

Chinweike Izeogu, MD

Interventional Pain Physician | Minimally Invasive Lumbar Spine Fusion and Endoscopic Spine Surgeon | Medical Director

(973) 233-7155 | yufora@gmail.com | Licensure: NY, NJ, MD, AZ

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

American-trained, board-certified Interventional Pain Physician and Minimally Invasive Endoscopic Spine Surgeon with 19+ years of experience across hospital systems, ambulatory centers, payers, and courts. Builds and leads high-value spine and pain programs; performs advanced image-guided interventions and endoscopic lumbar discectomy. Deeply experienced in IME/peer review, impairment and permanency evaluation under AMA Guides, and expert testimony — producing guideline-anchored, litigation-ready reports for insurers and law firms. Verified expert witness in CRPS cases. Credentialed IRO Physician Reviewer with FHAS since June 2023.

PRACTICE LANES

- Hospitals & Health Networks — Interventional pain and endoscopic spine service line development; opioid stewardship; mid-level provider mentorship; clinical policy authorship.
- Insurers & TPAs — Evidence-based IME and peer review; utilization management; fraud, waste, and abuse detection; guideline mapping. ~100 IMEs/year (Leidos QTC); 300+ peer reviews/year (Ethos Risk).
- Law Firms (Plaintiff & Defense) Causation, impairment/permanency, deposition, and testimony. Court-readable medico-legal narratives. Verified expert witness in CRPS/Budapest Criteria cases. ~100 WC depositions/year.

CORE CLINICAL EXPERTISE

- Endoscopic Spine Surgery: Endoscopic lumbar discectomy with foraminotomy (transforaminal/interlaminar); endoscopic decompression of lumbar stenosis.
- Neuromodulation: Spinal cord stimulation (SCS) trial and implant; DRG stimulation; peripheral nerve stimulation.
- Interventions: Epidurals (cervical, thoracic, lumbar); selective nerve root blocks; medial branch blocks; radiofrequency ablation (RFA); SIJ injections; peripheral nerve blocks; ketamine infusion; PRP; kyphoplasty/vertebral augmentation; TenJet.
- CRPS & Budapest Criteria: Verified expert witness; subspecialty evaluation and medico-legal consultation.
- Diagnostics: EMG/NCV interpretation; image-guided procedural fluency.
- Minimally invasive spine surgery includes sacral fusion and lumbar spine fusion.

MEDICO-LEGAL & PAYER EXPERTISE

- **Defense verdict** — Kennedy v. Katzman/Home Depot (unanimous 7-0): Premises liability with claimed CRPS and spinal cord stimulator implantation. Retained through Leidos QTC. Diagnostic methodology under Budapest Criteria central to defense theory.
- IME & Peer Review | Impairment/Permanency (AMA Guides) | Record Review & Causation Analysis | Deposition/Testimony
- Utilization Review/Management | Guideline Mapping | Fraud, Waste & Abuse Detection
- FHAS (Federal Hearings and Appeals Services) — Credentialed IRO Physician Reviewer, June 2023–Present
 - Selected as Medical Director, NJ State Arbitration Program (contract award anticipated July 2026; implementation September 2026)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Medical Director / Interventional Pain & Minimally Invasive Spine Surgeon | Comprehensive Medical PC — Orange County, NY 2016–Present

- Built multidisciplinary spine and pain program; standardized triage and care pathways for LBP, radiculopathy, and CRPS.
- Implemented candidacy criteria for RFA and SCS; launched pre-hab/rehab integration.
- Introduced endoscopic lumbar discectomy with same-day discharge protocol.
- Recruited and mentored mid-level providers; authored SOPs and credentialing checklists.

Founder & Medical Director | Apex Injury & Spine Specialists (Allevyo Health, Inc.) — NJ Statewide

April 2026–Present

- Launched statewide NJ interventional pain and spine platform serving personal injury and workers' compensation corridors.
- MSO structure (Allevyo Health, Inc.) supporting multi-site clinical operations across New Jersey.

Medical Consultant — IME / Peer Review / Utilization Management | Leidos QTC | Ethos Risk | Multiple Carriers 2017–Present

- ~100 independent medical examinations per year (Leidos QTC); 300+ peer reviews per year (Ethos Risk).
- Approximately 100 workers' compensation depositions annually across NY and NJ jurisdictions.
- Mapped recommendations to evidence-based guidelines; presented trend reviews to claims teams to refine coverage policies.
- Supported plaintiff and defense counsel with depositions and testimony on standards of care, indication criteria, and causation.

Interventional Pain Physician | New York City Metropolitan Area Hospital Systems 2006–Present

- High-volume image-guided injections; RFA program development; neuromodulation adoption.
- Co-led opioid stewardship initiative; implemented PDMP workflows; referral network education.

EDUCATION & TRAINING

- Fellowship: Interventional Pain Management — St. Luke's Roosevelt Hospital of Columbia University (2005–2006)
- Residency: Anesthesiology — SUNY Downstate, Brooklyn, NY (2002–2005)
- Internship: General Surgery — Baptist Health System, Birmingham, AL (2001–2002)
- Medical Doctor — University of Alabama School of Medicine (1997–2001)

BOARD CERTIFICATION & LICENSURE

- American Board of Anesthesiology — Pain Medicine & Anesthesiology | Recertified 2020–2030
- Medical License: New York (235169) | New Jersey (25MA08075700); IMLC-qualified: Pennsylvania, Maryland, Georgia, Arizona.
- DEA Registration: Active

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS & HOSPITAL APPOINTMENTS

- Hudson Regional Hospital — Active Medical Staff, NJ
- LESS Society (Laparoscopic Endoscopic Surgeon Society) via InSpan Credentialing
- ASIPP — American Society of Interventional Pain Physicians

CERTIFICATIONS & TECHNICAL

- BLS / ACLS | Radiation Safety | Ultrasound-Guided Procedures | EMG/NCV
- Devices: Medtronic, Nevro, Boston Scientific; Spinal Endoscopic Systems (Joimax / Richard Wolf / Elliquence)
- EHR: eClinicalWorks, Practice Fusion
- Availability: U.S. onsite and telehealth