

## modern endoscopy for spinal surgery – by baholzer Endoskopie Systeme



## Indications for transforaminal endoscopy

Possible indications for transforaminal endoscopic surgery:

### a) Herniated disc

- Contained herniation
- Extruded disc herniation
- Recurrent disc herniation

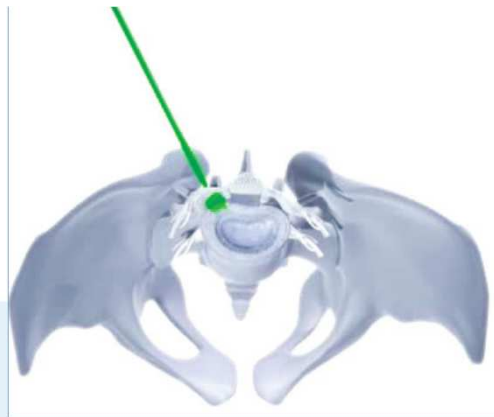
### b) Foraminal or lateral recess stenosis

- Facet hypertrophy
- Ligamentum flavum hypertrophy
- Facet cysts

### c) Spondylodiscitis

## Access / Axial imaging

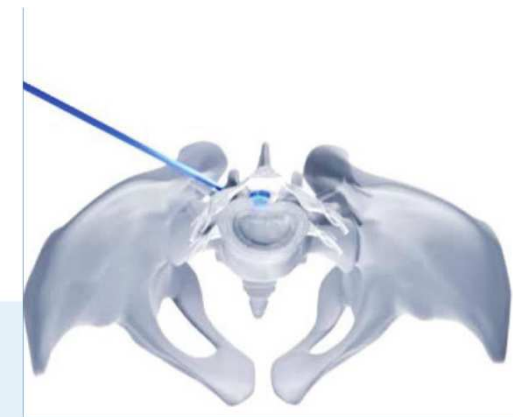
3 Possibilities based on pathology



Extraforaminal



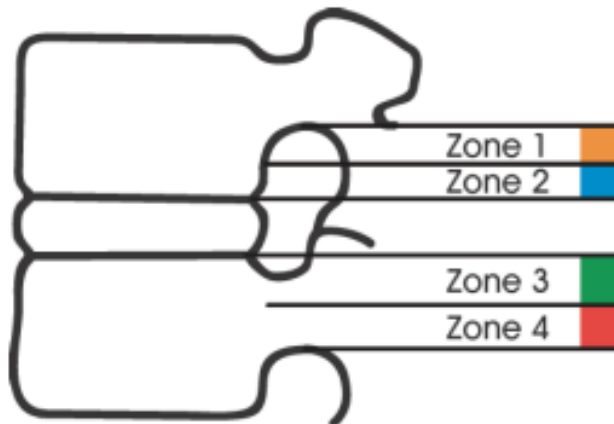
Intraforaminal



Mediolateral entry

## Classification of disc migration in four zones

Zone	Direction	Range of distance
Zone 1	Far-upward	From the inferior margin of the upper pedicle to 3mm below of the inferior margin of the upper pedicle
Zone 2	Near-upward	From 3mm below the inferior margin of the upper pedicle to the inferior margin of upper vertebral body
Zone 3	Near-downward	From the superior margin of the lower vertebral body to the centre of lower pedicle
Zone 4	Far-downward	From the centre of lower pedicle of lower vertebral body to the inferior margin of lower pedicle



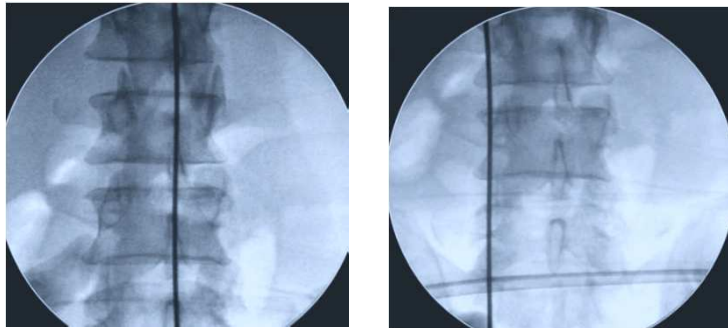
(Scheme 1): Radiological classification of migrated disc herniation according to Lee et al. (1).



