

AVS® AS PEEK Spacer

Surgical Technique

- **Comprehensive Sizing**
- **Large Graft Volume**
- **Intuitive Instrumentation**



Introduction

This surgical technique guide describes usage of the AVS AS PEEK Spacer as an interbody fusion device (IBD) of the cervical spine (C2-T1). The AVS AS PEEK Spacers are intended to be used with autogenous bone graft. For usage of the device as a vertebral body replacement in the thoraco-lumbar spine (T1-L5), please reference the AVS ASL Surgical Technique Guide (Ref #: IBASLST05112).

Step 1: Exposure

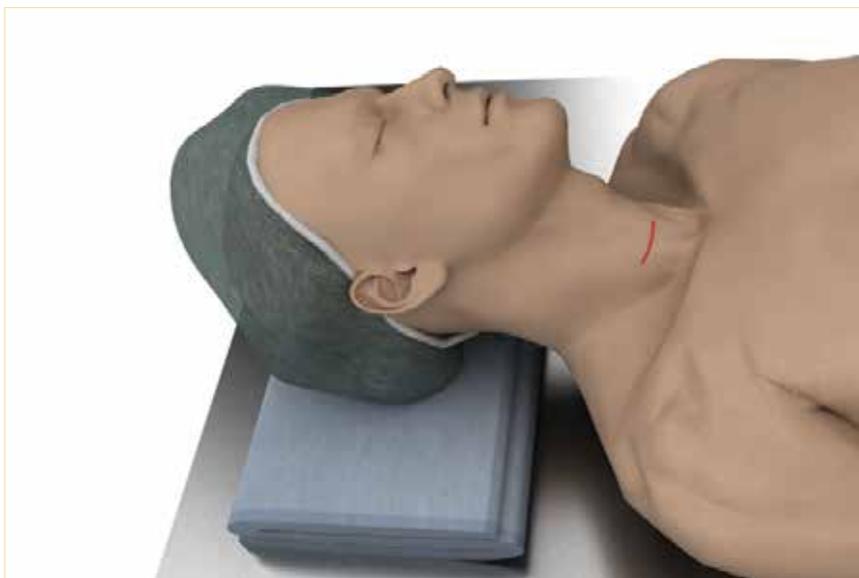


Figure 1 - The patient should be positioned in the supine position with the head stabilized in extension and rotated slightly away from the site of the approach. If possible, a transverse incision, parallel to the skin creases in the neck, is recommended.

PRE-OPERATIVE PLANNING

It is important to view pre-operative films so that the placement of the incision is accurate. Surgical approach (left or right sided) is determined according to surgeon preference, patient anatomy, and patient pathology.

APPROACH

The Reliance C Instruments can be used in either a left or right sided approach to the cervical spine. Blunt dissection is used to expose the anterior cervical spine and a self-retaining retractor is used to elevate the longus colli muscles and provide optimal visualization and exposure.

INCISION

An incision is made at the desired disc level. If possible, a transverse skin incision parallel to the skin creases of the neck is recommended for cosmetic purposes. Otherwise, a vertical midline incision may be used (See Figure 1).

A K-Wire may be used to confirm that the correct level and midline of the disc have been exposed.

Step 2: Discectomy



Figure 2



**Reliance C Parallel Pin Distractor
(48365020)**

PRE-OPERATIVE PLANNING

An anterior annulotomy is performed and should be wide enough to allow insertion of the implant (See **Figure 2**). The AVS AS PEEK Spacer is offered in 14mm and 16mm medial-lateral widths. It is recommended that the appropriate width be selected based on pre-operative measurements.

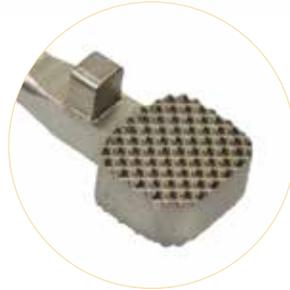
Using short rongeurs, pituitaries, curettes and/or Kerrisons, a discectomy is subsequently performed until an appropriate amount of the disc material has been removed, the posterior longitudinal ligament is exposed, and decompression is achieved.

