BRONSON

Affix Patient Label	
Patient Name:	Date of Birth:

Informed Consent: Thoracic and/or Lumbar Decompression

This information is given to you so that you can make an informed decision about having **surgery on your thoracic and/or lumbar spine.**

Reason and Purpose of this Procedure:

Surgery on my thoracic and/or lumbar spine is done to:

- Relieve pain, numbness, tingling or weakness.
- Restore nerve function.

During this procedure, the space that the nerves travel through is widened. This may involve removing bone, damaged disc(s), or other tissues. This releases pressure on nerves in your back.

Benefits of this Procedure:

You might receive the following benefits. Your doctor cannot promise you will receive any of these benefits. Only you can decide if the benefits are worth the risk.

- Relief or decrease of pain, numbness, tingling, or weakness in the legs, and sometimes pain in the back.
- Increased function during normal activities.
- You may be able to reduce or end the need for pain medication.

General Risks of Procedures:

No procedure is completely risk free. Some risks are well known. There may be risks not included in the list that your doctor cannot expect.

- Small areas of the lungs may collapse. This would increase the risk of infection. This may need antibiotics and breathing treatments.
- Clots may form in the legs, with pain and swelling. These are called DVTs or deep vein thromboses. Rarely, part of the clot may break off and go to the lungs. This can be fatal.
- A strain on the heart or a stroke.
- Bleeding may occur. If excessive you may need a blood transfusion.
- Reaction to the anesthetic. The most common reactions are nausea and vomiting. In rare cases, death may occur. The anesthesiologist will discuss this with you.

Risks of this Procedure:

- **Failure to relieve symptoms.** There is a chance that the surgery will not relieve the pain, numbness, tingling, weakness, or other symptoms. You may need more surgery.
- **Increased pain.** Pain or other symptoms may get worse after this procedure.
- **Infection.** Infection may occur in the wound, either near the surface or deep within the tissues. This could include the bone. You may need antibiotics or further treatment.
- **Nerve root injury.** Injury to the nerve roots may cause arm pain, paralysis in the affected muscle group or loss of feeling in the affected area.
- **Recurrence.** There is a chance that pain, numbness, tingling, weakness, or other symptoms may come back. You may need more surgery.
- **Spinal cord injury.** There is a small risk of injury to the spinal cord. This could mean you would be paralyzed. Your bowel or bladder may not work correctly or at all.
- **Spinal fluid leakage.** A spinal fluid leakage may cause a spinal headache. You may need more surgery to fix this.

BRONSON

Affix Patient Label	
Patient Name:	Date of Birth:

Risks Associated with Smoking:

Smoking is linked to an increased risk of infections. It can also lead to heart and lung complications and blood clot formation. Smoking has also been shown to slow down or stop the bone fusion.

Risks Associated with Obesity:

Obesity is linked to an increased risk of infections. It can also lead to heart and lung complications and blood clot formation.

Risks Associated with Diabetes or Immune System Compromise:

The risk of infection, slow wound healing are increased in patients with:

- Diabetes
- Chemotherapy or radiation therapy
- AIDS
- Steroid use

Risks Specific to You:

_____

_____

_____

_____

Alternative Treatments:

Other choices:

- Medication for relief of pain or muscle spasms
- Physical or Occupational Therapy
- Massage Therapy
- Chiropractic manipulation
- Acupuncture
- Pain Management
- Do nothing. You can decide not to have the procedure.

If you Choose not to have this Treatment:

- Your doctor can discuss alternative treatments with you.

General Information:

During this procedure, the doctor may need to perform more or different procedures than I agreed to.

During the procedure, the doctor may need to do more tests or treatment.

Tissues or organs taken from the body may be tested. They may be kept for research or teaching. I agree the hospital may discard these in a proper way.

Students, technical sales people and other staff may be present during the procedure. My doctor will supervise them.

Pictures and videos may be done during the procedure. These may be added to my medical record. These may be published for teaching purposes. My identity will be protected.

BRONSON

Affix Patient Label	
Patient Name:	Date of Birth:

Medical Implants/Explants:

I agree to release my social security number, my name and address, and my date of birth to the company that makes the medical device that is put in or removed during this procedure. Federal laws and rules require this. The company will use this information to locate me.

BRONSON

Affix Patient Label	
Patient Name:	Date of Birth:

By signing this form, I agree:

- I have read this form or had it explained to me in words I can understand.
- I understand its contents.
- I have had time to speak with the doctor. My questions have been answered.
- I want to have this procedure:
  - ☐ **Hemilaminectomy from the _____ ☐ thoracic ☐ lumbar vertebra through the _____ ☐ thoracic ☐ lumbar vertebra.**
  - ☐ **Laminectomy from the _____ ☐ thoracic ☐ lumbar vertebra through the _____ ☐ thoracic ☐ lumbar vertebra.**
  - ☐ **Foraminotomy from the _____ ☐ thoracic ☐ lumbar vertebra through the _____ ☐ thoracic ☐ lumbar vertebra.**
  - ☐ **Discectomy from the _____ ☐ thoracic ☐ lumbar vertebra through the _____ ☐ thoracic ☐ lumbar vertebra.**
- I understand that my doctor may ask a partner to do the procedure.
- I understand that other doctors, including medical residents or other staff may help with procedure. The tasks will be based on their skill level. My doctor will supervise them.

Provider: This patient may require a type and screen or type and cross prior to procedure. If so, please obtain consent for blood/products.

Patient Signature: _____ Date: _____ Time: _____

Relationship: ☐ Patient ☐ Closest relative (relationship) _____ ☐ Guardian/POA Healthcare

Interpreter's Statement: I have interpreted the doctor's explanation of the consent form to the patient, a parent, closest relative or legal guardian.

Interpreter's Signature: _____ ID #: _____ Date: _____ Time: _____

For Provider Use ONLY:

I have explained the nature, purpose, risks, benefits, possible consequences of non-treatment, alternative options, and possibility of complications and side effects of the intended intervention, I have answered questions, and patient has agreed to procedure.

Provider signature: _____ Date: _____ Time: _____

Teach Back:

Patient shows understanding by stating in his or her own words:

_____ Reason(s) for the treatment/procedure: _____

_____ Area(s) of the body that will be affected: _____

_____ Benefit(s) of the procedure: _____

_____ Risk(s) of the procedure: _____

_____ Alternative(s) to the procedure: _____

OR

_____ Patient elects not to proceed: _____ Date: _____ Time: _____

(Patient signature)

Validated/Witness: _____ Date: _____ Time: _____

BRONSON

Affix Patient Label	
Patient Name:	Date of Birth: