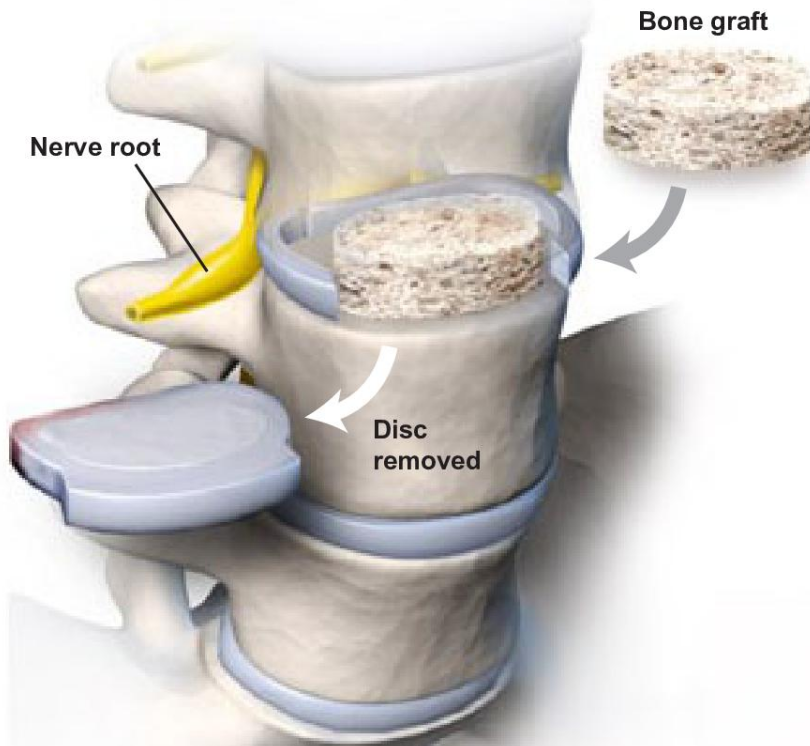
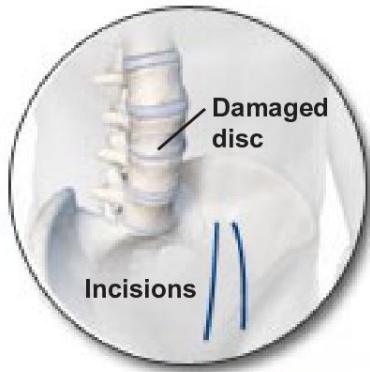




## ALIF: Anterior Lumbar Interbody Fusion (with bone graft and pedicle screws)



### Overview

ALIF is generally used to treat back or leg pain caused by degenerative disc disease. The surgeon will stabilize the spine by fusing vertebrae together with bone graft material.

### Incision Made

The procedure is performed through a three- to five-inch incision on the stomach. Two common approaches are over the center of the stomach or slightly to the side.

### Disc Removed

The damaged disc is partially removed. Some of the disc wall is left behind to help contain the bone graft material.

### Implantation

Bone graft is placed in the empty disc space. This realigns the vertebral bones, lifting pressure from pinched nerve roots.

### Vertebrae Secured

ALIF is typically combined with additional devices such as pedicle screws, which provide rigid spinal fixation and optimize the chance of achieving a solid spinal fusion.

### End of Procedure

Over time, the bone graft will form a bone bridge that connects the vertebra above and below. This solid bone bridge is called a fusion.

