension of the abdomen, and to avoid compression of the major blood vessels. Hypotensive anaesthesia and auto transfusion may also be used to reduce intraoperative blood loss.

The use of image intensifier with C-arm is recommended intraoperatively. Prior to prepping and draping, the patient's position should be checked with the C-armto determine the axial direction of the pedicles, and to confirm that clear images of the affected levels are obtainable. The patient is subsequently prepped anddraped using standard technique. (Figure 1)

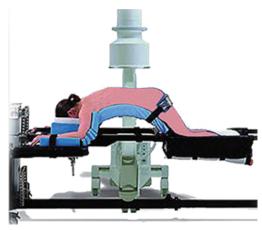


Figure 1

## O Locate the Pedicle Entry Points (Figure 2)

The use of the SmartLoc Evolution System in spinal surgery requires a working knowledge of anatomic subtleties in order to identify the pedicles accurately.

In the lumbar spine, the pedicle is located where the line bisects the base of the transverse process. The second line goes through the lateral aspect of the superior articulate facet and parallel with the mid-line. The facet osteophytes need to be removed in order to delineate the true position of the pedicle.

Current literature suggests that the screws in the lower lumbar spine should be placed away from the facet joint to avoid interference with the motion of uninstrumented and unfused segments. The preferred entrance point locates at the lateral and inferior corner of the superior articular facet.

The entry point of sacral fixation located at inferior lateral aspect of the L5-S1 facet joint, converging toward the center of the promotory with sagittal inclination parallel to the S1 superior endplate.

If indicated, secondary fixation in S1 is possible by the divergent Tri-Fix Self Locking Screw toward the sacral ala adjacent to the primary sacral screw.

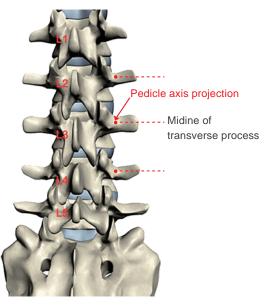
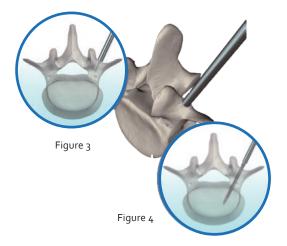


Figure 2



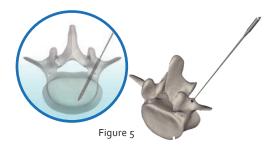
# O Pedicle Preparation

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The point of entrance to the pedicle is identified and lateral imaging with C-arm fluoroscopy is used to confirm position and provide reference for subsequent placement of pedicle. Care is taken upon broaching pedicles so that the angle of the approach corresponds to that demonstrated on lateral imaging.

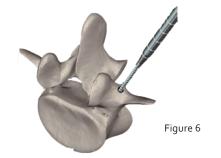
Determine the angle of entry and penetrate the pedicle cortex with the *Awl(406-0201)* to mark that position. (Figure 3) Upon completion of probing of all pedicles with theassistance of fluoroscopy.

Using the *Probe(406-0301*) gently deepen the hole through the soft cancellous bone to the desired depth. (Figure 4) The probe is placed through the pedicle into the body of the vertebrae with C-arm Fluoroscopy assistor approximately. In certain cases such as with osteoporotic bone, the probe is not used but a *4mm Guide Pin(406-3104/406-3114)* is placed directly into the pedicle and vertebral body



The **Sensor(406-0401)** is used to confirm the continuity of the cortical wall of the pedicle and position of the pedicle passage is indicated. (Figure 5)





For convenience, the T-Handle (406-0101) is attached to instrument.

If necessary, prepare the pedicle canal using the appropriate tap according to the following reference table.

