



AO Spine NA Course - Principles and Treatment in Spinal Disorders

 May 29, 2026 - May 30, 2026
La Jolla, California, USA

AO Spine North America Principles courses are intended to address the additional training needs and practice gaps of the orthopaedic and neurological spine residents. This course is designed to offer residents the opportunity to learn the AO principles of anatomic reduction of fracture fragments; stable fixation to ensure proper healing while allowing the surrounding tissue to strengthen; atraumatic surgical technique to preserve the blood supply to the bone fragments and soft tissue; and early, pain-free mobilization so the patient can be returned to function as soon as possible as they apply to spinal surgery. The course will also provide basic exposure to spinal disorders from expert teaching faculty from both orthopaedic and neurological spine surgery.

The modular course format will focus on the spine patient in a conceptual, case study and practical exercise format. Participants in small groups will rotate through each module over the 2-day period.

TARGET AUDIENCE

Enrollment in the Course is limited to orthopaedic and neurological surgery residents.

Method of payment is required at time of registration for late cancellation / no-show fee



Event Summary

Tuition:

Level Name: Participant - Spine
Pricing Tier: Resident
Tuition: \$0.00

Course Prerequisite(s):

No Prerequisites

Venue:

Hyatt Regency La Jolla
3777 La Jolla Village Drive
San Diego, CA, USA
Phone Number: 858-552-1234
lajolla.hyatt.com

Language(s):

English

Directly Provided by:



Professional Level Prerequisite(s):

- Residency Year 1
- Residency Year 2
- Residency Year 3
- Residency Year 4
- Residency Year 5
- Residency Year 6
- Residency Year 7
- Residency Year 8
- Fellow

CME

Continuing Education Credit: 13.00



- AO North America is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

Designation Statement - AO North America designates this live educational activity for a maximum of 13.00 **AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™**. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

The Continuing Medical Education (CME) mission of AO North America (AONA®) is to provide comprehensive multidisciplinary needs based education to surgeons, fellows, and residents in the specialties of orthopedic, hand, craniomaxillofacial, spine, neurosurgery, and veterinary surgery in the areas of trauma (i.e., operative reduction and fixation), degenerative disorders, deformities, tumors, and reconstruction.

Expected results of AONA's CME activities for surgeons, fellows, and residents are to:

- Increase their knowledge base and surgical skill level
- Improve competence by applying advances of knowledge in patient care in the areas of trauma, degenerative disorders, deformities, tumors, and reconstructive surgical techniques
- Address practice performance gaps by improving management of aspects of traumatic injuries and musculoskeletal disorders (i.e., pre-operative planning to post-operative care)

Learning Objectives

Upon completion, participants should be able to:

- Perform a complete neurological assessment and identify potentially unstable spinal injuries
- Order appropriate imaging
- Classify the injury according to fracture morphology, instability, and neurological status
- Describe the best operative and non-operative treatment option for each patient based upon the available evidence
- Reduce / Decompress / Stabilize appropriately
- Demonstrate basic knowledge of the principles of bone and soft tissue healing
- Identify the anatomic and biomechanical issues in a spinal fixation
- Collaborate in the rehabilitation plan for the patient
- Identify and manage post-injury and post-operative complications
- Apply psychomotor skills developed during practical exercises into surgical practice

Agenda

Day 1

Friday, May 29, 2026 - 08:00 - 16:30 - (includes breaks, travel-time and meals)