Distraction may be performed using the **Parallel Pin Distractor**, which is designed to facilitate both a left and right sided approach thanks to a 360° rotation arm. Curettes are used to elevate additional disc material from the endplates, taking care not to damage the lateral annulus.

Step 3: Endplate Preparation



**Reliance C Rasp
(483652(04-12))**



Straight and angled curettes or rasps should be translated parallel to the endplates until sufficient decortication is achieved (See **Figure 3**). The curettes can be used to “feel” the endplates ensuring that no soft tissue remains.



Figure 3

Step 4: Trialing



Figure 4

It is recommended that preliminary measurements are taken to determine the appropriate trial size.

A trial is placed in the intra-discal space to determine the appropriate implant size (See **Figure 4**). Properly sized trials should fit flush within the confines of the anterior cortex, posterior cortex and unvertebral joints, producing a tight interface with both the superior and inferior endplates. Care should be taken not to use a trial that is too large for the disc space, for this may result in overdistraction. Since the overall shape *and height* of the AVS AS Trials mimic the profiles of the implants themselves, select the AVS PEEK Spacer based on the trial size.



**Reliance C Trial
(483653(04-12))**

Note: The AVS AS Trials are only available in 4° of lordosis to help prevent overdistraction of the posterior portion of the vertebral bodies that a parallel trial would cause in patients requiring an implant with 4° of lordosis. If a 0° trial is needed, non footprint-specific 0° trials may be found in the Reliance C Instrumentation tray.

AVS AS PEEK Spacer

Step 5: Implant Preparation



**AVS AS Inserter
(48329000)**

Once the appropriately sized AVS AS PEEK Spacer is identified, it can be assembled to the **AVS AS Inserter** by positioning the collet tip in the insertion hole with the lever lifted. Subsequent depression of the lever will cause the collet tip to expand, thereby providing a rigid and stable attachment to the spacer.

The **AVS AS Graft Support** and **Graft Compactor** have been provided to assist in packing the autogenous bone graft into the graft chamber of the AVS AS PEEK Spacer.

By placing an AVS AS PEEK Spacer assembled to an AVS AS Inserter into the AVS AS Graft Support, the autogenous bone graft material can be packed into the graft chamber using the Graft Compactor.



**AVS AS Graft Support (48329100)
AVS AS Graft Compactor (48350923)**

Note: It is important to regularly lubricate the proximal and distal areas of the AVS AS Inserter with instrument milk (commonly found in hospitals) to prevent the lever and collet tip from binding.

Step 6: Implant Insertion and Positioning



Figure 5

The AVS AS PEEK Spacer is introduced into the disc space, centered at the midline, and tapped into place (See **Figure 5**). Axial compression to the AVS AS PEEK Spacer should then be applied.

There are three vertical tantalum markers embedded in the implant to help visually confirm its position under fluoroscopy (See **Figure 6**).

Note: The anterior markers are 2.5mm long and are located 2mm from the anterior edge.

The posterior marker is 1mm long and is located 1mm from the posterior edge.

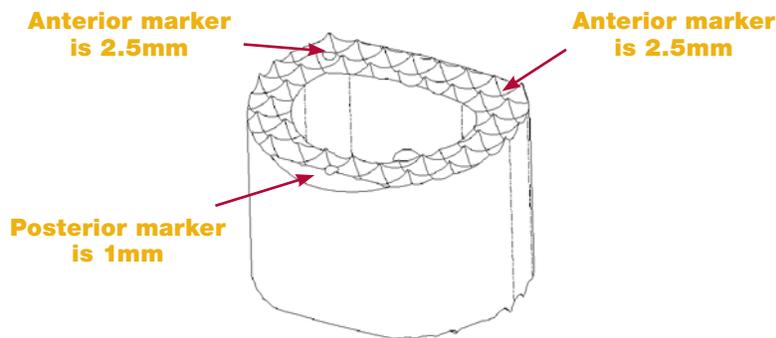


Figure 6

Step 7: Closure



Figure 7



**AVS AS Impactor
(48329050)**

If necessary, the position of the implant can be adjusted to its final position (See **Figure 7**) using the **AVS AS Impactor**.

