Minimally invasive approach to resection of paraspinal schwannoma

Patrick Paullus, MD, Taylor A. Wilson, MD, Paul Lee, MD, Arunprasad Gunasekaran, BS, and Noojan Kazemi, MD

Department of Neurosurgery, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Little Rock, Arkansas

In this video, the authors demonstrate a minimally invasive approach and resection of a paraspinal schwannoma. Using an expandable retractor, the authors were able to identify important adjacent bony landmarks and hence visualize and remove this peripheral nerve sheath tumor. While a tubular retractor is commonly used for interbody fusion procedures, the location of the tumor allowed this minimally invasive approach resulting in excellent access, minimal soft-tissue injury, and a short hospital stay. The authors present this approach as a less invasive and yet effective technique for resection of otherwise difficult-to-access nerve lesions.

The video can be found here: https://youtu.be/89OY5wdMB_k.

KEYWORDS paraspinal; peripheral nerve sheath; schwannoma; minimally invasive spine; tubular retractor; video