

Criteria for Vertebroplasty
Gulf Coast Medical Center

Vertebroplasties should be performed using the team approach, with team approach being defined as the neurosurgeon or orthopedic surgeon with spine fellowship training and the interventionalist working together as co-consultants and co-interventionalists. Any licensed staff member can refer procedures but will co-consult in all cases. The procedure will normally be performed with the team approach but the presence of both physicians trained and approved for the procedure, i.e., the interventionalist and the neurosurgeon or orthopedic surgeon with spine fellowship training in the OR or interventional suite at the same time is not required. However, if the neurosurgeon or orthopedic surgeon is not present during the procedure, he should be on standby to assist if needed. The neurosurgeon or orthopedic surgeon would have to agree to admit the patient, should it become necessary. The admitting surgeon would be responsible for the H&P and any follow-up orders.

Approved by Department of Radiology, Dr. Douglas Stringer, and the Credentials Committee in September 2000.