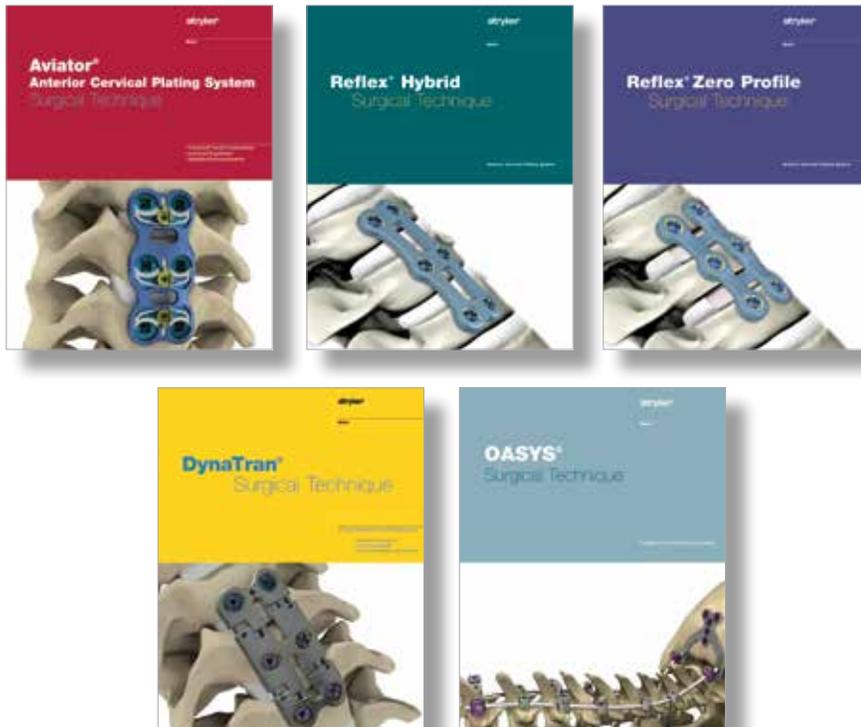
The application of supplemental fixation, such as Stryker Spine's cervical plate or rod systems (**Aviator**, **Reflex Hybrid**, **Reflex Zero Profile**, **DynaTran**, or **OASYS**), is recommended.

The operative site should then be checked for any fragments or extraneous soft tissue. The surgical site may then be closed in the normal fashion.

IMPLANT REMOVAL

To remove the implant, position the collet tip of the AVS AS Inserter in the insertion hole with the lever lifted. Subsequent depression of the lever will cause the collet tip to expand, thereby providing a rigid and stable attachment to the spacer. With the AVS AS Inserter connected to the implant, gently remove the implant from the disc space.

Note: It is recommended that the **Parallel Pin Distractor** and **Pins** from the **Reliance C** instrumentation set be used to distract the disc space before removing the cage.