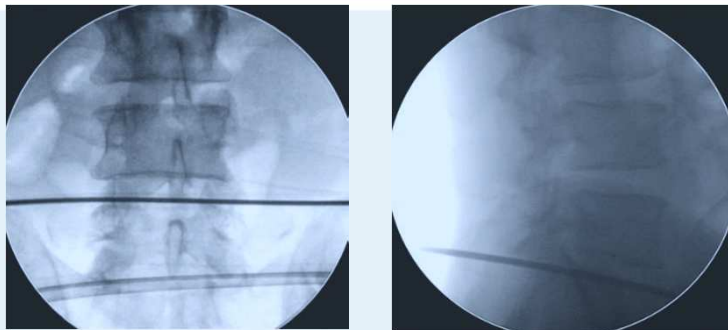
## Prone Position



## Entry mark



Median and lateral interpedicular line



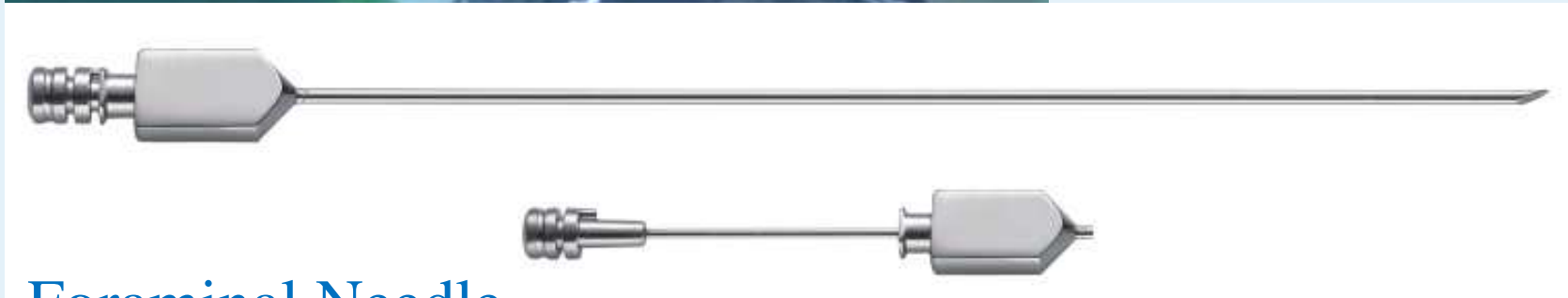
Marked on both AP and lateral X-Ray view