Choose the appropriate Tap (407-0501~407-0506) to prepare the pedicle canal. (Figure 6).

| Dia. of Screw (mm) | Instruments | ltem No.   |
|--------------------|-------------|------------|
| 6.0 / 6.5          | 5mm Tap     | 407 - 0501 |
| 7.0 / 7.5          | 6mm Tap     | 407 - 0502 |
| 5.0 / 5.5          | 4mm Tap     | 407-0505*  |
| 8.0                | 7mm Tap     | 407-0506*  |
|                    |             | *Option    |



407-3302

## O Inserting Screw

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The appropriate screw is mounted and fastened onto the Screw Driver (407-3302~407-3316). (Figure 7)

The screw with the features of self-tapping tip for penetration easy into pedicle.

| 1 7 55 | 1 7 33 3 | 1 7 33 |
|--------|----------|--------|
|        |          |        |
|        |          |        |
|        | Figure 7 |        |

407-3313

| Type of Screw        | Instrument                   | Item No. |
|----------------------|------------------------------|----------|
| Monoaxial (Long-Arm) | Top Loading Screw Driver     | 407-3302 |
| Polyaxial            | 3.5mm Polyaxial Screw Driver | 407-3313 |
| Polyaxial Long-Arm   | 3.5mm Poly Longarm Driver    | 407-3316 |

When fully seated, the pedicle screws are positioned at depth of 50% to 80% of the veterbral body, parallelling the superior end plates. The *3.5mm Hex Screw Driver* (407-3306).

407-3316



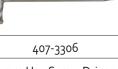
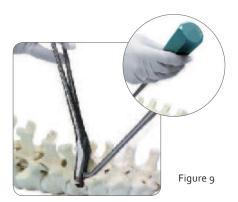






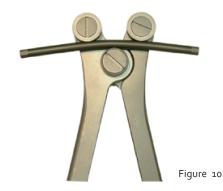
Figure 8



# O Inserting Hook

The hooks are attached to the strategic vertebrae, pre-operatively chosen by the surgeon. They can be isolated or associated to make a clamp. The appropriate *Hook Starter (197-0702, 197-0703)* is used to prepare the hook site. The desired hook is taken with the *Hook Driver (407-3201)* (Figure 8). *Use Hook Clamp (407-2103)* to help the hooks implants into the prepared space. In case of necessity, the *Hook Impactor (407-3001)* may ease the hook insertion (Figure 9).

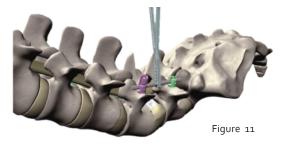




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# O Bending the Rod

The *Rod Template (407-2901/407-2902)* may be used to estimate the length and curvature of the rod. The appropriate length rod can be bent using the *Rod Bender (406-1202)*. (Figure 10)



## O Rod Reduction

The **Rod Holder (406-1301)** is used to hold the rod and introduce it into the head of the screw. (Figure 11)

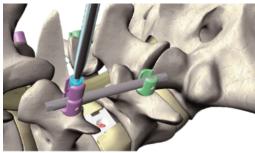
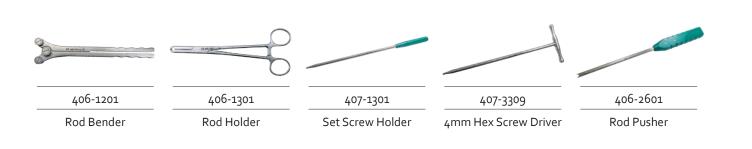


Figure 12

# • Set Screw Introduction

The **Set Screw Holder(407-1301)** is used to introduce the set screw into the screw head and for provisional tightening.

Using the 4mm Hex Screw Driver(407-3309) lock the star set screw and fix it over the inserted screw. The **Rod Pusher(406-2601)** can also help you fix the rod when you locking the star set screw. (Figure 12)



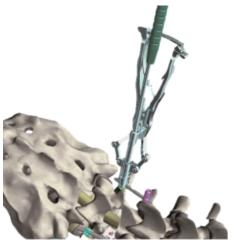


Figure 13

# • Rod Introducer

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If necessary, the *Set Screw Holder(407-1301)* could be used with the *Rod Introducer(407-1403)*.