AVS AS PEEK Spacer

Implants

| Part Number | Description |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 12 x 14 Footprint | |
| 48322040 | AVS AS PEEK Spacer, 12x14mm, 4mm, 0° |
| 48322050 | AVS AS PEEK Spacer, 12x14mm, 5mm, 0° |
| 48322060 | AVS AS PEEK Spacer, 12x14mm, 6mm, 0° |
| 48322070 | AVS AS PEEK Spacer, 12x14mm, 7mm, 0° |
| 48322080 | AVS AS PEEK Spacer, 12x14mm, 8mm, 0° |
| 48322090 | AVS AS PEEK Spacer, 12x14mm, 9mm, 0° |
| 48322100 | AVS AS PEEK Spacer, 12x14mm, 10mm, 0° |
| 48322110 | AVS AS PEEK Spacer, 12x14mm, 11mm, 0° |
| 48322120 | AVS AS PEEK Spacer, 12x14mm, 12mm, 0° |
| 48322044 | AVS AS PEEK Spacer, 12x14mm, 4mm, 4° |
| 48322054 | AVS AS PEEK Spacer, 12x14mm, 5mm, 4° |
| 48322064 | AVS AS PEEK Spacer, 12x14mm, 6mm, 4° |
| 48322074 | AVS AS PEEK Spacer, 12x14mm, 7mm, 4° |
| 48322084 | AVS AS PEEK Spacer, 12x14mm, 8mm, 4° |
| 48322094 | AVS AS PEEK Spacer, 12x14mm, 9mm, 4° |
| 48322104 | AVS AS PEEK Spacer, 12x14mm, 10mm, 4° |
| 48322114 | AVS AS PEEK Spacer, 12x14mm, 11mm, 4° |
| 48322124 | AVS AS PEEK Spacer, 12x14mm, 12mm, 4° |
| 14 x 16 Footprint | |
| 48324040 | AVS AS PEEK Spacer, 14x16mm, 4mm, 0° |
| 48324050 | AVS AS PEEK Spacer, 14x16mm, 5mm, 0° |
| 48324060 | AVS AS PEEK Spacer, 14x16mm, 6mm, 0° |
| 48324070 | AVS AS PEEK Spacer, 14x16mm, 7mm, 0° |
| 48324080 | AVS AS PEEK Spacer, 14x16mm, 8mm, 0° |
| 48324090 | AVS AS PEEK Spacer, 14x16mm, 9mm, 0° |
| 48324100 | AVS AS PEEK Spacer, 14x16mm, 10mm, 0° |
| 48324110 | AVS AS PEEK Spacer, 14x16mm, 11mm, 0° |
| 48324120 | AVS AS PEEK Spacer, 14x16mm, 12mm, 0° |
| 48324044 | AVS AS PEEK Spacer, 14x16mm, 4mm, 4° |
| 48324054 | AVS AS PEEK Spacer, 14x16mm, 5mm, 4° |
| 48324064 | AVS AS PEEK Spacer, 14x16mm, 6mm, 4° |
| 48324074 | AVS AS PEEK Spacer, 14x16mm, 7mm, 4° |
| 48324084 | AVS AS PEEK Spacer, 14x16mm, 8mm, 4° |
| 48324094 | AVS AS PEEK Spacer, 14x16mm, 9mm, 4° |
| 48324104 | AVS AS PEEK Spacer, 14x16mm, 10mm, 4° |
| 48324114 | AVS AS PEEK Spacer, 14x16mm, 11mm, 4° |
| 48324124 | AVS AS PEEK Spacer, 14x16mm, 12mm, 4° |

Instruments

| Part Number | Description |
|-------------|-------------------------|
| 48329000 | AVS AS Inserter |
| 48329100 | AVS AS Graft Support |
| 48350923 | AVS AS Graft Compactor |
| 48329050 | AVS AS Impactor |
| 48329204 | AVS AS Trial, 12 x 4mm |
| 48329205 | AVS AS Trial, 12 x 5mm |
| 48329206 | AVS AS Trial, 12 x 6mm |
| 48329207 | AVS AS Trial, 12 x 7mm |
| 48329208 | AVS AS Trial, 12 x 8mm |
| 48329209 | AVS AS Trial, 12 x 9mm |
| 48329210 | AVS AS Trial, 12 x 10mm |
| 48329211 | AVS AS Trial, 12 x 11mm |
| 48329212 | AVS AS Trial, 12 x 12mm |
| 48329404 | AVS AS Trial, 14 x 4mm |
| 48329405 | AVS AS Trial, 14 x 5mm |
| 48329406 | AVS AS Trial, 14 x 6mm |
| 48329407 | AVS AS Trial, 14 x 7mm |
| 48329408 | AVS AS Trial, 14 x 8mm |
| 48329409 | AVS AS Trial, 14 x 9mm |
| 48329410 | AVS AS Trial, 14 x 10mm |
| 48329411 | AVS AS Trial, 14 x 11mm |
| 48329412 | AVS AS Trial, 14 x 12mm |
| 48321214 | AVS AS PEEK Container |