AND  
should be drawn on skin



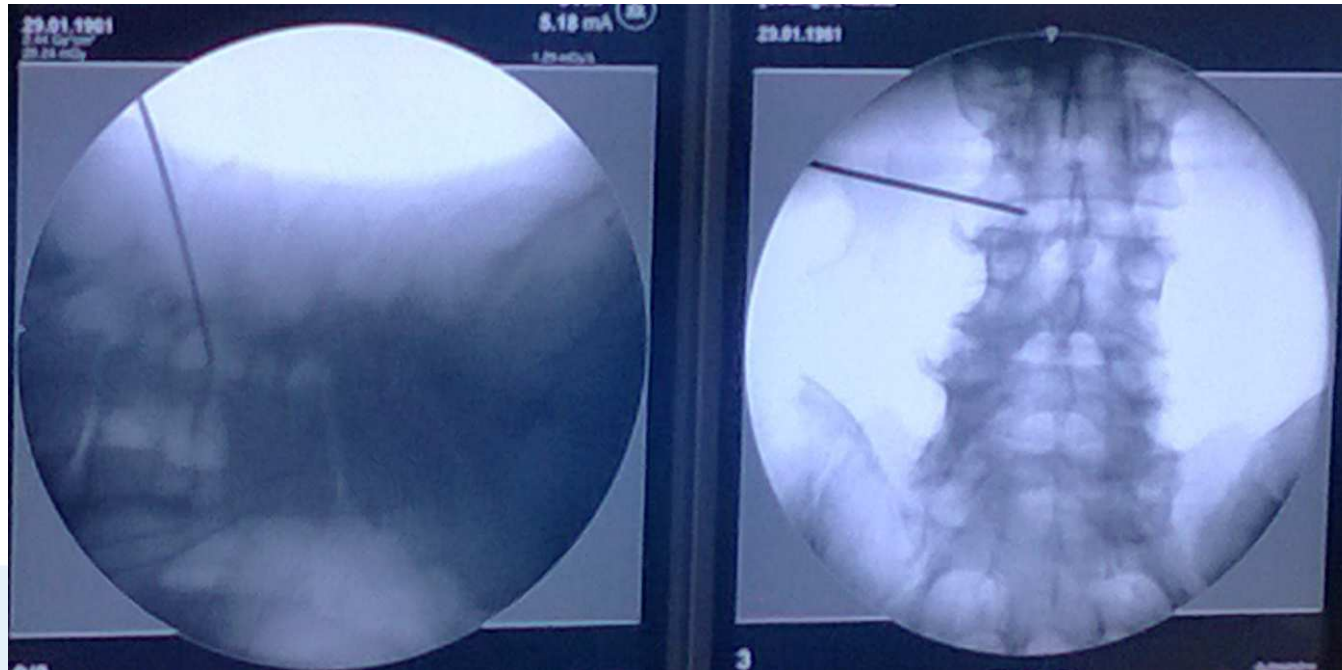


## Incision via Spinal needle



Foraminal Needle

## Placement of guide wire



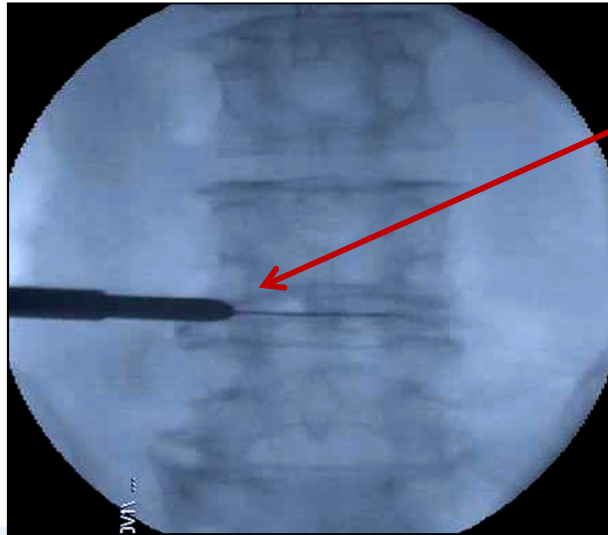
Round Tip /  
Atraumatic



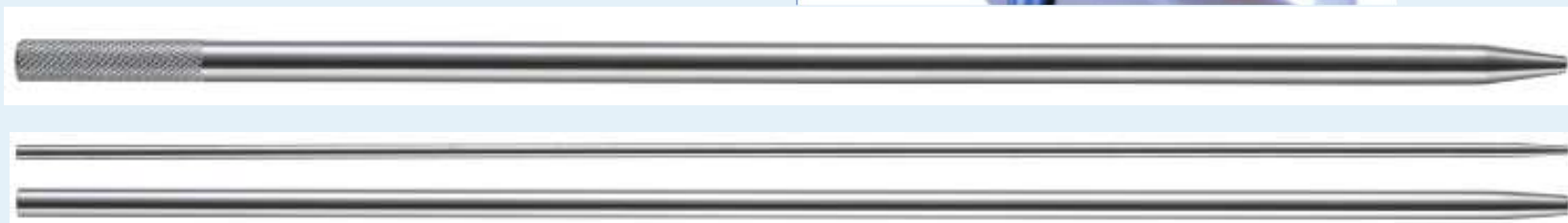
Guide Wire – made of memory metal, highly flexible to avoid unwanted puncture of nerves / etc.