Schedule	Title	Moderator	Faculty	Room
08:00 - 08:30	Welcome / Course Objectives / AO Spine / Pre-Assessment			
08:30 - 08:40	Travel to Modules			
08:40 - 10:10	MODULE A: CERVICAL TRAUMA			
08:40 - 10:10	MODULE A: CERVICAL TRAUMA - Case 1: OC-C1 Dislocation			
08:40 - 10:10	MODULE A: CERVICAL TRAUMA - Case 2: C2 Fracture (Odontoid)			
08:40 - 10:10	MODULE A; CERVICAL TRAUMA - Case 3: Cervical Facet Dislocation			
08:40 - 10:10	MODULE B: ADULT DEFORMITY			
08:40 - 10:10	MODULE B: ADULT DEFORMITY - Case 1: Adult Deformity Principles			
08:40 - 10:10	MODULE B: ADULT DEFORMITY - Case 2: Thoracolumbar Kyphosis			
08:40 - 10:10	MODULE B: ADULT DEFORMITY - Case 3: Degenerative Scoliosis with Back and Leg Pain			
08:40 - 10:10	MODULE C: THORACOLUMBAR TRAUMA			
08:40 - 10:10	MODULE C: THORACOLUMBAR TRAUMA - Case 1: T12 B2 Injury without Deficit			
08:40 - 10:10	MODULE C: THORACOLUMBAR TRAUMA - Case 2: L1 A3 Injury with Conus Medullaris Syndrome			
08:40 - 10:10	MODULE C: THORACOLUMBAR TRAUMA - Case 3: T6 C2 Injury			
08:40 - 10:10	MODULE D: CERVICAL SPINE LAB			
08:40 - 10:10	MODULE D: CERVICAL SPINE LAB - A. Cervical Lateral Mass Screws			
08:40 - 10:10	MODULE D: CERVICAL SPINE LAB - B. C2 Pedicle Screws			
08:40 - 10:10	MODULE D: CERVICAL SPINE LAB - C. C1 Lateral Mass Screws			
10:10 - 10:30	Coffee Break / Travel to Modules			
10:30 - 12:00	MODULE A: CERVICAL TRAUMA			
10:30 - 12:00	MODULE A: CERVICAL TRAUMA - Case 1: OC-C1 Dislocation			
10:30 - 12:00	MODULE A: CERVICAL TRAUMA - Case 2: C2 Fracture (Odontoid)			
10:30 - 12:00	MODULE A; CERVICAL TRAUMA - Case 3: Cervical Facet Dislocation			
10:30 - 12:00	MODULE B: ADULT DEFORMITY			
10:30 - 12:00	MODULE B: ADULT DEFORMITY - Case 1: Adult Deformity Principles			
10:30 - 12:00	MODULE B: ADULT DEFORMITY - Case 2: Thoracolumbar Kyphosis			
10:30 - 12:00	MODULE B: ADULT DEFORMITY - Case 3: Degenerative Scoliosis with Back and Leg Pain			
10:30 - 12:00	MODULE C: THORACOLUMBAR TRAUMA			
10:30 - 12:00	MODULE C: THORACOLUMBAR TRAUMA - Case 1: T12 B2 Injury without Deficit			

