



Rolando F. Roberto, M.D.

Clinical Interests

Mission Statement: As Chief of the UC Davis Orthopedic Spine Service, I would like to extend a warm introduction to our treatment team. Having practiced at tertiary care University Hospitals since my fellowship training, I have had the opportunity to treat some of the most complex spinal problems that afflict children and adults. My colleagues and I have many years of experience in the treatment of complex spinal deformities of congenital, idiopathic and degenerative origin. As the founder of our spinal deformity team, Dr. Daniel Benson began treating scoliosis patients in the 1970s at UC Davis, our institution has amassed over 40 years of experience in the treatment of spinal disorders. Our experience therein spans the spectrum of patients from birth and into the seventh and eighth decade of life. We also treat complex spinal tumors, both primary sarcomas and metastatic disease and have extensive experience with vertebral resection and replacement. In so doing we have the full support of a world-class oncology team comprised of medical and radiation oncologists. Given the increased health and longevity of our patients and the predilection of the human spine to degenerate, we have expertise in degenerative conditions and are able to treat herniated lumbar and cervical discs with the least invasive spinal surgeries. We have performed scientific studies on the treatment of cervical disc disease and myelopathy and we have published our experience on the treatment of these diseases with cervical disc replacement and laminoplasty.

Underlying our innovative and cutting edge treatment options, we believe that meticulous attention to patient care and standardized treatment protocols result in the safest surgical outcomes. We work closely with our National Surgical Quality Improvement Program and strive to provide the highest quality medical and surgical care. We hope that those of you in need of spinal surgical treatment will trust our experienced and caring team.

Title Chief of Spine Service
Executive Vice Chair
Professor

Specialty Orthopaedic Surgery - Spinal Disorders

Department [Orthopaedic Surgery](#)

Division Orthopaedic Surgery

Center/Program Affiliation [Spine Center](#)



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Languages	Spanish
Education	M.D., UC Irvine College of Medicine, Irvine CA 1989 B.S., UC Irvine, Irvine CA 1985
Internships	Orthopedic Surgery, University of Illinois, Chicago IL 1989-1990
Residency	Orthopedic Surgery, University of Illinois, Chicago IL 1990-1994
Fellowships	Spine Surgery, Minnesota Spine Center, Minneapolis MN 1994-1995
Board Certifications	American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery, 2016
Professional Memberships	Academic Orthopedic Association American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons Cervical Spine Research Society J. Robert Gladden Society North American Spine Society Scoliosis Research Society Western Orthopaedic Association
Honors and Awards	Outstanding Faculty Award, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, UC Davis Medical Center, Sacramento, 2010 Outstanding Faculty Award, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, UC Davis Medical Center, Sacramento, 2005 Outstanding Faculty Award, Dept. of Orthopaedics, University of Arizona. Teaching award conferred by graduating residents., 2002 Outstanding Faculty Award, Dept. of Orthopaedics, University of Arizona, 2000 President's Undergraduate Fellowship Recipient. National award funding research of DNA sequence analysis of D. melanogaster dopa decarboxylase gene., 1984
Select Recent Publications	Roberto, R, Klineberg, E, Complications in the Treatment of Subaxial Cervical Fractures and Dislocations, Chapter 106, 5th Edition, the Cervical Spine, Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, 1267-1275.



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Tomov M, Mitsunaga L, Durbin-Johnson B, Nallur D, Roberto R. Reducing Surgical Site Infection in Spinal Surgery with Betadine Irrigation and Intra-Wound Vancomycin Powder. Spine (Phila Pa 1976). 2015 Jan 20. 491-9.

Gire JD, Roberto RF, Bobinski M, Klineberg EO, Durbin-Johnson B The utility and accuracy of computed tomography in the diagnosis of occipito cervical dissociation. Spine J. 2013 May; 13(5): 510-9.Epub 2013 Feb 22.

Roberto, R. Dezfuli, B, Deuel, C, Curtiss, S, Hazelwood, S. A Biomechanical Comparison of Three Spondylolysis Repair Techniques in a Calf Spine Model. Orthopaedics and Traumatology: Surgery and Research, 2012 October.

Galan, T, Mohan, V, Klineberg, K, Gupta, M, Roberto, R, Ellwitz, J. Case Report: Incisional Hernia as a Complication of Extreme Lateral Interbody Fusion. The Spine Journal, 2012 Feb.

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