



Surgical Team Approach to Advanced Recovery Lumbar Spine:  
The Back Up Plan

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## Disclaimer

No financial interest/affiliation or conflict of interest that would impact this presentation.

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## About Condell

- Condell, Level I Trauma
- 277 Beds
- Spine surgeries per year
  - T/L/S surgeries
  - ACDF/PCDF not included
- Magnet designation
- Blue Distinction

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## Objectives



- Define enhanced recovery after surgery (ERAS)
- Describe the components of the STAAR program
- Explore STAAR application to lumbar spine surgery

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## What is Enhanced Recovery?

- Enhanced Recovery After Surgery (ERAS) refers to multimodal programs or combination of interventions for patients undergoing surgery that when used together have proven to produce better outcomes such as:
  - Accelerated patient recovery
  - Promoting an early discharge
  - Increasing patient satisfaction

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## What is Enhanced Recovery?

- The interventions or protocols included in ERAS are evidenced based best practices that impact patients' response to surgery by:
  - Decreasing the stress response
  - Decreasing postoperative pain
  - Decreasing postoperative complications

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## Enhanced Recovery Is...

- Standardized clinical pathways
- Comprised of a multidisciplinary team
- Focused on patient outcomes
- Better for patients and the healthcare system
- Everyone working together

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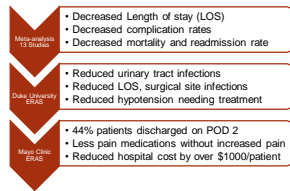
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## Evidenced Based ERAS Outcomes

- Evidence supports positive outcomes when ERAS is implemented into practice.




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## What Is STAAR?

- Enhanced recovery after surgery (ERAS) is a term that describes the clinical pathway used to improve the outcome of surgery and to speed the recovery process.
- The Advocate version of this program is called STAAR.

## Surgical Team Approach to Advanced Recovery




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## What Is STAAR

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- Surgical team approach to advanced recovery
  - ▣ Enhanced recovery (1990)
  - ▣ Colorectal
  - ▣ Evidenced based
  - ▣ System initiative

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## Data Collection

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- Retrospective chart audits
- Interviews staff, surgeons
- Patient feedback

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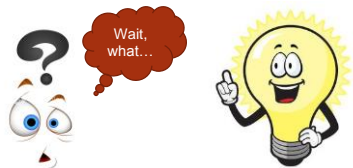
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## Ah Ha Moment

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## Ooops



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## Evidence

- Literature Review



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## STAAR Key Elements

- Preoperative Counselling
- Optimization of Nutrition
- Standardized Analgesic
- Anesthetic Regimens
- Early Mobilization

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# Advocate STAAR Pathway



- The STAAR pathway involves the entire surgical, perioperative patient experience:
  - Preoperative
  - Intraoperative
  - Postoperative
  - Post discharge




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# Gap Analysis

- Current State
- Desired State




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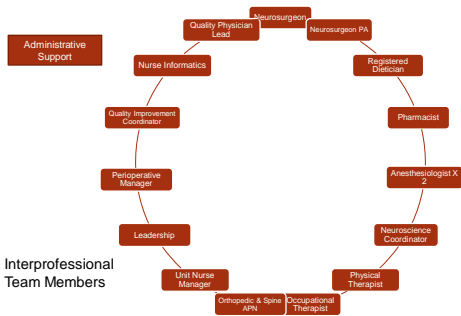
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## Key Elements of STAAR Pre-operative

### Current State

- ❑ **Risk Assessment:** occasional and last minute
- ❑ **Education:** vague ideas and discussion with no standardized teaching materials
- ❑ **Diet:** NPO after midnight (whether the surgery is at 7am or 7pm)

### STAAR Implemented State

- ❑ **Risk Assessment:** Formal risk assessment before surgery by Nurse Navigators for elective cases
  - ❑ In-Person Spine Class utilizing standardized content and teaching materials (folder)
  - ❑ Preop screening by Navigator
  - ❑ Site-enforced by Staff Nurse
  - ❑ Documented in Progress note and IPOC
- ❑ **Education:** Engaged, empowered patients aware of steps in the process
  - ❑ In-Person Spine Class utilizing standardized content and teaching materials (folder)
  - ❑ Preop screening by Navigator
  - ❑ Site-enforced by Staff Nurse
  - ❑ Documented in Progress note and IPOC
- ❑ **Diet:** Regular meal day before surgery,
  - ❑ Presurgery carbohydrate drink BID night before
  - ❑ Clear liquids up to 8H before surgery
  - ❑ Presurgery carbohydrate drink 3H before surgery just before the patient leaves home to go to the hospital

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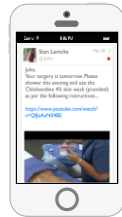
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## Electronic Communication

- ❑ HL is a messaging tool that the surgical care team use to communicate with the patient before and after your surgery.
- ❑ HL is available on iPhone and Android smartphones, tablets, and PCs.
- ❑ Patients are enrolled and create an account in HL when they are registered to attend the preoperative class.