10:30 - 12:00	MODULE C: THORACOLUMBAR TRAUMA - Case 2: L1 A3 Injury with Conus Medullaris Syndrome
10:30 - 12:00	MODULE C: THORACOLUMBAR TRAUMA - Case 3: T6 C2 Injury
10:30 - 12:00	MODULE D: CERVICAL SPINE LAB
10:30 - 12:00	MODULE D: CERVICAL SPINE LAB - A. Cervical Lateral Mass Screws
10:30 - 12:00	MODULE D: CERVICAL SPINE LAB - B. C2 Pedicle Screws
10:30 - 12:00	MODULE D: CERVICAL SPINE LAB - C. C1 Lateral Mass Screws
12:00 - 12:30	Lunch
12:30 - 13:00	Lunch Lecture: Topic TBD
13:00 - 13:10	Travel to Modules
13:10 - 14:40	MODULE A: CERVICAL TRAUMA
13:10 - 14:40	MODULE A: CERVICAL TRAUMA - Case 1: OC-C1 Dislocation
13:10 - 14:40	MODULE A: CERVICAL TRAUMA - Case 2: C2 Fracture (Odontoid)
13:10 - 14:40	MODULE A; CERVICAL TRAUMA - Case 3: Cervical Facet Dislocation
13:10 - 14:40	MODULE B: ADULT DEFORMITY
13:10 - 14:40	MODULE B: ADULT DEFORMITY - Case 1: Adult Deformity Principles
13:10 - 14:40	MODULE B: ADULT DEFORMITY - Case 2: Thoracolumbar Kyphosis
13:10 - 14:40	MODULE B: ADULT DEFORMITY- Case 3: Degenerative Scoliosis with Back and Leg Pain
13:10 - 14:40	MODULE C: THORACOLUMBAR TRAUMA
13:10 - 14:40	MODULE C: THORACOLUMBAR TRAUMA - Case 1: T12 B2 Injury without Deficit
13:10 - 14:40	MODULE C: THORACOLUMBAR TRAUMA - Case 2: L1 A3 Injury with Conus Medullaris Syndrome
13:10 - 14:40	MODULE C: THORACOLUMBAR TRAUMA - Case 3: T6 C2 Injury
13:10 - 14:40	MODULE D: CERVICAL SPINE LAB
13:10 - 14:40	MODULE D: CERVICAL SPINE LAB - A. Cervical Lateral Mass Screws
13:10 - 14:40	MODULE D: CERVICAL SPINE LAB - B. C2 Pedicle Screws
13:10 - 14:40	MODULE D: CERVICAL SPINE LAB - C. C1 Lateral Mass Screws
14:40 - 15:00	Coffee Break / Travel to Modules
15:00 - 16:30	MODULE A: CERVICAL TRAUMA
15:00 - 16:30	MODULE A: CERVICAL TRAUMA - Case 1: OC-C1 Dislocation
15:00 - 16:30	MODULE A: CERVICAL TRAUMA - Case 2: C2 Fracture (Odontoid)
15:00 - 16:30	MODULE A; CERVICAL TRAUMA - Case 3: Cervical Facet Dislocation
15:00 - 16:30	MODULE B: ADULT DEFORMITY
15:00 - 16:30	MODULE B: ADULT DEFORMITY - Case 1: Adult Deformity Principles
15:00 - 16:30	MODULE B: ADULT DEFORMITY - Case 2: Thoracolumbar Kyphosis

15:00 - 16:30	MODULE B: ADULT DEFORMITY - Case 3: Degenerative Scoliosis with Back and Leg Pain
15:00 - 16:30	MODULE C: THORACOLUMBAR TRAUMA
15:00 - 16:30	MODULE C: THORACOLUMBAR TRAUMA - Case 1: T12 B2 Injury without Deficit
15:00 - 16:30	MODULE C: THORACOLUMBAR TRAUMA - Case 2: L1 A3 Injury with Conus Medullaris Syndrome
15:00 - 16:30	MODULE C: THORACOLUMBAR TRAUMA - Case 3: T6 C2 Injury
15:00 - 16:30	MODULE D: CERVICAL SPINE LAB
15:00 - 16:30	MODULE D: CERVICAL SPINE LAB - A. Cervical Lateral Mass Screws
15:00 - 16:30	MODULE D: CERVICAL SPINE LAB - B. C2 Pedicle Screws
15:00 - 16:30	MODULE D: CERVICAL SPINE LAB - C. C1 Lateral Mass Screws

Day 2

Saturday, May 30, 2026 - 07:30 - 14:10 - (includes breaks, travel-time and meals)

