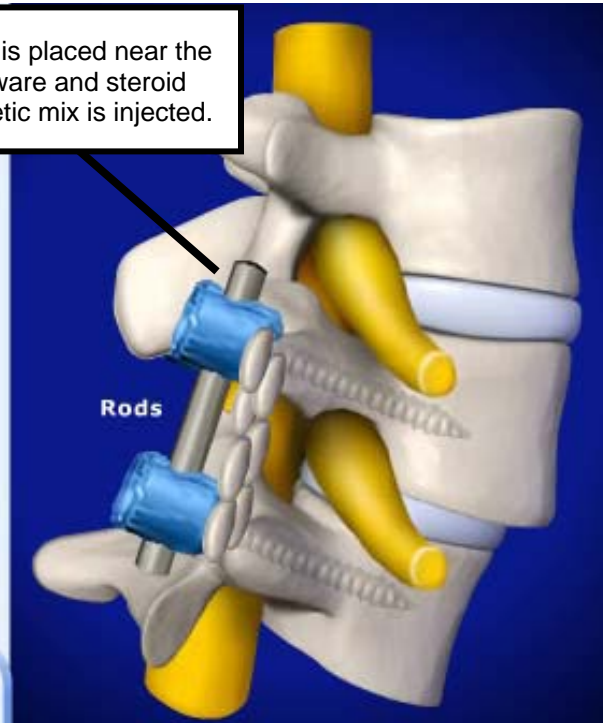




Needle is placed near the hardware and steroid anesthetic mix is injected.



Hardware Injection

OVERVIEW

This injection procedure is performed on patient's who have undergone a fusion and have had hardware placed. This procedure will determine if the pain is originating from the hardware. The steroid medication can reduce the swelling and inflammation near the hardware. If the injection relieves the patient's pain, the surgeon may decide to remove the patient's hardware.

STEP 1

An antibiotic is given by IV to reduce the risk of infection.

STEP 2

A local anesthetic numbs the skin and tissue below.

STEP 3

The physician locates the hardware using a fluoroscope. Using a needle the physician then slides the needle through the anesthetized track. Under fluoroscope, the physician guides the needle toward the hardware.

STEP 4

A steroid-anesthetic mix is injected near the hardware.

STEP 5

The needles are removed, and a small band-aid will be used to cover the tiny needle surface wound.