## Placement of a dilator / or 2 dilators on sequence



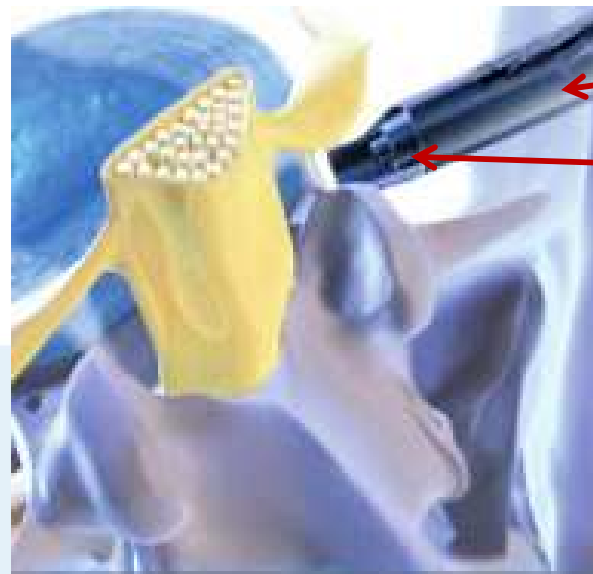
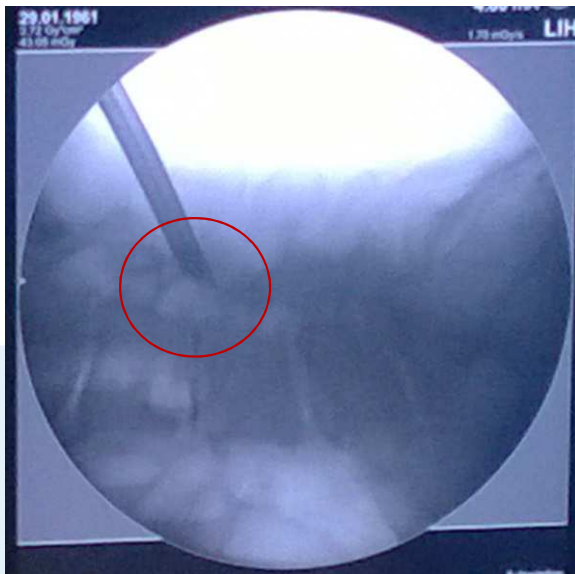
Dilator follows guide wire



## Placement of working sheath

I.e. beaked working sheath (WS)

- Placing the WS with beak facing the dorsal aspect of the facet.