Rod Introducer can persuaded the unsettled rod around the cup head of the polyaxial or monoaxial standard screw. When using the Rod Introducer, apply to the screw cup side hole to match the tool end of hemi circular within have two post.

Squeeze and compression Rod Introducer to ensure the rod is fully seated of the screw head. (Figure 13)

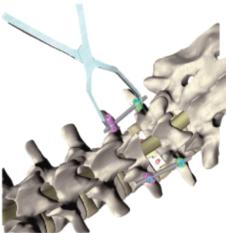


Figure 14

# O Distraction and Compression

Distraction and compression is achieved though use of the **Angled Distractor (407-0902)** and the **Angled Compressor(407-0901)**.

The set screws can be subsequently tightened starting at the superior and inferior ends of the rod followed by tightening the adjacent set screws in between. (Figure 14)



407-1403

Rod Introducer

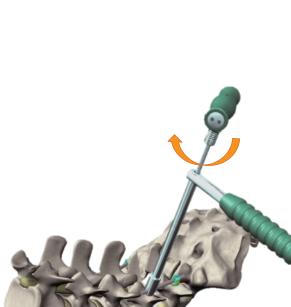


407-0902

Angled Distractor



407-0901 Angled Compressor



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Figure 15

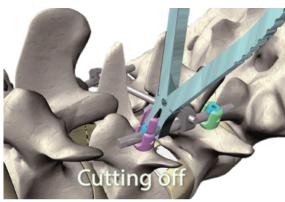
# resistance to rotational torque during final tightening. (Figure15)

• Final Tightening

tightening the set screw.

Assemble the 4mm Hex Screw Driver (407-3310) and Torque Limiting T-Handle(407-1001) for final

The 4mm Hex Screw driver is inserted through the **Anti-Torque Wrench(407-3402)** in order to provide



#### Figure 16

## O Removal of Reduction Tabs

The *Long Arm Cutting Forceps (407-2102)* is used to remove the remaining tab of the Long-Arm screws. (Figure 16)



4mm Hex Screw Driver



407-1001 Torque Limiting T-Handle

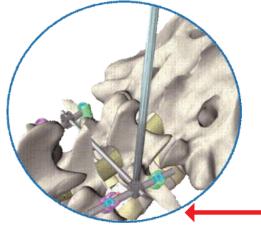


407-3402 Anti-Torque Wrench



407-2102 Long Arm Cutting Forceps





#### Figure 17

## O Transverse Link

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When required, Transverse Links can be assembled to assist with construct stability. The Transverse Link can be applied to resist rotational and lateral bending forces of the vertebral column for multi-level constructs.

The Transverse Rod may be bent to match the axis of the rods. The set screw of the Transverse Link is tightened using the *T20 Screw Wrench (412-3101)*. (Figure 17)



## O Implant Removal

- The Hex Set Screw removal The *4mm Hex Driver(407-3309)* is used to remove the set screws.
- Monoaxial / Polyaxial Screw removal The *T-Handle (406-0101)* in combination with the *Monoaxial Screw Driver(407-3302)* or the *Polyaxial Screw Driver(407-3313)* is used to remove the Monoaxial/ Polyaxial Screw.





