

# ABSTRACT

**Title of Abstract:** Clinical Application of Provocative Discography in Minimally Invasive Spine Surgery (MISS).

**Purpose:** To demonstrate the diagnostic technique of provocative discography, and to evaluate intradiscal pathology of herniated cervical, thoracic and lumbar disc. This simple technique correlates with pre-operative symptomatic pain pinpoints the pathology and improves the accuracy of spinal disc surgery.

**Materials and Methods:** Before spinal discectomy, especially in multiple level, with ease and application of 18 ga. spinal needle into intradiscal space for cervical, thoracic and lumbar region, the provocative discography is performed with injection of Omnipaque dye intradiscally of discography for demonstration and confirmation of abnormal disc pathology with clinical correlation or pain response prior to definitive decompressive spinal discectomy. California Back Provocative Discography Classification.

**Results:** There is definitive correlation of the provocative discography and the clinical selection and symptoms, and physical findings of herniated cervical, thoracic and lumbar disc prior to definitive spinal discectomy. It improves the accuracy of the surgery and surgical results. In addition, the normal discography also confirms and correlates with abnormal MRI scan findings.

**Conclusion:** The findings support and confirm the usefulness of application of California Back Provocative Discography in MISS prior to disc surgery.

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