SurGenTec Publishes Technique Guide for Its Spinal Access Needle

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SurGenTec has published a technical resource guide for surgeons and surgical staff covering the setup, handling, and use of its targeting needle for spinal procedures, alongside the device's labeling and instructions for use.

The guide is written for the people who handle the instrument in practice: attending surgeons, residents and fellows, surgical technologists, and the representatives who support cases. It is organized around the sequence of a procedure rather than around product features, beginning with setup on the back table and moving through positioning, imaging, access, and handoff to the next instrument.

The access step in minimally invasive spine surgery depends on coordination between the surgeon and the imaging team. A targeting needle, typically made up of an outer cannula and an inner stylet, is advanced through a small skin opening toward a bony landmark while fluoroscopy confirms its trajectory in multiple planes. Once position is confirmed, the stylet is removed and a guidewire or other instrument is introduced through the cannula. The guide walks through each of those stages as they apply to the spine target needle, including how the components assemble, how the stylet locks and releases, and which guidewires and downstream instruments are compatible.

A section on imaging addresses practical considerations the surgical team manages together, such as patient positioning on the table, obtaining true anteroposterior and lateral views before advancing, and communicating clearly with the radiology technologist during the case. Radiation exposure to patients and staff is a recognized concern with fluoroscopy-guided procedures, and the guide references established principles for limiting exposure, including shielding, distance, and minimizing fluoroscopy time. It does not claim the device itself reduces exposure.

The guide is explicit about its limits. It supplements the instructions for use and does not replace them. It is not a substitute for training and credentialing in minimally invasive spine technique, and it does not address patient selection, which remains the responsibility of the treating surgeon. SurGenTec is not making claims in

the guide or elsewhere about clinical outcomes, complication rates, operative time, or recovery associated with the device. Those outcomes depend on patient anatomy, pathology, imaging quality, surgical technique, and clinical judgment, and any outcome claim for a medical device requires substantiation through appropriate clinical evidence.

Regulatory status, indications for use, contraindications, warnings, and precautions are covered in the device labeling, which the guide directs readers to review in full before use. Product availability may vary by market.

Sterile processing and operating room staff will find a section on packaging, opening technique, and handling on the sterile field, along with guidance on disposal or reprocessing as specified in the labeling. Those details are often left out of surgeon-facing materials, but they affect how smoothly an instrument fits into a facility's workflow and are frequently raised during value analysis reviews.

The company has also included a troubleshooting section covering situations teams commonly encounter, such as a stylet that does not seat fully after reinsertion, difficulty passing a guidewire through the cannula, and components that appear damaged on opening. In each case, the guidance directs staff to stop, replace the component if its integrity is in question, and report the issue to SurGenTec so it can be documented and reviewed.

The guide will be revised as surgeons and staff provide feedback from clinical use. SurGenTec is also continuing its hands-on training sessions and workshops for surgical teams, which pair the written material with instrument handling under instructor supervision.

Surgeons evaluating the spine target needle for their facility, and staff preparing to support cases, can request the guide, full labeling, and training schedules from the company.

Resource materials and product information are available through the SurGenTec website.

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