407-3309 4mm Hex Screw Driver

407-3302 4mm Hex Screw Driver

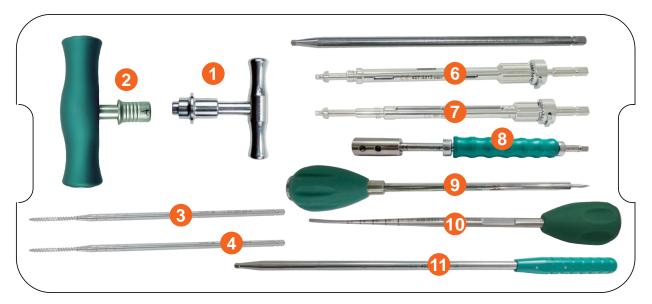


407-3313

3.5mm Polyaxial Screw Driver

412-3101 T20 Screw Wrench

# Instrument Set



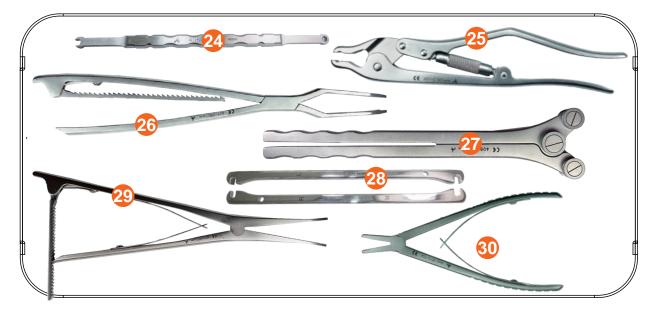
# Instrument Tray 1

| Cat.No.          | Description              | Q'nty |
|------------------|--------------------------|-------|
| 1 406-0101       | T-Handle                 | 1     |
| 2 407-1001       | Torque Limiting T-Handle | 1     |
| 3 406-0505       | 5 mm Tap                 | 1     |
| <b>4</b> 06-0506 | 6 mm Tap                 | 1     |
| 5 407-3310       | 4mm Hex Screw Driver     | 1     |
| 6 407-3301       | Polyaxial Screw Driver   | 2     |
| 7 407-3316       | Polyaxial Screw Driver   | 2     |
| 8 407-3302       | Top Loading Screw Driver | 2     |
| 9 406-0201       | Awl (With Stop)          | 1     |
| 10 406-0301      | Probe                    | 1     |
| 1 407-1301       | Set Screw Holder         | 2     |



Instrument Tray 2

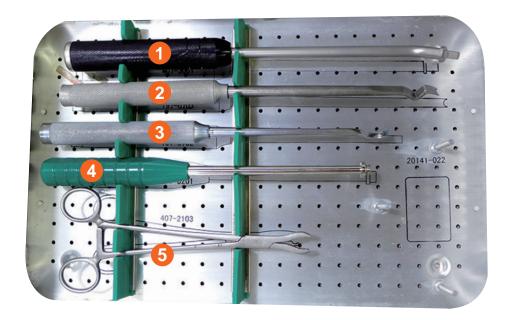
| Cat.No.             | Description          | Q'nty |
|---------------------|----------------------|-------|
| <b>1</b> 2 406-3114 | 4mm Guide Pin        | 4     |
| <b>1</b> 3 407-3402 | Counter Torque       | 1     |
| 407-1403            | Rod Introducer       | 1     |
| <b>1</b> 5 406-3104 | 4mm Guide Pin        | 4     |
| <b>16</b> 407-2902  | Rod Template 300mm   | 1     |
| 17 407-2901         | Rod Template 150mm   | 1     |
| 18 407-3306         | 3mm Hex Screw Driver | 1     |
| <b>19</b> 407-3309  | 4mm Hex Screw Driver | 1     |
| 20 406-0401         | Sensor               | 1     |
| 21 412-3101         | T20 Screw Wrench     | 1     |
| 22 406-1301         | Rod Holder           | 1     |
| 23 406-2601         | Rod Pusher           | 1     |



# Instrument Tray 3

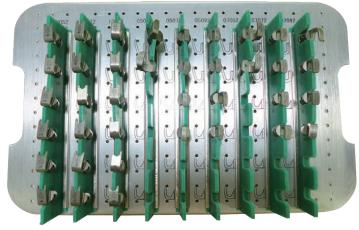
| 20406-30055mm Rotator Bar223407-2101Rod Clamp120407-0901Angled Compressor127406-1201Rod Bender (French Bender)128406-1203Insitu Bender129407-0902Angled Distractor129407-2102Long Arm Cutting Forceps1 | Cat.No.            | Description                | Q'nty |
|--|--------------------|----------------------------|-------|
| Image: Second systemAngled Compressor1Image: Second systemRod Bender (French Bender)1Image: Second systemInsitu Bender1Image: Second systemAngled Distractor1  | <b>24</b> 406-3005 | 5mm Rotator Bar            | 2     |
| 27406-1201Rod Bender (French Bender)163406-1203Insitu Bender163407-0902Angled Distractor1  | 29 407-2101        | Rod Clamp                  | 1     |
| 3/2         Insitu Bender         1           3/2         Angled Distractor         1  | 26 407-0901        | Angled Compressor          | 1     |
| <sup>1</sup> <sup>1</sup>  | <b>27</b> 406-1201 | Rod Bender (French Bender) | 1     |
|  | 28 406-1203        | Insitu Bender              | 1     |
| 9 407-2102 Long Arm Cutting Forceps 1  | 29 407-0902        | Angled Distractor          | 1     |
|  | 30 407-2102        | Long Arm Cutting Forceps   | 1     |

# Hook Instrument



| Cat.No.    | Description          | Qʻnty |
|------------|----------------------|-------|
| 1 407-3201 | Hook Impactor        | 1     |
| 2 197-0703 | Pedicle Hook Starter | 1     |
| 3 197-0702 | Laminar Hook Starter | 1     |
| 407-3001   | Hook Impactor        | 1     |
| 5 407-2103 | Hook Clamp           | 1     |

# Hook Implants





# Instruments

| Cat.No.              | Description          |  |
|----------------------|----------------------|--|
| 406-0101             | T-Handle             |  |
| 406-0201             | Awl (With Stop)      |  |
| 406-0301             | Probe                |  |
| 406-0401             | Sensor               |  |
| 407-0501<br>407-0502 | 5mm Tap<br>6mm Tap   |  |
| 407-0505<br>407-0506 | 4mm Tap<br>7mm Tap   |  |
| 406-1301             | Rod Holder           |  |
| 406-2601             | Rod Pusher           |  |
| 406-3005             | 5mm Rotator Bar      |  |
| 406-3104<br>406-3114 | 4mm Guide Pin        |  |
| 407-3310             | 4mm Hex Screw Driver |  |
| 407-0901             | Angled Compressor    |  |

| Cat.No.  | Description                  |                                  |
|----------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 407-2101 | Rod Clamp                    |                                  |
| 407-0902 | Angled Distractor            |                                  |
| 407-2102 | Long Arm Cutting Forceps     |                                  |
| 407-2901 | Rod Template 150mm           | 746 (ALE VE 081 - 62 / NL - 1640 |
| 407-3402 | Anti-Torque Wrench           |                                  |
| 407-3313 | 3.5mm Polyaxial Screw Driver |                                  |
| 407-3316 | 3.5mm Poly Longarm Driver    |                                  |
| 407-3302 | Small Dilator                |                                  |
| 407-3306 | 3mm Hex Screw Driver         |                                  |
| 412-3101 | T20 Screw Wrench             |                                  |

| Cat.No.   | Description                |                    |
|-----------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| 407-1301  | Set Screw Holder           |                    |
| 407-2902  | Rod Template 300mm         |                    |
| 407-3309  | 4mm Hex Screw Driver       |                    |
| 406-1201  | Rod Bender (French Bender) | Classification - A |
| 407-1403  | Rod Introducer             |                    |
| 406-1203  | Insitu Bender              |                    |
| 407-1001  | Torque Limiting T-Handle   |                    |
| 20141-022 | SmartLoc Block             |                    |
| 407-3201  | Hook Driver                |                    |
| 407-3001  | Hook Impactor              |                    |