sheath

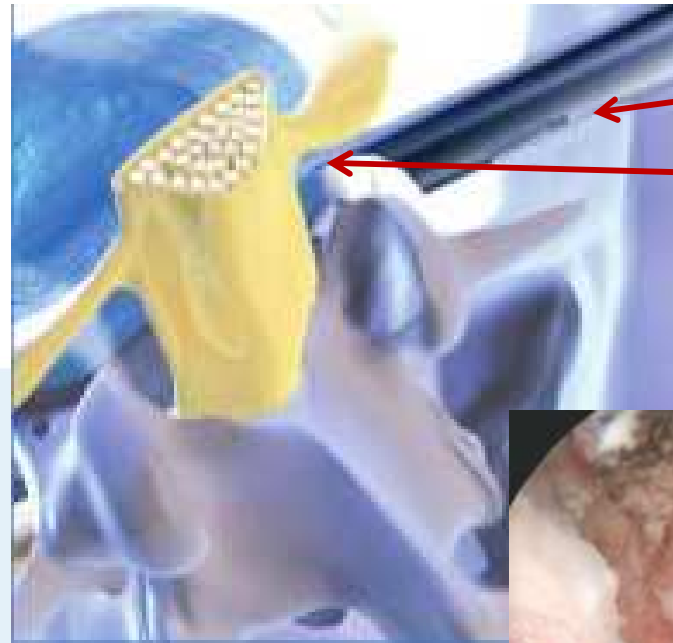
sequential  
dilator

△ Next step / turn the sheath gently to retract the exiting nerve  
Root – **protect the nerve root with the sheath's beak**

## Placement of working sheath

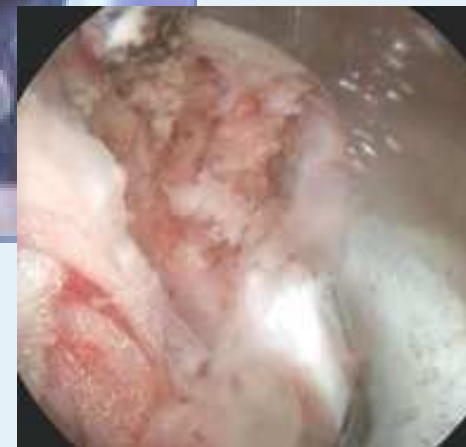
Next step / turn the sheath gently to retract the exiting nerve

Root – protect the nerve root with the sheath's beak



sheath

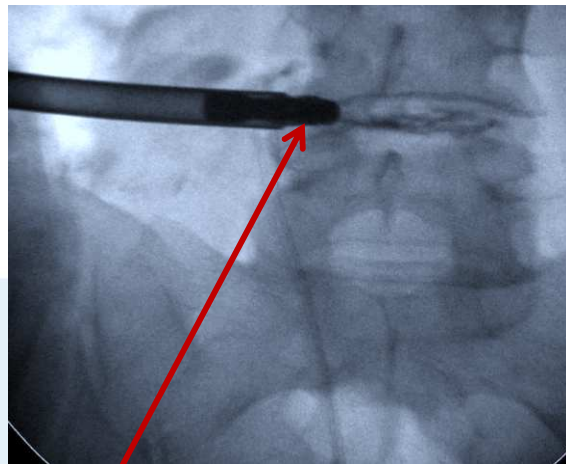
Beaked tip  
Nerve root  
protection



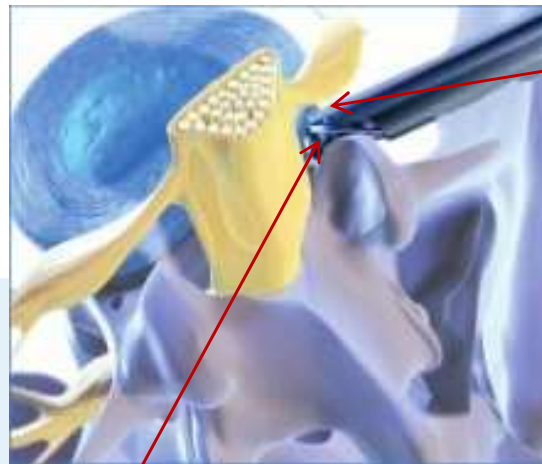
Endoscopic view

## Spinal decompression / Foraminoplasty

After the sheath tip protects the nerve root the **side cutting facet rasps** with a safety blunt tip allow to widen the access to the foramen and spinal canal-



