



FSIPP  
FSIPP

**FLORIDA SOCIETY OF INTERVENTIONAL PAIN PHYSICIANS**

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James Corcoran, MD, MPH  
Chief Medical Director, Vice President  
First Coast Service Options  
J9, MAC  
Jacksonville, Florida

October 22, 2010

REGARDING: Minimally Invasive Lumbar Decompression Procedure, (*mild*®)

Dear Dr. Corcoran:

I am writing this letter on behalf of FSIPP to support coverage consideration of the Minimally Invasive Lumbar Decompression Procedure, (*mild*®). Dr. Lora Brown has already provided you with an extensive explanation of the procedure and references as to its efficacy.

Last year, at the FSIPP Annual Meeting, the *mild*® procedure was reviewed and presented in CME format. Because we were so impressed by the data presented regarding its safety and efficacy, many of us have since been trained and credentialed in this technique. Too often, patients symptomatic central spinal stenosis due to hypertrophy of the ligamentum flavum undergo extensive surgical decompression or become so compromised that they cannot perform their usual activities of daily living. These patients are confined to a sedentary life style and or assisted living and deplete our beneficiary fund by repeated hospital admissions and acute care rehabilitation. Dr. Brown has documented that this minimally invasive procedure can provide dramatic results and avoid the morbidities and mortality associated with this incapacitating condition.

The studies on this procedure have also been conducted using the prospective, randomized, placebo-controlled methodology. I do hope you will reconsider your non-coverage policy for this procedure. I firmly believe that supporting this new minimally invasive technique will allow patients access to an effective, minimally invasive alternative to surgery for this common, debilitating condition.

Sincerely,

*Deborah H Tracy MD*

Deborah H. Tracy, MD, MBA  
Medicare, FCSO, CAC, Representative  
FSIPP, President  
Brooksville, FL, Hernando County

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