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## Prescreening – Risk Reduction

- ❑ Anemia/blood count protocol
- ❑ Cardiac Risk tool-Cardiac Risk Calculator
- ❑ Chronic Pain/ Multi-modal pain and Narcotic use- McGill
- ❑ Depression Screening
- ❑ Delirium Screening (Mini Cog)
- ❑ DVT Risk Analysis
- ❑ Diabetes Assessment
- ❑ Frailty Assessment – John Hopkins
- ❑ Morse Tool for Falls
- ❑ Nutritional status Evaluation
- ❑ OSA screening (Stop Bang)
- ❑ Pacemaker and ICD management
- ❑ PONV screening tool- Apfel tool
- ❑ PDP risk calculator-Post Operative Pneumonia Calculator
- ❑ Risk of readmission tool

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## Key Elements of STAAR Intra-operative

Current State	STAAR Implemented State
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Surgical Techniques</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Open</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Pain</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reactive</li> <li>• Narcotics: More is better</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Fluid Management</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pre-op dehydration</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Postoperative nausea &amp; vomiting (PONV)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reactive</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Surgical Techniques:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimally invasive, as appropriate</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Multimodal Pain management:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preop Celebrex, Tylenol and Neurontin</li> <li>• Local / intrathecal pain medication injections when appropriate</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Fluid Management:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "Goal directed therapy" per anesthesia</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>PONV:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pre-screened for possible PONV</li> <li>• Zofran, Reglan, Protonix,</li> <li>• Scopolamine patch and/or Decadron depending on PONV risk assessment</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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## Key Elements of STAAR Post-Operative

Current State	STAAR Implemented State
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Diet:</b> Start clear liquid and advance as tolerated</li> <li>- <b>Ambulation:</b> Bed rest</li> <li>- <b>IV Fluid Therapy:</b> Liberal</li> <li>- <b>Oral Pain Meds:</b> Narcotics</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Diet:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Patient's 1<sup>st</sup> postop meal may start with solids if appropriate (no PONV). If PONV, clear liquid diet adhering to pre-hospital diet preferred on POD 0. If not then POD 1.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Ambulation:</b> Walk on day of surgery regardless of arrival time on unit           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Patients walk / chair transfer with nursing staff on <b>POD 0</b></li> <li>• PT/OT will eval and treat thoracic and lumbar spine patients on <b>POD 1</b></li> <li>• Progressive ambulation <b>in halfway</b> with patients' goal of 4 times a day, increasing distance and time each POD</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>IV Fluid Therapy:</b> Saline lock when tolerating oral fluids and voiding a sufficient amount (or run at 20mL/hr to keep vein open for PCA)</li> <li>- <b>Oral Pain Meds:</b> Multimodal: Non-narcotics (gabapentin, acetaminophen), oral opioids - with PCA. <b>PCA Goal: discontinued POD 1</b></li> </ul>

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## Key Elements of STAAR Post-Operative

Current State	STAAR Implemented State
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>DVT prophylaxis:</b> inconsistent application of mechanical prophylaxis</li> <li>- <b>Tubes:</b> Foley and drains for many patients</li> <li>- <b>Foley:</b> Discontinued inconsistently. Continued at patient request.</li> <li>- <b>Discharge Planning:</b> afterthought</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>DVT prophylaxis:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Patients wear sequential compression device (SCDs) at all times unless they are ambulating (min 18H/day)</li> <li>• High risk patients (A/B, C/V, stents...) with home meds anticoagulants discuss reusing with Surgeon/Medicine once drain discontinued.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Tubes:</b> Foley <b>only</b> for high risk Post-op Urinary Retention (POUR) patients when straight catheter nursing protocol fails internal drains.</li> <li>- <b>Foley:</b> Discontinue POD 1 @ 0800           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Follow policy: "nurse driven protocol" for retention after removal</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Discharge Planning:</b> Starts in Surgeon Office. Followed by care managers during hospital stay. Goal on white board = LOS 2 days</li> </ul>

