

Supplementary Table 3. Clinical outcome scores in the prospective comparative studies*						
Studies	Clinical outcome scores	Percutaneous group		Open group		Follow-up† (months)
		Preoperative	Last follow-up	Preoperative	Last follow-up	
Parker et al. <sup>19</sup>	VAS back pain	8.1 ± 2.6	3.3 ± 2.9	8.5 ± 2.2	3.6 ± 2.8	24‡, 24
	VAS leg pain	6.5 ± 3.6	3.0 ± 3.0	6.9 ± 3.3	2.7 ± 2.6	
	ODI	32.3 ± 6.7	11.0 ± 9.4	34.3 ± 7.9	15.6 ± 10.3	
	SF-12 PCS	29.8 ± 8.2	44.3 ± 11.2	26.3 ± 7.5	41.3 ± 11.8	
	SF-12 MCS	45.9 ± 13.9	54.5 ± 10.8	42.1 ± 15.3	52.0 ± 10.1	
	EQ-5D	0.38 ± 0.23	0.85 ± 0.20	0.32 ± 0.27	0.76 ± 0.23	
	Zung depression index	40.6 ± 12.4	28.6 ± 10.6	40.9 ± 10.3	29.7 ± 9.7	
Gu et al. <sup>21</sup>	VAS back pain	7.3 ± NR	1.9 ± NR	7.4 ± NR	1.8 ± NR	20.6 ± 4.5, 20.0 ± 3.3
	VAS leg pain	7.6 ± NR	1.7 ± NR	7.7 ± NR	1.8 ± NR	
	ODI	43.7 ± NR	16.5 ± NR	44.3 ± NR	15.9 ± NR	
Lee et al. <sup>22</sup>	VAS back pain	6.3 ± 2.9	2.3 ± 3.0	6.3 ± 2.9	2.4 ± 2.7	24, 24
	VAS leg pain	5.8 ± 3.3	1.6 ± 2.7	6.2 ± 3.1	2.0 ± 2.8	
	SF-36 physical function	43.1 ± 26.8	68.1 ± 26.8	42.8 ± 27.0	65.4 ± 25.4	
	ODI	48.1 ± 18.8	21.4 ± 20.9	44.4 ± 18.0	20.7 ± 16.5	
	NASS	50.6 ± 28.3	18.5 ± 26.3	45.5 ± 26.2	18.7 ± 23.0	
Mobbs et al. <sup>23</sup>	VAS back pain	7.917 ± 1.505	2.417 ± 2.156	8.259 ± 1.573	3.328 ± 1.502	11.5 (5.4-20.1), 18.7 (8.1-40.0)
	ODI	54.56 ± 19.47	22.97 ± 16.50	52.38 ± 17.25	28.09 ± 16.71	
	SF-12 PCS	NR	41.20 ± 11.45	NR	36.86 ± 10.64	
	SF 12 MCS	NR	50.06 ± 8.841	NR	50.86 ± 10.95	
Kotani et al. <sup>24</sup>	VAS back pain	73.0 ± NR	NR	73.7 ± NR	NR	32 (24-49), 40 (24-60)
	JOA	11.1 ± NR	23.5 ± NR	12.6 ± NR	22.8 ± NR	
	ODI	52.0 ± NR	13.2 ± NR	48.9 ± NR	32.1 ± NR	
	RMQ	12.2 ± NR	5.1 ± NR	13.7 ± NR	10.9 ± NR	
Wang et al. <sup>25</sup>	VAS back pain	7.1 ± 2.4	1.3 ± 0.5	6.9 ± 1.7	1.5 ± 0.4	Overall, 27.5 (12-38)
	VAS leg pain	NR	1.0 ± 0.3	NR	1.3 ± 0.4	
	ODI	39.7 ± 10.1	12.4 ± 3.6	37.9 ± 8.2	11.5 ± 4.2	
Wang et al. <sup>26</sup>	VAS back pain	7.2 ± 2.1	0.92 ± 0.5	7.4 ± 1.6	1.1 ± 0.6	Overall, 26.3 (13-35)
	ODI	41.2 ± 6.6	10.8 ± 3.3	38.5 ± 7.4	12.2 ± 3.9	
Schizas et al. <sup>27</sup>	VAS	7.7 ± NR	3.5 ± NR	5.0 ± NR	2.8 ± NR	22, 24
	ODI	55 ± NR	33 ± NR	53 ± NR	27 ± NR	
Park et al. <sup>29</sup>	VAS back pain	NR	2.1 ± 1.4	NR	3.8 ± 1.8	12, 12
	Prolo score (good to excellent)		29/32(90.7%)		26/29(89.6%)	

\* VAS = visual analogue scale, ODI = Oswestry Disability Index, SF = short form, PCS = physical component score, MCS = mental component score, EQ-5D = euro quality of life, JOA = Japanese Orthopaedic Association, RMQ = Roland-Morris Questionnaire, NASS = North American Spine Society score, and NR = not reported. †The values are given as the mean, with the range in parenthesis. ‡ The values appear in order of percutaneous group and open group.