Instruments

| Part Number | Description |
|-------------|------------------------------------|
| 48360003 | Reliance C Container |
| 48360003C | Reliance C Insert |
| 48365000 | Reliance C Paddle Distractor |
| 48365020 | Reliance C Parallel Pin Distractor |
| 48365110 | Reliance C Cobb Spinal Elevator |
| 48365204 | Reliance C Double Sided Rasp, 4mm |
| 48365205 | Reliance C Double Sided Rasp, 5mm |
| 48365206 | Reliance C Double Sided Rasp, 6mm |
| 48365207 | Reliance C Double Sided Rasp, 7mm |
| 48365208 | Reliance C Double Sided Rasp, 8mm |
| 48365209 | Reliance C Double Sided Rasp, 9mm |
| 48365210 | Reliance C Double Sided Rasp, 10mm |
| 48365211 | Reliance C Double Sided Rasp, 11mm |
| 48365212 | Reliance C Double Sided Rasp, 12mm |
| 48365304 | Reliance C General Trial, 4mm |
| 48365305 | Reliance C General Trial, 5mm |
| 48365306 | Reliance C General Trial, 6mm |
| 48365307 | Reliance C General Trial, 7mm |
| 48365308 | Reliance C General Trial, 8mm |
| 48365309 | Reliance C General Trial, 9mm |
| 48365310 | Reliance C General Trial, 10mm |
| 48365311 | Reliance C General Trial, 11mm |
| 48365312 | Reliance C General Trial, 12mm |
| 48365320 | Reliance C Flat Tamp |
| 48365321 | Reliance C Curved Tamp |
| 874002 | Solis Distraction Pin, 10mm |
| 874009 | Solis Distraction Pin, 15mm |
| 874005 | Reliance C Pin Driver |
| 874007 | Reliance C Pin Guide |

AVS AS PEEK Spacer

Product Information For AVS AS PEEK Spacer

DESCRIPTION

The **Stryker Spine AVS AS PEEK Spacer** is a hollow, ring-shaped PEEK Optima cage with three Tantalum marker pins. The cages are offered in a variety of lengths, heights, and lordotic angles to adapt to varying patient anatomies. The hollow, ring-shaped implants have serrations on the top and bottom surfaces of the cage. The hollow space of the implant is intended to hold autogenous bone graft. It is intended for use as an interbody fusion device (IBD) of the cervical spine (from C2-C3 to C7-T1).

INDICATIONS

The Stryker Spine AVS AS PEEK Spacers are indicated for use in cervical interbody fusion procedures in skeletally mature patients with degenerative disc disease (DDD) at one level from the C2-C3 disc to the C7-T1 disc. DDD is defined as back pain of discogenic origin with degeneration of the disc confirmed by history and radiographic studies. The AVS AS PEEK Spacers are to be used with autogenous bone graft and implanted via an open, anterior approach.

The AVS AS PEEK Spacers are intended to be used with supplemental fixation systems that have been cleared for use in the cervical spine. This cervical device is to be used in patients who have had six weeks of non-operative treatment.

CAUTION

- Based on the fatigue testing results, the physician/surgeon should consider the levels of implantation, patient weight, patient activity level, other patient conditions, etc. which may impact on the performance of the system.
- The implantation of the device must be performed only by experienced spinal surgeons with specific training in the use of this device because this is a technically demanding procedure presenting a risk of serious injury to the patient.
- Potential risks identified with the use of this device, which may require additional surgery, include: device component fracture, loss of fixation, pseudoarthrosis (i.e. non-union), fracture of the vertebrae, neurological injury, and vascular or visceral injury.
- Patients with previous spinal surgery at the level(s) to be treated may have different clinical outcomes as compared to those without a previous surgery.
- The device is designed to be used with a supplemental fixation system.
- The AVS AS PEEK Spacers have not been evaluated for safety and compatibility in the MR environment. The AVS AS PEEK Spacers have not been tested for heating or migration in the MR environment.

- Specialized instruments are provided by STRYKER Spine and must be used to assure accurate implantation of the device. While rare, intraoperative fracture or breakage of instruments can occur, instruments, which have experienced extensive use or extensive force, are more susceptible to fracture depending on the operative precaution, number of procedures, and disposal attention. Instruments must be examined for wear or damage prior to surgery. Instruments for implantation of the AVS AS PEEK Spacers are provided non-sterile and must be sterilized prior to use.