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## Education




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## Spine Pathway

Advocate  
Crest Medical Center

Lumbar Fusion Surgery Clinical Pathway

Phase	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4	Phase 5	Post-Discharge	
<b>Diagnosis</b>	History/Physical	History/Physical	History/Physical	History/Physical	History/Physical	History/Physical	
<b>Education</b>	Spine Clinic	Non-invasive pain management	Inpatient on 4th floor	Inpatient on 4th floor	Inpatient on 4th floor	Inpatient on 4th floor	
<b>History Assessment/Exam</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>History</li> <li>Physical</li> <li>Neurological</li> <li>Cardiac</li> <li>Respiratory</li> <li>Abdominal</li> <li>Genitourinary</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>History</li> <li>Physical</li> <li>Neurological</li> <li>Cardiac</li> <li>Respiratory</li> <li>Abdominal</li> <li>Genitourinary</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>History</li> <li>Physical</li> <li>Neurological</li> <li>Cardiac</li> <li>Respiratory</li> <li>Abdominal</li> <li>Genitourinary</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>History</li> <li>Physical</li> <li>Neurological</li> <li>Cardiac</li> <li>Respiratory</li> <li>Abdominal</li> <li>Genitourinary</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>History</li> <li>Physical</li> <li>Neurological</li> <li>Cardiac</li> <li>Respiratory</li> <li>Abdominal</li> <li>Genitourinary</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>History</li> <li>Physical</li> <li>Neurological</li> <li>Cardiac</li> <li>Respiratory</li> <li>Abdominal</li> <li>Genitourinary</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>History</li> <li>Physical</li> <li>Neurological</li> <li>Cardiac</li> <li>Respiratory</li> <li>Abdominal</li> <li>Genitourinary</li> </ul>
<b>Plan</b>	Spine surgery	Spine surgery	Spine surgery	Spine surgery	Spine surgery	Spine surgery	
<b>Implementation</b>	Preoperative	Inpatient	Inpatient	Inpatient	Inpatient	Inpatient	
<b>Monitoring</b>	Preoperative	Inpatient	Inpatient	Inpatient	Inpatient	Inpatient	

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## Tip Sheet

SSAAR SPINE PATIENT PATHWAYS

Phase	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4	Phase 5	Post-Discharge	
<b>Diagnosis</b>	History/Physical	History/Physical	History/Physical	History/Physical	History/Physical	History/Physical	
<b>Education</b>	Spine Clinic	Non-invasive pain management	Inpatient on 4th floor	Inpatient on 4th floor	Inpatient on 4th floor	Inpatient on 4th floor	
<b>History Assessment/Exam</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>History</li> <li>Physical</li> <li>Neurological</li> <li>Cardiac</li> <li>Respiratory</li> <li>Abdominal</li> <li>Genitourinary</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>History</li> <li>Physical</li> <li>Neurological</li> <li>Cardiac</li> <li>Respiratory</li> <li>Abdominal</li> <li>Genitourinary</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>History</li> <li>Physical</li> <li>Neurological</li> <li>Cardiac</li> <li>Respiratory</li> <li>Abdominal</li> <li>Genitourinary</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>History</li> <li>Physical</li> <li>Neurological</li> <li>Cardiac</li> <li>Respiratory</li> <li>Abdominal</li> <li>Genitourinary</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>History</li> <li>Physical</li> <li>Neurological</li> <li>Cardiac</li> <li>Respiratory</li> <li>Abdominal</li> <li>Genitourinary</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>History</li> <li>Physical</li> <li>Neurological</li> <li>Cardiac</li> <li>Respiratory</li> <li>Abdominal</li> <li>Genitourinary</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>History</li> <li>Physical</li> <li>Neurological</li> <li>Cardiac</li> <li>Respiratory</li> <li>Abdominal</li> <li>Genitourinary</li> </ul>
<b>Plan</b>	Spine surgery	Spine surgery	Spine surgery	Spine surgery	Spine surgery	Spine surgery	
<b>Implementation</b>	Preoperative	Inpatient	Inpatient	Inpatient	Inpatient	Inpatient	
<b>Monitoring</b>	Preoperative	Inpatient	Inpatient	Inpatient	Inpatient	Inpatient	

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## Preliminary Outcome

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## Lessons Learned

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"If you don't have a plan for what you want, then you will probably find yourself buying into someone else's plan and later find out that was not the direction you wanted to go. You've got to be the architect of your life."  
- John Rohn

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## Questions

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Thank You!

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