

# Anesthesia for Spine Surgery

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manufacturer of any drugs or equipment that they plan to use.

To my wife, my daughters, and my mother for their incessant prayers,  
help, and support and in memory of my late father



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# Foreword by Dr. Edward Benzel

Ehab Farag has assembled an incredible group of authors for this “first of a kind” book, *Anesthesia for Spine Surgery*. This book is the first comprehensive text devoted to the anesthetic management of the spine surgery patient. It addresses both the adult and pediatric domains. It is comprehensive in scope and detailed in content.

*Anesthesia for Spine Surgery* addresses all aspects of the subject at hand. It begins with a group of dissertations on the variety of surgical procedures and the complications that can ensue. Chapters on imaging and surgical technique-specific nuances follow. These are followed by a variety of chapters that address specific spine anesthesia techniques and complications. The book closes with a number of discussions regarding pediatrics-related issues.

How good is this book? It is a “must read.” Why is it a “must read”?

First, it is a “first of its kind.” Hence, there is no competition. I am virtually certain that others will follow. They always do when pioneers open and develop a field.

Second, it “covers the field.” This cannot be underestimated as an attribute. *Anesthesia for Spine Surgery* is both deep and broad in content. It truly “covers the field” in many regards. It is thorough. It is comprehensive. It is organized both to facilitate a reading from cover to cover and to function as a reference.

Third, it is “a great read.” This book feels good in my hands and I feel at home while reading it. It is, in fact, difficult to put down. This is, in part, related to its unique position in the spine surgery and anesthesia domain. It is also related to its wonderful presentation.

This book covers everything, and I do mean everything, from visual complications to spinal cord injury. No stones are left unturned. It is a complete, comprehensive, and user-friendly text. It will soon become a great addition to the libraries of all spine surgeons, neurosurgeons, and orthopedic surgeons, and of all neuro-anesthesiologists, anesthesiologists, and related professionals. It is, indeed, a classic in the making.



# Foreword by Dr. David Brown

It is a real pleasure to be asked to contribute a foreword to *Anesthesia for Spine Surgery* by Dr. Ehab Farag and colleagues. This useful text covers the entire spectrum of surgical and anesthetic procedures required to be at the forefront of clinical care for our patients requiring spine care. Ehab has assembled an outstanding list of contributors; all true experts in their area of clinical coverage. Many are colleagues at the Cleveland Clinic and others are recognized national experts.

Spinal surgery has developed over the last 20 years into a specialized field in which increasingly complex and lengthy surgical procedures are being carried out; these clearly demand an anesthetic approach

that is equally intricate. The willingness of surgeons and anesthesiologists to share their approaches to complex and straightforward spinal surgical patients allows readers of this book to apply the most current approaches to minimizing morbidity and optimizing safety in their patients. The contributors to this book are made up of individuals with whom I would be fully comfortable in having them providing care for myself or members of my family at any time. They truly are experts.

I congratulate all involved in creating this important work and hope that it really adds value to your care of this important group of patients.