| Cat.No.   | Description  |  |
|-----------|--|--|
| 197-0703  | Pedicle Hook Starter                                   |  |
| 197-0702  | Laminar Hook Starter                                   |  |
| 407-2103  | Hook Clamp   |  |
| 99900-030 | Hook Instrument / Product Case with 1 Tray             |  |
| 99902-030 | Smartloc Hook Implant/Instrument Case With, Plasty Lid |  |
| 99902-021 | SmartLoc Product Case, Metal Lid                       |  |
| 99902-022 | SmartLoc Instrument Case, Metal Lid                    |  |
| 99904-021 | SmartLoc Product Case, Plasty Lid                      |  |
| 99904-022 | SmartLoc Instrument Case, Plasty Lid                   |  |

## STERILIZATION:

The implants and instruments are delivered non sterile. Before use needed cleaned and sterilized recommended to be steam sterilized refer to "A-SPINE Reprocessing Manual" following process parameters:

Steam Wrapped Gravity Cycle at 121 °C/250 °F for 30 minutes.

If need more information, the "Intended for Use" and "A-SPINE Reprocessing Manual" can be downloaded from A-SPINE official website: http://www.aspine.com.tw/



# Implants

# Monoaxial Screw

| Cat.No.   | Description                    |
|-----------|--------------------------------|
| 131-55358 | Monoaxial Screw Ø5.5mm x L35mm |
| 131-55408 | Monoaxial Screw Ø5.5mm x L40mm |
| 131-55458 | Monoaxial Screw Ø5.5mm x L45mm |
| 131-60408 | Monoaxial Screw Ø6.0mm x L40mm |
| 131-60458 | Monoaxial Screw Ø6.0mm x L45mm |
| 131-60508 | Monoaxial Screw Ø6.0mm x L50mm |
| 131-65408 | Monoaxial ScrewØ6.5mm x L40mm  |
| 131-65458 | Monoaxial Screw Ø6.5mm x L45mm |
| 131-65508 | Monoaxial Screw Ø6.5mm x L50mm |
| 131-70358 | Monoaxial Screw Ø7.0mm x L35mm |
| 131-70408 | Monoaxial Screw Ø7.0mm x L40mm |
| 131-70458 | Monoaxial Screw Ø7.0mm x L45mm |

-----

# Monoaxial Long-Arm Screw

| 136-60408Monoaxial Long-Arm Screw Ø6.0mm x L40m136-60458Monoaxial Long-Arm Screw Ø6.0mm x L45m136-60508Monoaxial Long-Arm Screw Ø6.0mm x L50m136-65408Monoaxial Long-Arm Screw Ø6.5mm x L40m |
|--|
| 136-60508Monoaxial Long-Arm Screw Ø6.0mm x L50m  |
| 5  |
| 126 6E409 Monopyial and Arm Scrow @6 Emmy 140m   |
| 136-65408 Monoaxial Long-Arm Screw Ø6.5mm x L40m   |
| 136-65458 Monoaxial Long-Arm Screw Ø6.5mm x L45m   |
| 136-65508 Monoaxial Long-Arm Screw Ø6.5mm x L50m   |
| 136-70358 Monoaxial Long-Arm Screw Ø7.0mm x L35m   |
| 136-70408 Monoaxial Long-Arm Screw Ø7.0mm x L40m   |
| 136-70458Monoaxial Long-Arm Screw Ø7.0mm x L45m  |

# Polyaxial Screw

| Cat.No.   | Description                    |
|-----------|--------------------------------|
| 134-6040R | Polyaxial Screw Ø6.0mm x L40mm |
| 134-6045R | Polyaxial Screw Ø6.0mm x L45mm |
| 134-6050R | Polyaxial Screw Ø6.0mm x L50mm |
| 134-6540R | Polyaxial Screw Ø6.5mm x L40mm |
| 134-6545R | Polyaxial Screw Ø6.5mm x L45mm |
| 134-6550R | Polyaxial Screw Ø6.5mm x L50mm |
|           |                                |