Rasp



Beaked tip  
Nerve root  
protection



Rasp

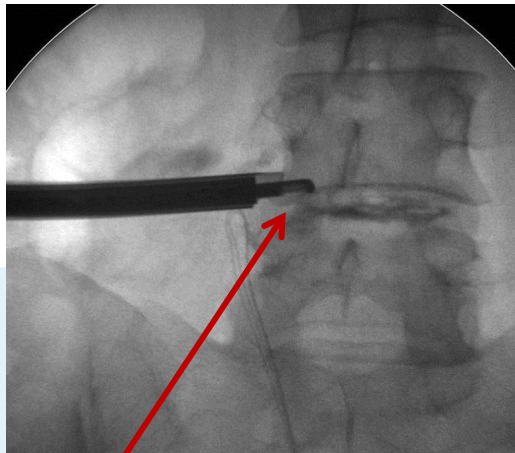


Endoscopic view facet rasp



## Spinal decompression / Foraminoplasty

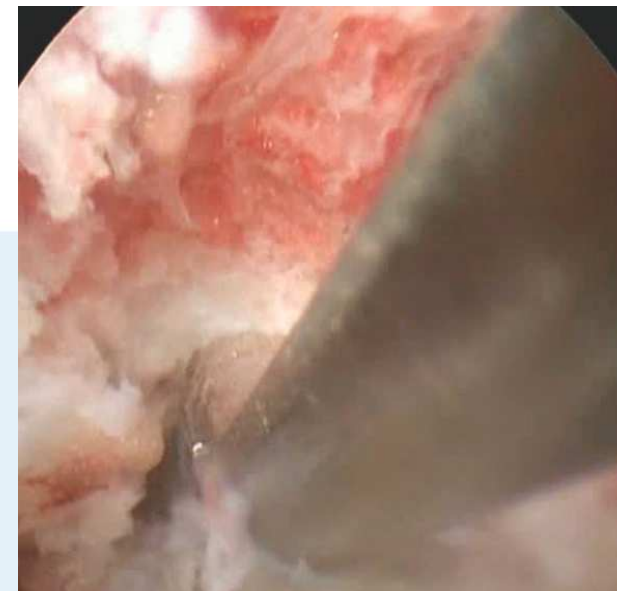
If necessary the foraminoplasty can be further expanded by use of a **side cutting endoscopic Kerrison punch**, introduced through the central working channel of the endoscope.



Kerrison  
Punch



Kerrison  
Punch

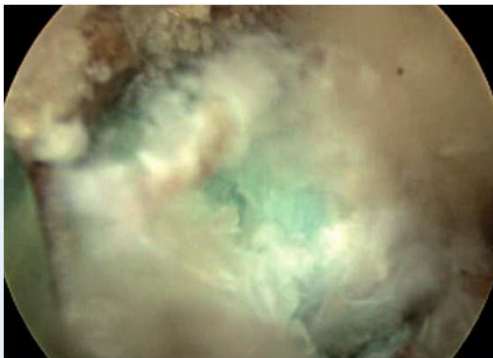


Endoscopic view Kerrison



## Disc decompression

The combination of these manoeuvres allows for safe bony decompression and exposure of any migrated disc material and/or relevant stenotic lesion in the lateral recess under endoscopic visualisation.



Extraforaminal  
Sequestrum



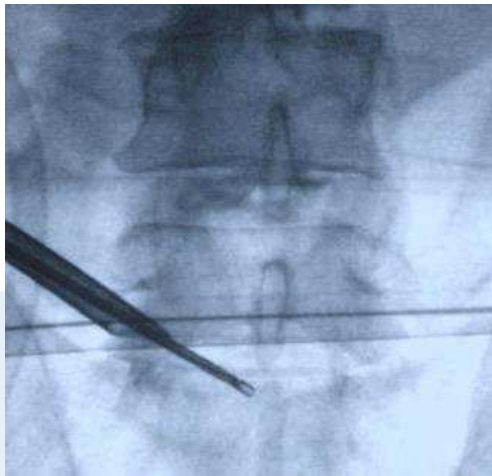
Medial Hernia



Caudal  
Sequestrum

## Disc decompression

Now, still under endoscopic view, extruded disc material can be removed and/or neural structures can be further decompressed with a variety of rongeurs and grasping forceps .



