

Diagnose,  
Document,  
Stabilize with the  
**SSG**<sup>TM</sup>



“...indications for fusion are often controversial. Much of the uncertainty relates to the absence of a precise, widely accepted definition of spinal stability.”

Stillerman, Charles B., in Benzel, Ed C. (ed): *Biomechanics of Spine Stabilization: Principles and Clinical Practice*. New York: McGraw-Hill, 1995.

# Why will you want to use the SSG?

The Spinal Stiffness Gauge™ (SSG) provides benefits beyond the reach of most existing technologies:

- SSG measurements will guide optimum fixation strategy in multi-level disease
- The SSG is true “enabling technology”
  - Every SSG measurement is useful in documenting fusion decisions
  - A large database of SSG patient measurements may be referenced
- Used for lumbar applications, the SSG can provide accurate, computer-controlled vertebral displacement

In a study, using the SSG, the University of Miami School of Medicine determined the following:

- Patients measuring less than 25N/mm were considered unstable and potential candidates for fusion
- Patients measuring between 25–55N/mm were considered moderate to stiff and potential candidates for joint reconstruction
- Patients measuring above 60N/mm were considered functionally fused

Brown, M. D., Holmes, D. C., Wehman, K. F., and Heiner, A. D.  
*The Clinical Usefulness of Intraoperative Spinal Stiffness Measurements*.  
*Spine* 2002; 27:959-961.



# MEKANIKA's Spinal Stiffness Gauge™ may become your most valuable Diagnostic Tool



Today, an ever-growing number of spinal fixation options are available. What's needed, more than ever, is a tool to help guide your choice and facilitate the implantation procedure.

- The SSG is a diagnostic tool that could well prove to be the spine's equivalent to the EKG
- The SSG is a surgical device that accurately produces and measures vertebral displacement
- The SSG provides additional patient documentation



# Understanding the spinal diagnostic value of the SSG

The SSG measures spinal instability by applying a controlled force, then providing a quantifiable outcome in Newtons per millimeter (N/mm).

- The SSG's N/mm measurement:
  - Defines joint instability
  - Identifies unstable, normal, and fused patients
  - Differentiates each level in multi-level disease
- For increased diagnostic identification, the SSG measures hysteresis of the Motion Segment Unit—the higher the reading, the weaker the joint

Spinal Stiffness Gauge™ is a trademark of MEKANIKA, INC. U. S. Patent 4,899,761. © 2002 MEKANIKA, INC.

**Caution:** Federal law (USA) restricts this device to sale by or on the order of a physician.



## SSG Ordering Information

### Catalog Number

### Description

SG5020-01	SSG System 1: SSG Cart with Monitor, SSG Hand Piece, SSG Sterile Drapes, SSG Sterilization Tray
SG5014-00	SSG Hand Piece, Model 200
SG5015-01	SSG Sterilization Tray
SG5016-10	SSG Sterile Drapes

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