

Farbod Rastegar, MD, FAAOS

Board Certified Orthopedic Spine Surgeon | Director of Spine Surgery

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Board Certified Orthopedic Spine Surgeon in active clinical practice with extensive experience in medicolegal consulting. Fellowship-trained at the Cleveland Clinic. Currently serving as Director of Spine Surgery, managing the full spectrum of cervical, thoracic, and lumbar pathology. Experienced expert witness having completed over 1,000 Independent Medical Examinations (IMEs) and record reviews, as well as deposition testimony. Possesses advanced training in expert witness practice (SEAK) and certification in independent medical examination (CIME).

MEDICOLEGAL EXPERIENCE & TRAINING

Case Volume & Testimony

- **IMEs & Record Reviews:** Completed over 1,000 file reviews and independent medical examinations to date.
- **Deposition Experience:** Provided sworn testimony in 10+ depositions.
- **Scope:** Expert analysis of standard of care, causation, damages, and prognosis in complex spine and orthopedic cases.

Certifications & Advanced Training

- **Certified Independent Medical Examiner (CIME)** – American Board of Independent Medical Examiners (Expected Completion: January 2026)
- **SEAK Expert Witness Training** – Completed "How to Start, Build, and Run a Successful Expert Witness Practice."

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

University of Kentucky - St. Claire Health System | Morehead, KY

Director of Spine Surgery | Sep 2024 – Present

- Direct the strategic development of the orthopedic spine division for inpatient and outpatient services.
- Maintain a full-time clinical practice providing advanced operative and non-operative spine care.
- Oversee quality, safety, and clinical performance initiatives for the spine service line.

Cincinnati Elite Orthopedic & Spine | Cincinnati, OH

Founder & Board Certified Orthopedic Spine Surgeon | May 2023 – Present

- Principal spine surgeon for independent orthopedic practice.
- Specialize in MIS techniques, anterior/lateral approaches, cervical arthroplasty, and neuromodulation.

Premier Health Physician Network | Middletown, OH

Board Certified Orthopedic Spine Surgeon | Nov 2020 – Apr 2023

- Delivered operative and non-operative spine care within a regional health system.
- Served on the Medical Staff Quality Committee participating in peer review and performance improvement.

Advocate Aurora Health | Milwaukee, WI

Board Certified Orthopedic Spine Surgeon | Sep 2017 – Nov 2020

- Provided comprehensive spinal care at a major integrated health system.
- Recipient of the Aurora Star Award (2019) for excellence in patient care.

EDUCATION & TRAINING

Cleveland Clinic | Cleveland, OH

Fellowship - Combined Orthopedic & Neurosurgical Spine Surgery | Aug 2016 – Jul 2017

Oregon Health & Science University | Portland, OR

Orthopaedic Surgery Residency | Jul 2012 – Jun 2016

- *Chief Resident (2015-2016)*

Oregon Health & Science University | Portland, OR

General Surgery Internship | Jul 2011 – Jun 2012

University of Chicago, Pritzker School of Medicine | Chicago, IL

Doctor of Medicine | Jun 2011

University of California, Los Angeles | Los Angeles, CA

Bachelor of Science - Molecular, Cell & Developmental Biology | Jun 2006

- *Magna Cum Laude*

LICENSURE & BOARD CERTIFICATION

Medical Licensure

- Ohio Medical License (Active)
- Kentucky Medical License (Active)
- California Medical License (Active)
- Michigan Medical License (Active)
- Interstate Medical Licensure Compact (IMLC)

Board Certification

- **American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery** – Board Certified Orthopedic Spine Surgeon

CLINICAL EXPERTISE

- **Spine Procedures:** OLIF/TLIF/LLIF/ALIF, ACDF, Cervical Disc Replacement, Minimally Invasive Decompression (Tubular/Microscopic), Deformity Correction
- **Complex Pathology:** Multilevel spondylosis, stenosis, instability, revision surgery, and adult deformity (sagittal/coronal balance).
- **Trauma & Tumor:** Fracture stabilization (Cervical/Thoracic/Lumbar) and surgical management of primary/metastatic tumors.
- **Neuromodulation:** Spinal cord stimulator implantation and revision.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons (AAOS)
- North American Spine Society (NASS)
- AO Spine

RESEARCH & PUBLICATIONS

Full bibliography available upon request.

- Authored 18+ peer-reviewed publications in journals including *Spine*, *JNS Spine*, *JBMR*, and *PLoS One*.
- Research focus includes adult spinal deformity (PJK/PJF), molecular orthopedics, and musculoskeletal biology.
