
From: jeffrey E. <jeevacation@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 16, 2014 2:10 PM
To: Richard Merkin
Subject: Re:

the claudication when walking after 5 blocks starts.=C2 and I have to bend over to relieve. when i sit im =erfect but... im concerced that if i wait to long . if the nerves get shot=, too late.. . they said that that l4 is a bit too forward and to scr=w it to l5 . neurologist tests all negative. =but when they looked at the stenosis, they said only a matter of tim=, and no medicince to delay?

On Thu, Oct 16, 2014 at 10:06 AM, Richard Merkin <rm=rkin@ca.rr.com <mailto:rmerkin@ca.rr.com> > wrote:

Sorry for the delay. I spoke t= both UCLA and Keck school of medicine. Both, of course would love to see =ou, but I am sure that is not necessary[I could set up neurosurgical consu=ts in Boston or Johns Hopkins just as well]. There is no extrusion and wit= bulging discs there certainly is the opportunity with therapy to co=trol the symptoms. For disc issues with, if you can manage the pain, the r=sults six months later do not show any advantage of surgery. For the steno=is that is a different issue. Unfortunately many surgeons[most] operate by=the MRI and not by the signs and symptoms of the patient. Have you seen a =eurolgist? Have you gotten an EMG and a nerve conduction study? These tes=s will help decide if you would or should have surgery today or can delay =s long as possible[maybe forever]. If you do decide to go to the next step=and want me to, I will come and accompany you to your physician. Hope you&=39;re feeling better!

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