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- Annunum

# Polyaxial Long-Arm Screw

| Description                             |
|---|
| Polyaxial Long-Arm Screw Ø6.0mm x L40mm |
| Polyaxial Long-Arm Screw Ø6.0mm x L45mm |
| Polyaxial Long-Arm Screw Ø6.0mm x L50mm |
| Polyaxial Long-Arm Screw Ø6.5mm x L40mm |
| Polyaxial Long-Arm Screw Ø6.5mm x L45mm |
| Polyaxial Long-Arm Screw Ø6.5mm x L50mm |
|   |

# Smooth Rod

| Cat.No.   | Description                |
|-----------|----------------------------|
| 132-50412 | Smooth Rod Ø5.5mm x L40mm  |
| 132-50502 | Smooth Rod Ø5.5mm x L50mm  |
| 132-50602 | Smooth Rod Ø5.5mm x L60mm  |
| 132-50702 | Smooth Rod Ø5.5mm x L70mm  |
| 132-50802 | Smooth Rod Ø5.5mm x L80mm  |
| 132-50902 | Smooth Rod Ø5.5mm x L90mm  |
| 132-51002 | Smooth Rod Ø5.5mm x L100mm |
| 132-51102 | Smooth Rod Ø5.5mm x L110mm |
| 132-51302 | Smooth Rod Ø5.5mm x L130mm |
| 132-51502 | Smooth Rod Ø5.5mm x L150mm |
| 132-51702 | Smooth Rod Ø5.5mm x L170mm |
| 132-52002 | Smooth Rod Ø5.5mm x L200mm |
| 132-52502 | Smooth Rod Ø5.5mm x L250mm |

# Transverse Link

| Cat.No.   | Description                      | <b>4</b> 1 (b) |
|-----------|----------------------------------|----------------|
| 161-26082 | Transverse Link Ø6.0mm x L13.5mm |                |

-----

# Hex Set Screw (colorful)

| Cat.No.   | Description                              |  |
|-----------|--|--|
| 174-07028 | Hex Set Screw (colorful) Ø9.0mm x L5.0mm |  |

# General Warnings, Precautions and Possible Effects

## A. Postoperative Management

## Wound Closure

- 1. Remove all instruments and carefully check to ensure nothing is left at the surgical site of the patient.
- 2. The wound is subsequently closed in the routine manner.

## Care for postoperation

- 1. Patient may be allowed to sit in bed with back support 1-3 days after the operation.
- 2. Wound drains are removed 48 hours after the operation.
- 3 If the patient is able to be ambulated with or without crutches, he / she is allowed to do so 5 days after the operation.

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- 4. Patients should be instructed to wear a lumbar spinal brace for 3-6 months following surgery.
- 5. Patient receiving implants should be instructed in full detail of the limitation of the implants, avoiding excessive loading due to inadequate activities that leads to implant failure or refracture.

## B. Instructions for Patient

- In some rare cases, progression of degenerative disease may be so advanced that the expected service life of such device may be substantially decreased. In such case, orthopaedic devices may be considered only as a delaying technique or to provide temporary relief.
- 2. Patients must be aware of all postoperative restrictions, particularly limitations related to occupational and sports activities.
- Patients should be warned that non-compliance with postoperative instructions may lead to failure of the implant(s).
   Additional surgery may also be required to remove the device.

## C. Precautions to Surgeons

- 1. The SmartLoc Spinal Fixation System is designed as temporary system. Bone screws are most likely to fall without proper bone grafting, or if a pseudarthosis develops.
- 2. The surgeons must be thoroughly knowledgeable of the mechanical and metallurgical limitations of metallic surgical implants.
- 3. The patient should be made aware that a metallic implant is not as strong as normal, healthy bone and will fracture if excessive demands are placed on it in the absence of complete bone healing.
- 4. The patient should be adequately instructed. Postoperatively care and the patient ability and willingness to follow instructions are one of the most important aspects of successful bone healing. The patient must be made aware of the limitations of the implant, and that physical activity and full weight bearing have been implicated in premature failure of metallic internal fixation devices.
- 5. A patient who is active, debilitated or demented and can not use weight supporting device properly may be at risk particularly during postoperative rehabilitation period.

