

Surgery To Remove Hardware

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Your health care provider will remove the plates, rods, wires or screws (hardware) that were used during your spinal fusion. This hardware helps support the area until new bone can grow and fuse. Over time, the hardware can loosen and cause discomfort.

About Surgery

After making a cut (incision) in the area of your spinal fusion, your surgeon will remove some or all of the plates, rods or screws and check your fusion.

Your surgeon may replace some hardware with bone. This bone may be taken from you, a bone bank or both. You may have new hardware placed with this bone.

After Your Surgery

You will likely go home on the day of surgery but may need to stay longer.

See your “Understanding Spine Surgery” book for more details on caring for yourself at home and medicines to take to relieve pain.

Whom to Call With Questions

Talk with your health care team if you have any questions or concerns.