

Supplementary Table 4. Clinical outcome scores in the prospective comparative studies*								
Outcomes	Studies	Percutaneous group			Open group			WMD (95% CI) ‡
		Scores†	Total number of patients	Follow-up†	Scores†	Total number of patients	Follow-up†	
<i>Pain and function</i>								
VAS back pain, preoperative	5 ^{19, 22, 23, 25, 26}	7.3±0.7	258	20.9±7.2	7.5±0.9	251	20.9±7.2	0.2 (-0.2 to 0.6)
VAS back pain, last follow-up		2.1±0.9			2.4±1.1			
VAS leg pain, preoperative	2 ^{19, 22}	6.2±0.5	147	25.2±2.0	6.6±0.5	149	25.2±2.0	0.3 (-0.5 to 1.0)
VAS leg pain, last follow-up		2.3±1.0			2.4±0.5			
ODI, preoperative	5 ^{19, 22, 23, 25, 26}	43.2±8.5	226	24.2±4.8	41.5±7.1	222	24.2±4.8	3.2 (1.5 to 5.0)§
ODI, last follow-up		15.7±6.0			17.6±6.9			
<i>Health-related quality of life</i>								
SF-12 PCS, preoperative	1 ¹⁹	29.8	50	24	26.3	50	24	0.5 (-3.5 to 4.5)
SF-12 PCS, last follow-up	2 ^{19, 23}	42.8	87		39.1	80		
SF-12 MCS, preoperative	1 ¹⁹	45.9	50	24	42.1	50	24	1.3 (-3.8 to 6.4)
SF-12 MCS, last follow-up	2 ^{19, 23}	52.3	87		51.4	80		
SF-36 physical function, preoperative	1 ²²	43.1	72	24	42.8	72	24	2.4 (-6.3 to 11.1)
SF-36 physical function, last follow-up		68.1			65.4			
<i>Others</i>								
EQ-5D, preoperative	1 ¹⁹	0.4	50	24	0.3	50	24	0.3 (-0.1 to 0.1)
EQ-5D, last follow-up		0.9			0.8			
NASS, preoperative	1 ²²	50.6	72	24	45.5	72	24	5.3 (-3.2 to 13.8)
NASS, last follow-up		18.5			18.7			
Zung depression index, preoperative	1 ¹⁹	40.6	50	24	40.9	50	24	0.8 (-3.4 to 5.0)
Zung depression index, last follow-up		28.6			29.7			

* WMD = weighted mean difference, CI = confidence interval, 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 ± standard deviation. ‡ WMD = weighted mean difference, CI = confidence interval. §p < 0.0001.