Rongeur



Forceps



Rongeur  
Endoscopic view

## Disc decompression

Variation of Instruments all with overload protection.



Cutting and Grasping  
in one step



Sharp Rongeurs



Disc Punch  
in **side cutting**

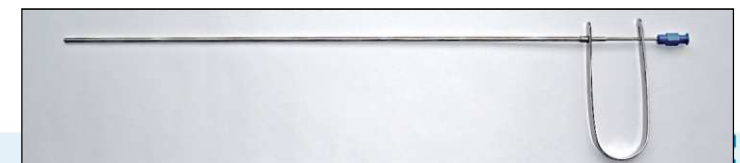
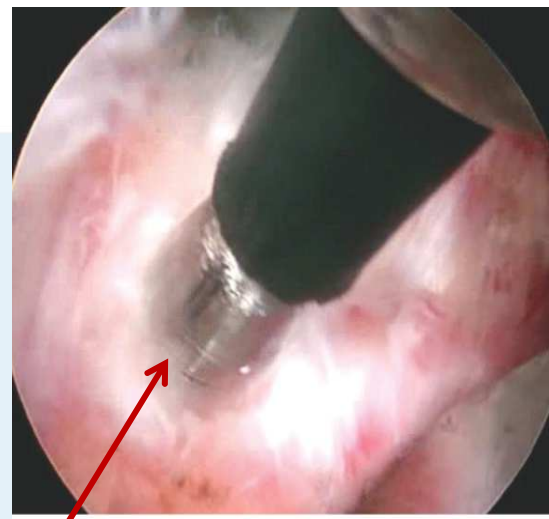
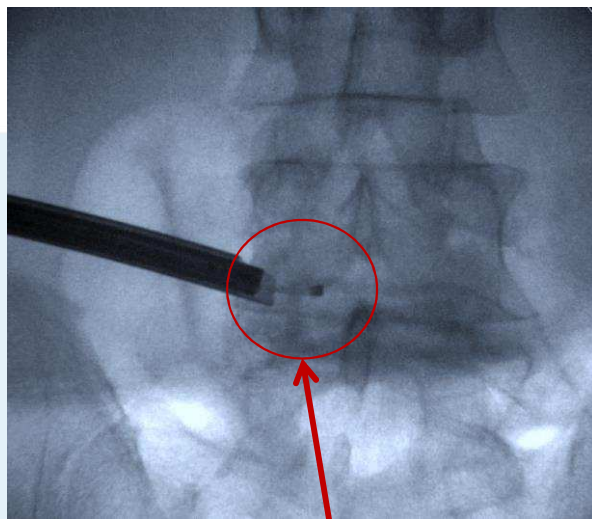
The **side cutting** concept avoid unwanted injuries special during the access preperation.

Increased control – better outcome.



## Disc decompression

In the **final stage** of the procedure, the decompression is assessed with an **articulated palpation-/irrigation-probe** and the neural structures are examined. In addition, this probe is useful for lysis of adhesion and to flush out any far-migrated or scattered disc fragments.

