

David A. Hanscom, MD

Dr. Hanscom is a board certified orthopedic surgeon specializing in the surgical correction complex spine problems in the cervical, thoracic, and lumbar spine. He has expertise in adult and pediatric spinal deformities such as scoliosis and kyphosis. A significant part of his practice is devoted to performing surgery on patients who have had multiple prior spine surgeries. He works for Swedish Neuroscience Specialists at the Swedish Medical Center in Seattle, WA.

He developed the “DOC” project, which stands for “Direct your Own Care” based on his own struggle with chronic pain and the recent neuroscience research. It is a framework that organizes care for chronic spinal pain. The variables addressed are sleep, the central nervous system, medication management, goal setting, education, and aggressive soft tissue rehabilitation. Surgery is considered in the overall context of the rehabilitation effort and is only performed on specific structural problems. He is working with Swedish Hospital to improve access to structured non-operative care.

He is the founder of the Puget Sound Spine Society, which was formed in 1987. It is a non-profit educational group, which provides a regional forum for physicians from multiple specialties to share ideas regarding optimum spine care.

“Precision Surgical Performance” is a process, which brings athletic performance principles into the operating room. He co-founded the program with his golf-instructor, David Elaimy, in 2006. David Elaimy is also a performance coach who has been giving golf-based performance seminars in the financial sector for over fifteen years.

Current Positions:

- Orthopedic spine surgeon, Swedish Neuroscience Specialists, Swedish Medical Center, Seattle, WA
- President of the Puget Sound Spine Society
- Co-director of the Swedish Neuroscience Specialists spine fellowship, Seattle, WA
- Member of Best Doctors of America

His medical degree is from Loma Linda University in 1979 and residency training began with internal medicine in Spokane, WA from 1979-1981. Orthopedic residency was done at the University of Hawaii from 1981-1984. He did an orthopedic trauma fellowship at UC Davis in Sacramento, CA. His spinal deformity fellowship was completed in Minneapolis, MN at Twin Cities Scoliosis Center in 1986.