Schedule	Title	Moderator	Faculty	Room
07:30 - 08:55	MODULE A: LUMBAR DEGENERATIVE DISEASE			
07:30 - 08:55	MODULE A: LUMBAR DEGENERATIVE DISEASE - Case 1: L4 Disk Herniation			
07:30 - 08:55	MODULE A: LUMBAR DEGENERATIVE DISEASE - Case 2: Lumbar Spinal Stenosis			
07:30 - 08:55	MODULE A: LUMBAR DEGENERATIVE DISEASE - Case 3: Degenerative and Isthmic Spondylolisthesis			
07:30 - 08:55	MODULE B: CERVICAL DEGENERATIVE DISEASE			
07:30 - 08:55	MODULE B: CERVICAL DEGENERATIVE DISEASE - Case 1: C5/6 Disk Herniation with Radiculopathy (anterior and posterior options)			
07:30 - 08:55	MODULE B: CERVICAL DEGENERATIVE DISEASE - Case 2: Cervical Stenosis with Myeloradiculopathy			
07:30 - 08:55	MODULE B: CERVICAL DEGENERATIVE DISEASE - Case 3: Multilevel Cervical Stenosis with Myelopathy and Kyphosis			
07:30 - 08:55	MODULE C: TUMOR / INFECTION			
07:30 - 08:55	MODULE C: TUMOR / INFECTION - Case 1: Hematogenous Osteomyelitis			
07:30 - 08:55	MODULE C: TUMOR / INFECTION - Case 2: Metastatic Tumor			
07:30 - 08:55	MODULE C: TUMOR / INFECTION - Case 3: Primary Tumor			
07:30 - 08:55	MODULE D: LUMBAR SPINE LAB			
07:30 - 08:55	MODULE D: LUMBAR SPINE LAB - A. Lumbar Pedicle Screws			
07:30 - 08:55	MODULE D: LUMBAR SPINE LAB - B. Thoracic Pedicle Screws			
07:30 - 08:55	MODULE D: LUMBAR SPINE LAB - C. Pelvic Fixation			
08:55 - 09:05	Travel to Modules			
09:05 - 10:30	MODULE A: LUMBAR DEGENERATIVE DISEASE			
09:05 - 10:30	MODULE A: LUMBAR DEGENERATIVE DISEASE - Case 1: L4 Disk Herniation			
09:05 - 10:30	MODULE A: LUMBAR DEGENERATIVE DISEASE - Case 2: Lumbar Spinal Stenosis			

09:05 - 10:30	MODULE A: LUMBAR DEGENERATIVE DISEASE - Case 3: Degenerative and Isthmic Spondylolisthesis
09:05 - 10:30	MODULE B: CERVICAL DEGENERATIVE DISEASE
09:05 - 10:30	MODULE B: CERVICAL DEGENERATIVE DISEASE - Case 1: C5/6 Disk Herniation with Radiculopathy (anterior and posterior options)
09:05 - 10:30	MODULE B: CERVICAL DEGENERATIVE DISEASE - Case 2: Cervical Stenosis with Myeloradiculopathy
09:05 - 10:30	MODULE B: CERVICAL DEGENERATIVE DISEASE - Case 3: Multilevel Cervical Stenosis with Myelopathy and Kyphosis
09:05 - 10:30	MODULE C: TUMOR / INFECTION
09:05 - 10:30	MODULE C: TUMOR / INFECTION - Case 1: Hematogenous Osteomyelitis
09:05 - 10:30	MODULE C: TUMOR / INFECTION - Case 2: Metastatic Tumor
09:05 - 10:30	MODULE C: TUMOR / INFECTION - Case 3: Primary Tumor
09:05 - 10:30	MODULE D: LUMBAR SPINE LAB
09:05 - 10:30	MODULE D: LUMBAR SPINE LAB - A. Lumbar Pedicle Screws
09:05 - 10:30	MODULE D: LUMBAR SPINE LAB - B. Thoracic Pedicle Screws
09:05 - 10:30	MODULE D: LUMBAR SPINE LAB - C. Pelvic Fixation
10:30 - 10:50	Coffee Break / Travel to Modules
10:50 - 12:15	MODULE A: LUMBAR DEGENERATIVE DISEASE (with lunch)
10:50 - 12:15	MODULE A: LUMBAR DEGENERATIVE DISEASE - Case 1: L4 Disk Herniation
10:50 - 12:15	MODULE A: LUMBAR DEGENERATIVE DISEASE - Case 2: Lumbar Spinal Stenosis
10:50 - 12:15	MODULE A: LUMBAR DEGENERATIVE DISEASE - Case 3: Degenerative and Isthmic Spondylolisthesis
10:50 - 12:15	MODULE B: CERVICAL DEGENERATIVE DISEASE (with lunch)
10:50 - 12:15	MODULE B: CERVICAL DEGENERATIVE DISEASE - Case 1: C5/6 Disk Herniation with Radiculopathy (anterior and posterior options)
10:50 - 12:15	MODULE B: CERVICAL DEGENERATIVE DISEASE - Case 2: Cervical Stenosis with Myeloradiculopathy
10:50 - 12:15	MODULE B: CERVICAL DEGENERATIVE DISEASE - Case 3: Multilevel Cervical Stenosis with Myelopathy and Kyphosis
10:50 - 12:15	MODULE C: TUMOR / INFECTION (with lunch)
10:50 - 12:15	MODULE C: TUMOR / INFECTION - Case 1: Hematogenous Osteomyelitis
10:50 - 12:15	MODULE C: TUMOR / INFECTION - Case 2: Metastatic Tumor
10:50 - 12:15	MODULE C: TUMOR / INFECTION - Case 3: Primary Tumor
10:50 - 12:15	MODULE D: LUMBAR SPINE LAB (with lunch)
10:50 - 12:15	MODULE D: LUMBAR SPINE LAB - A. Lumbar Pedicle Screws
10:50 - 12:15	MODULE D: LUMBAR SPINE LAB - B. Thoracic Pedicle Screws
10:50 - 12:15	MODULE D: LUMBAR SPINE LAB - C. Pelvic Fixation
12:15 - 12:25	Pick up Lunch/Travel to modules