CONTRAINDICATIONS

Contraindications may be relative or absolute. The choice of a particular device must be carefully weighed against the patient's overall evaluation. Circumstances listed below may reduce the chances of a successful outcome:

- The AVS AS PEEK Spacer should not be implanted in patients with an active infection at the operative site.
- The AVS AS PEEK Spacers are not intended for use except as indicated.
- Marked local inflammation.
- Any abnormality present which affects the normal process of bone remodeling including, but not limited to, severe osteoporosis involving the spine, bone absorption, osteopenia, primary or metastatic tumors involving the spine, active infection at the site or certain metabolic disorders affecting osteogenesis.
- Any mental or neuromuscular disorder which would create an unacceptable risk of fixation failure or complications in postoperative care.
- Open wounds.
- Pregnancy.
- Inadequate tissue coverage over the operative site.
- Any neuromuscular deficit which places an unsafe load level on the device during the healing period.
- Obesity. An overweight or obese patient can produce loads on the spinal system which can lead to failure of the fixation of the device or to failure of the device itself. Obesity is defined according to the W.H.O. standards.
- A condition of senility, mental illness, or substance abuse. These conditions, among others, may cause the patient to ignore certain necessary limitations and precautions in the use of the implant, leading to failure or other complications.
- Foreign body sensitivity. Where material sensitivity is suspected, appropriate tests must be made prior to material selection or implantation.

- Other medical or surgical condition which would preclude the potential benefit of spinal implant surgery, such as the presence of tumors, congenital abnormalities, elevation of sedimentation rate unexplained by other diseases, elevation of white blood cell count (WBC), or marked left shift in the WBC differential count.
- Prior fusion at the levels to be treated.
- Bone stock compromised by disease, infection or prior implantation which cannot provide adequate support and/or fixation to the devices.
- Rapid joint disease, bone absorption, osteopenia, osteomalacia, and/or osteoporosis. Osteoporosis or osteopenia are relative contraindications, since this condition may limit the degree of obtainable correction and/or the amount of mechanical fixation.
- Anytime implant utilization would interfere with anatomical structures or physiological performance.

Other medical or surgical conditions that could preclude the potential benefit of surgery, such as congenital abnormalities, immunosuppressive disease, elevation of sedimentation rate unexplained by other diseases, elevation of white blood count (WBC), or marked left shift in the WBC differential count, must be carefully analyzed before surgery.

These contra-indications can be relative or absolute and must be taken into account by the physician when making his decision. The above list is not exhaustive.

PRE-OPERATIVE PRECAUTIONS

The surgical indication and the choice of implants must take into account certain important criteria such as:

- Patients involved in an occupation or activity that applies excessive loading upon the implant (e.g., substantial walking, running, lifting, or muscle strain) may be at increased risk for failure of the fusion and/or the device.
- Surgeons must instruct patients in detail about the limitations of the implants, including, but not limited to, the impact of excessive loading through patient weight or activity, and be taught to govern their activities accordingly. The procedure will not restore function to the level expected with a normal, healthy spine, and the patient should not have unrealistic functional expectations.
- A condition of senility, mental illness, chemical dependence or alcoholism. These conditions among others may cause the patients to ignore certain necessary

AVS AS PEEK Spacer

limitations and precautions in the use of the implant, leading to failure and other complications.

- Foreign body sensitivity. Where material sensitivity is suspected appropriate tests should be made prior to material implantation.
- Surgeons must advise patients who smoke have been shown to have an increased incidence of non-unions. Such patients must be advised of this fact and warned of the potential consequences.
- Care must be taken to protect the components from being marred, nicked, or notched as a result of contact with metal or abrasive objects.
- Patients with previous spinal surgery at the level(s) to be treated may have different clinical outcomes compared to those without a previous surgery.

INTRA-OPERATIVE PRECAUTIONS

- The insertion of the implants must be carried out using instruments designed and provided for this purpose and in accordance with the specific implantation instructions for each implant. Those detailed instructions are provided in the surgical technique brochure supplied by STRYKER Spine.
- Discard all damaged or mishandled implants.
- Never reuse an implant, even though it may appear undamaged.

CAUTION: Federal law (U.S.A.) restricts this device to sale by or on the order of a licensed physician.

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