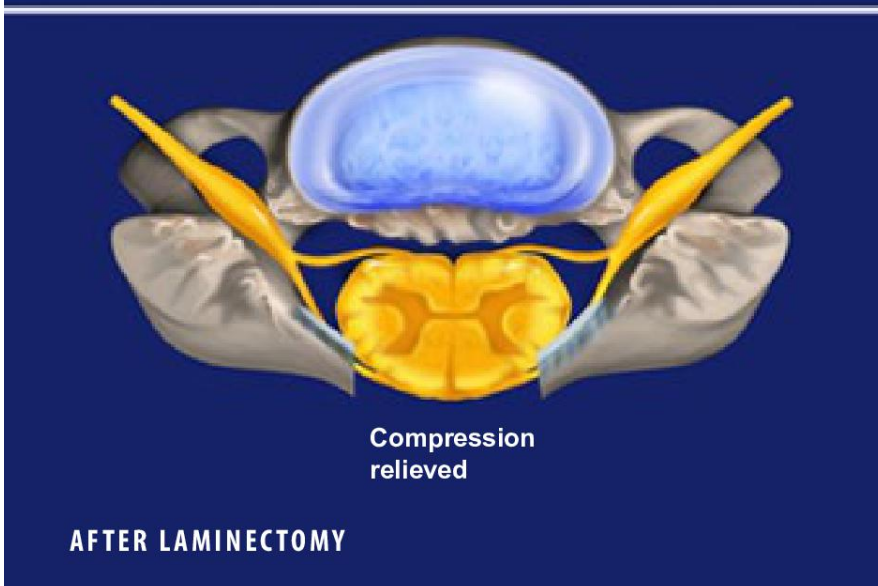
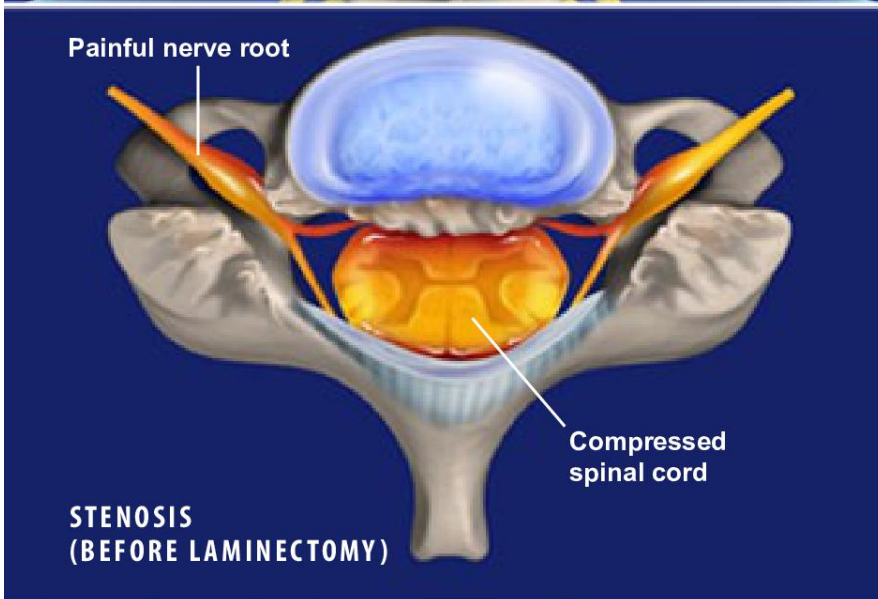




## Laminectomy (Cervical)



### Overview

This procedure removes a section of bone from the rear of one or more vertebrae to relieve the painful and disabling pressure of stenosis.

### Preparation

Anesthesia is administered, and the patient is positioned to give the surgeon access to the back of the neck. The surgeon creates a small incision to expose the vertebrae.

### Cutting the Bone

The surgeon uses a high-speed burr to cut a rectangular trough of bone from the vertebrae.

### Removing the Lamina

The surgeon carefully removes the bone from the rear of the vertebrae, opening up the spinal canal and relieving pressure from the spinal cord and nerve roots.

### Clearing Bone Spurs

The surgeon inspects the spinal canal and foramina - the openings through which the nerve roots exit the spinal canal. Any bone spurs behind the spinal cord and nerve roots are cleared away.

### End of Procedure

After the spinal cord is adequately decompressed, the incision is closed. Drains may be inserted in the wound to prevent fluid buildup. The patient may require a cervical collar for a brief period after the procedure.