#### D. Precautions to Patients

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- 1. Although the use of internal fixation implants has given the surgeons a mean of bone fixation and help generally in the management of fracture and reconstructive surgery, these implants are only intended to be a temporary device to assist normal healing are not intended to replace normal body structures. Metallic bone fixation devices are internal splints which provide a means of bone fixation while normal bone healing occurs.
- 2. Postoperative care is extremely important. The patient must be instructed in the limitations of this implant and must be warned regarding weight-bearing and body stress on the device prior to firm bone healing. The patient should be warned that non-compliance with postoperative instructions could lead to failure of the device and the possible need thereafter for additional surgery to remove the device.

#### E. Possible Adverse Effects

Patients should be advised prior to implantation surgery the possible side effects of such surgeries including:

- 1. Bleeding or hematoma.
- 2. Superficial or deep Infection. Inflammatory reaction.
- 3. Neurological complications, paralysis, soft tissue lesions, pain due to the surgical procedure, breakage, deformation, or migration of the implants.
- 4. Pedicle fracture during screw insertion.
- 5. Allergic reaction to the Ti6Al4V alloy.
- 6. Pain or/and abnormal sensation due to hardware bulkiness.
- 7. Delayed or non-fusion of the grafted mass. Pseudoarthrosis.
- 8. Bursitis.
- 9. Presence of metallic micro particle around the implants.
- 10. Bending, loosening, migration, or fracture of one or all or the implants.
- 11. Reduction of bone density due to the alteration of distribution of mechanical stress.
- 12. Loss of correction, partial or total, achieved during surgery.
- 13. Growth arrest or alteration of the fused vertebrae.

#### F. Possible Risks And Complications

- 1. Screw improperly positioned.
- 2. Incorrect fixation of implant components.
- 3. The shape of the implant does not match the incised wound.
- 4. Failure to properly fill and compress bone graft material into the bony defect.
- 5. A patient who is active, debilitated or demented and can not use weight supporting device properly may be at risk particularly during postoperative rehabilitation period.

# Spinal Fixation System

## G. Warnings

 Correct selction of the implant is extremely important. The potential for satisfactory fixation and fusion are increased by the selection of the proper size, shape and design of the implant. The size and the shape of human bones present limitations on the size, shape and strength of implants.

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- Metallic internal fixation devices cannot withstand activity levels equal to those placed on normal and healthy bone. No implants can be expected to withstand indefinitely the unsupported stress of full weight bearing, proper selection can minimize the risks.
- 3. Implants can break when subjected to the increased loading asso ciated with delayed union or nonunion. Internal fixation appliances are load sharing devices which are used until normal healing occurs.
- 4. If healing is delayed, or does not occur, the implant may eventually break due to metal fatigue. The degree or success of union, loads produced by weight bearing and activity levels will dictate the longevity of the implant. Notches, scratches or bending of the implant during the course of surgery may also contribute to early fatigue (patients should be fully informed of risks of implant failure).
- 5. Mixing metals can cause corrosion. Dissimilar metals in contact, such as titanium screws in a stainless steel bone plate, accelerate the corrosion process of stainless steel and rapid attack occurs. The presence of corrosion often accelerates fatigue fracture of the implant. Internal fixation devices, such as plates and screws which come in contact, must be made from like or compatible metals.
- 6. Surgical implants must never be reused. An explained implant should never be re-implanted.
- 7. The use of image intensifier with C-arm is recommended intraoperatively to assist positioning, reduction, and the elimination of complication.





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