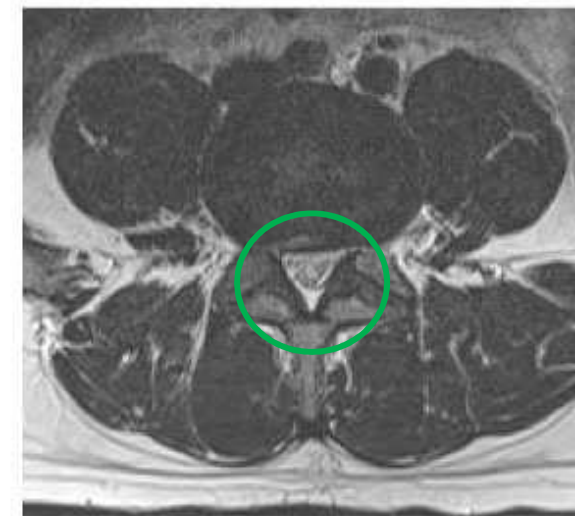
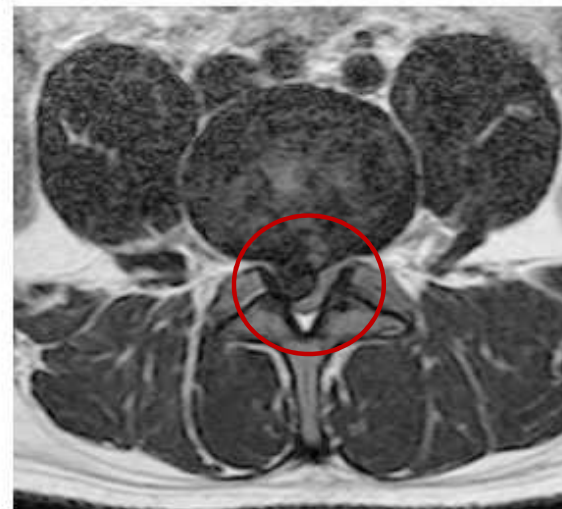


Palpation and Irrigation Probe

## Results

Discmaterial removed

Hugh Fragements



## Approaches

Transforaminal decompression – as described

also

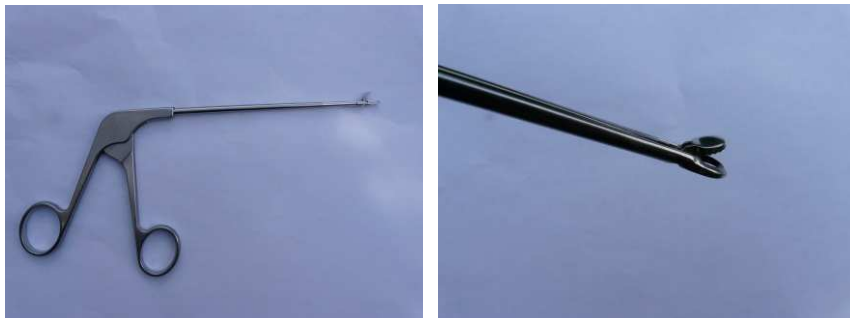
**Interlaminar decompression** is with this system possible

Similarly to the micro-surgical technique, the **interlaminary window** is used for a clearly reduced mid-line incision for the access to the vertebral canal. The baholzer system allow a safe and controlled opening of the ligamentum flavum. Once the working sheath is safely placed in the spinal canal with conservation of the neural structures, intervertebral disc material or bony alterations can be withdrawn.



## Arthroscopy / full range

Baholzer offers also a full range of innovative products in Arthroscopy. Some Highlights:



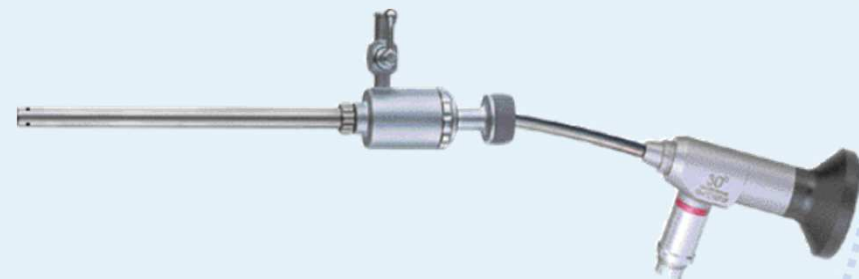
Variation of Instruments without pin at the jaw



Shaver blades for all Major Shaver



Safety  
Trocars /  
protection of  
endoscope



Flexline Endoscopes –  
**rigid and flexible in one scope**