12:25 - 13:50	MODULE A: LUMBAR DEGENERATIVE DISEASE
12:25 - 13:50	MODULE A: LUMBAR DEGENERATIVE DISEASE - Case 1: L4 Disk Herniation
12:25 - 13:50	MODULE A: LUMBAR DEGENERATIVE DISEASE - Case 2: Lumbar Spinal Stenosis
12:25 - 13:50	MODULE A: LUMBAR DEGENERATIVE DISEASE - Case 3: Degenerative and Isthmic Spondylolisthesis
12:25 - 13:50	MODULE B: CERVICAL DEGENERATIVE DISEASE
12:25 - 13:50	MODULE B: CERVICAL DEGENERATIVE DISEASE - Case 1: C5/6 Disk Herniation with Radiculopathy (anterior and posterior options)
12:25 - 13:50	MODULE B: CERVICAL DEGENERATIVE DISEASE - Case 2: Cervical Stenosis with Myeloradiculopathy
12:25 - 13:50	MODULE B: CERVICAL DEGENERATIVE DISEASE - Case 3: Multilevel Cervical Stenosis with Myelopathy and Kyphosis
12:25 - 13:50	MODULE C: TUMOR / INFECTION
12:25 - 13:50	MODULE C: TUMOR / INFECTION - Case 1: Hematogenous Osteomyelitis
12:25 - 13:50	MODULE C: TUMOR / INFECTION - Case 2: Metastatic Tumor
12:25 - 13:50	MODULE C: TUMOR / INFECTION - Case 3: Primary Tumor
12:25 - 13:50	MODULE D: LUMBAR SPINE LAB
12:25 - 13:50	MODULE D: LUMBAR SPINE LAB - A. Lumbar Pedicle Screws
12:25 - 13:50	MODULE D: LUMBAR SPINE LAB - B. Thoracic Pedicle Screws
12:25 - 13:50	MODULE D: LUMBAR SPINE LAB - C. Pelvic Fixation
13:50 - 14:10	Post Assessment Test / Closing Remarks

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