News Release: Dr. Richard Francis Named Super Doctor for 2015

TITLE: Houston Spine Surgeon Dr. Richard Francis Named Super Doctor for 2015

SUMMARY:   
Houston Spine Surgeon Dr. Richard Francis, Founder of Spine Associates has been named a Super Doctor for 2015. Super Doctors is a listing of outstanding physicians from more than 40 medical specialties who have attained a high degree of peer recognition or professional achievement. Super Doctors is published as a special supplement in leading newspapers and city and regional magazines.

CONTENT:   
Houston Spine Surgeon Dr. Richard Francis, Founder of Spine Associates, has been named a [Super Doctor for 2015](http://goo.gl/SAkUnl). Dr. Francis has also been named as a Texas Super Doctor for each of the four previous years, 2011 through 2014. Being recognized as a Super Doctor is a great honor limited to approximately five percent of a regions active physicians.

Dr. Richard Francis was educated at the University of the West Indies, the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, and Baylor College of Medicine. He is board certified in orthopedic surgery by the Intercollegiate Specialty Board of the Royal Colleges of the United Kingdom. He has been a fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons in Edinburgh since 1995 and provided four years of service as an assistant professor with the University of Texas, where he was responsible for training residents and fellows in the field of spinal surgery. Additionally, Dr. Francis has successfully completed a post-doctoral fellowship in spinal surgery and is currently an active member of North American Spine Society and Scoliosis Research Society.

Dr. Francis has been practicing medicine for over two decades, treating patients for a wide variety of illnesses and spine disorders. Since founding Spine Associates in 2003, he has built a considerable reputation by maintaining a conservative approach to treating all spine conditions in both children and adults. He has made it his goal to stay at the forefront of technology, yet maintain a personal connection with patients and their families. Dr. Francis is one of few spine surgeons capable of performing surgeries on children as well as adults and prides himself as one of the first surgeons in the nation asked to perform the artificial disc replacement and to use robotic assistance in spine surgery.

Passionate about the care of his patients, Dr. Francis goes above and beyond in taking the time necessary with each and every patient. In addition, Spine Associates has a Patient Portal Communication System which streamlines patient communication challenges & enhances Patient/Doctor relationships. Dr. Francis is widely recognized as an Expert and Authority in his field of practice and specializes in treating patients who have had previously unsuccessful surgeries and/or suffered from back pain for years or even decades.

As a highly respected health care provider, Dr. Francis considers it an obligation to provide patients information on all the current treatment options available. Over the past decade, the medical field has benefited from regenerative cell research. These scientific findings have given way to the new and exciting field of Regenerative Medicine. This field focuses on the use of regenerative cells to aid in the repair of damaged tissue such as bone, tendons and ligaments. Dr. Francis believes the use of a person’s own (autologous) regenerative cells is a safe and effective treatment option. Regenerative cells offer not only an effective treatment for damaged tissue, but also can be used to prevent further tissue degeneration.  
  
Spine Associates has developed a patient ambassador program dedicated to patients that will be undergoing spine surgery. A patient ambassador is a former patient who has had spine surgery in the past and they are willing to talk to new patients about their experience. Patients are paired with an advocate based on pre-operative diagnosis, type of surgery, gender and age. The program was developed in order to provide answers to questions that only fellow patients can answer based on their own experience.

[Spine Associates](http://www.myspineassociates.com/our-services/) specializes in the treatment of spine deformities such as scoliosis, degenerative conditions, tumors, infections, sciatica treatments, and metabolic diseases. Care is available for both local and international patients and children and adults with even the most challenging conditions. The Vision of Spine Associates is to always be the benchmark for excellence in spine surgery: to always provide cutting edge technologies and treatments that change lives and restore function. Their promise is to provide the most advanced medical care—quickly, conservatively and with the utmost respect.

For further information or to contact Spine Associates, please visit the website at www.myspineassociates.com/.

Spine Associates has locations in Houston and Beaumont, Texas.  
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**NEWS ANCHOR SCRIPT:**Renowned spine surgeon Dr. Richard Francis has just been named as one of the Texas Super Doctors of 2015. Dr. Francis is the founder of Spine Associates in Houston and Beaumont Texas and has been practicing for over 27 years.

The Super Doctors Selection Process:

In selecting physicians for Super Doctors, MSP Communications employs a rigorous multi-phase selection process designed to identify outstanding physicians from more than 40 medical specialties.

Survey of Doctors:

Each year MSP Communications invites doctors to nominate colleagues they know to be exceptional in their specified field. Numerous safeguards are in place to prevent ballot manipulation and doctors may not self-nominate.

Candidate Search:

MSP’s research staff also contributes to the pool of candidates by searching medical databases, online sources, and publications for doctors who have attained certain credentials, honors or professional achievements.

Research:

Candidates are evaluated on 10 indicators of peer recognition and professional achievement.

· Years of experience

· Hospital appointments

· Fellowships

· Professional activities

· Leadership positions

· Academic achievements/positions

· Board certifications

· Publications, lectures & presentations

· Honors and awards

· Other outstanding achievement

Blue Ribbon Panel Review:

Nominees are then grouped into specialties. Doctors, in each area, with the highest scores from the nomination and evaluation steps are invited to serve on a "blue ribbon panel."

The Final Selection:

The last step is to total the points received from nominations, research, and blue ribbon panel review. Only the highest-scoring doctors are included on the Super Doctors list.

Before Publishing:

Each candidate is contacted to verify the doctor's professional information. Physicians are asked to verify they have not been subject to disciplinary or criminal proceedings. The research staff also independently reviews the discipline record of each candidate before publication and verifies that the doctor is active and in good standing.

Dr. Francis, widely recognized as one of few spine specialists who treat children and adults in the treatment of spine deformities such as Scoliosis and Kyphosis and helps those with degenerative conditions, tumors, Sciatica, and metabolic diseases, and who also performs Revision and Reconstructive surgery.

News Release Information:

Short Link to Super Doctor Listing: <http://goo.gl/SAkUnl>

Keywords: Dr. Richard Francis, Texas Super Doctor Richard Francis, Houston Spine Surgeon, Spine Associates, Back Pain Specialist