



## Expandable PEEK interbody spacer failure. Case report.

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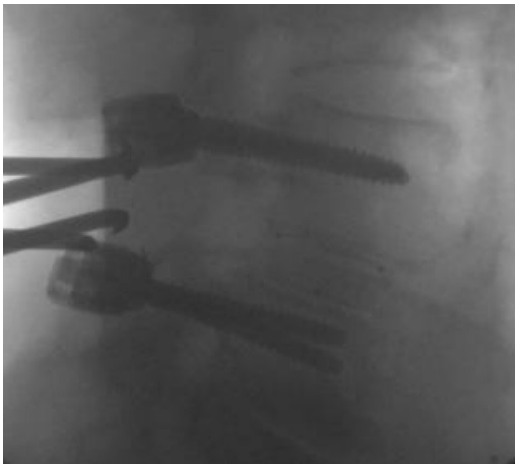
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#### Introduction

Expandable interbody spacers are part of a relatively new surgical devices, we present the second case reported in the literature of an expandable PEEK interbody spacer.

Figure 1



Intraoperative fluoroscopy demonstrating insertion of PEEK interbody spacer (arrow) via TLIF approach after bilateral L4 and L5 pedicle screw fixation (arrowheads).

#### Methods

63 year-old male with grade 1 spondylolisthesis at L4-L5 and a large herniated intervertebral disc at the same level causing severe spinal canal stenosis, who underwent decompression with bilateral non-segmental pedicle screw fixation and placement of an expandable PEEK intervertebral device through a TLIF approach

#### Results

Postoperative imaging (18 months follow-up) evidenced dislodged screw caps and sheared interbody device, leading to revision surgery with removal of spinal hardware and instrumentation with new screw-rod construct and PEEK / titanium interbody device through the approach previously used. Clinical and neurological status has remained unremarkable to date.

#### Conclusions

Cage migration is a potential complication. This is the second case report of expandable cage failure. We believe that hardware fatigue predisposed the sheared dislodgement of the interbody spacer.

#### Learning Objectives

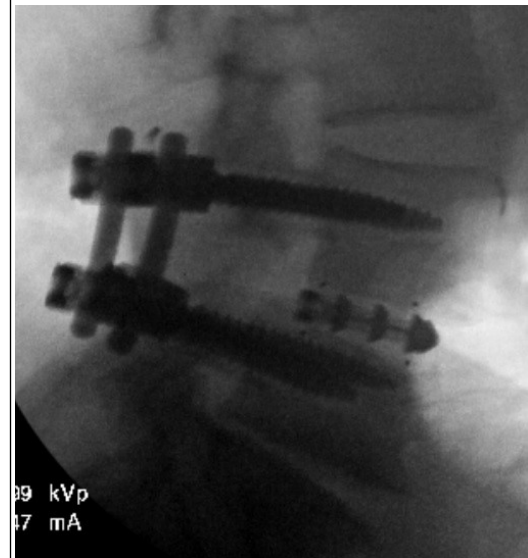
The authors present and analyze a case report of a patient with hardware failure of an expandable PEEK interbody spacer.

Figure 2



Computed tomography axial (a-c) and coronal (d) cuts of L4-5, demonstrating migrated, subsided, dislodged and sheared PEEK interbody spacer (arrows)

Figure 3



Intraoperative fluoroscopy demonstrating insertion of new PEEK interbody spacer (arrow) via TLIF approach after bilateral L4 and L5 pedicle screw fixation (arrowheads).