

Know Your Surgeon

- He has worked in Reno since 2005 and joined Reno Orthopedic Clinic in 2019.
- Dr. Sekhon is a world leader in spine surgery, especially artificial disc surgery.
- Dr. Sekhon has performed thousands of spine surgery operations and is comfortable with most procedures, ranging from the simplest to the most complicated.
- Dr. Sekhon highly values patient education and ensures all patients understand their options. If surgery is planned, every facet of the surgery is explained.
- Dr. Sekhon prides himself on his communication skills with his patients.
- Dr. Sekhon has a detailed understanding of both surgical and non-surgical options and can advise on the best option suited to each individual patient.
- Dr. Sekhon is frequently involved as a teacher and lecturer at conferences throughout the world. He regularly teaches beginning to more seasoned surgeons some of the latest cutting-edge techniques- including minimally-invasive surgery and motion preservation surgery.
- From 2016-2019 he was Chief of Neurosurgery at Renown Regional Medical Center and on the Board of AO Spine North America.
- Outside of work, his passions are his family and the San Jose Sharks.

Things You May Not Know About Dr. Sekhon

- He spent 17 years training to be a spine surgeon.
- He completed a Ph.D. in Neurosurgery, as well as 2 fellowships (advanced training) in Neurosurgery and spine surgery. This was after completing 5 years of medical school and 7 years of neurosurgical residency!
- He performed world-class operations in Sydney, Australia and spent many years working at the busiest spine surgery unit in the country.
- He regularly analyzes and reviews his results and outcomes to improve the care of his patients.
- He regularly teaches orthopedic and neurosurgeons throughout the US on various aspects of spine care.

Things About Your Care He Values

- Education- he believes you need to understand every aspect of your condition and care.
- He only offers treatments he would offer his own family.
- He is an expert in complication avoidance and prides himself on his low complication rate.
- He understands conservative options outside of surgery very well and can guide you on non-surgical options.

Seeing A Physician Assistant

- A physician assistant is the extension of the eyes and ears of the physician. You will see one before and after surgery, and in hospital. Working as a team the physician assistant and the surgeon provide better care and follow up than a physician alone.

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Curt Erickson, PA-C

Curt began his medical career in 2002 in the field of Radiology. He has provided care for patients in multiple specialties including routine radiography, lithotripsy and most recently in the MRI modality. With a broad interest in biology and physics, he obtained a Bachelor's degree from the University of Nebraska-Medical Center in Radiation Science Technology.

Curt is drawn to the Neurosurgery specialty following multiple years of neuroimaging experience. After nine years in Radiology, he resolved to pursue physician assistant studies and graduated from the University of Washington MEDEX PA program in 2013. He is certified by the National Commission of Certification of Physician Assistants.

As an avid snowboarder and outdoor enthusiast, Curt is happy to call the Reno-Tahoe area home.

Curt Erickson, PA-C joined Dr. Sekhon in 2013 and ROC in 2019.



Our Report Card

Dr. Sekhon is constantly assessing and reassessing results, outcomes and interventions. This is our outcomes report card.

The data presented below is in 2 parts:

- 1. Objective Hospital-Based Data from the Crimson Database**
- 2. Patient Outcome Data** using standardized and validated outcome measures, the Visual Analog Score, (VAS, Oswestry Neck Disability Index (ONDI), Oswestry Back Disability Score (OBDI) and SF-36 (v.1). Data was collected prospectively, pooled and analysed with the SOAP™ software.

Highlights

Complication Rate (at 3%) less than the average¹

Average Length of Stay after surgery² is almost 1 day less than the average¹

Readmissions within 30 days of surgery were less than the average¹

Typical Pain Score Improved by 39% after surgery²

Worst Pain Score Improved by 74% after surgery²

Physical Health (PCS from SF-36) improved by 22% after surgery²

Mental Health (MCS from SF-36) improved by 6% after surgery²

Oswestry Back Disability Index (OBDI) improved by 23% from 78.1 (crippling disability preop) to 55.1 (6 weeks postop)

Oswestry Neck Disability Index (ONDI) improved by 23% from 65.4 (crippling disability preop) to 50.5 (6 weeks postop)

¹ Comparison is to the cohort of spine surgeons in the national Crimson database, 2011-2012 data, n= 252 patients

² Scoring was performed in a blinded independent fashion before surgery and 6 weeks postoperatively using the SoapSpine™ software (<http://www.soapspine.com>)

• Only patients who underwent cervical, thoracic or lumbar surgery were included

Greg Graves, PA-C

Greg Graves, PA-C joins Sierra Neurosurgery and Dr. Sekhon in 2014. He is a native Nevadan and began his medical career as a Certified Athletic Trainer working with the musculoskeletal injuries of collegiate and professional athletes including a stint at the University of Nevada-Reno. He spent 12 years in the field of athletic training prior to transitioning into a role as an Occupational Kinesiologist and eventually an education in Physician Assistant studies. He has a Bachelors Degree in Kinesiology from Fresno Pacific University, a Master's Degree from University of Nevada-Reno, and a Masters in Physician Assistant Studies from Samuel Merritt University. He was certified by the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants in January 2014.

Greg has a passion for patient care and is excited to return to his home and care for the Reno-Sparks community. He is an outdoor enthusiast and enjoys the vast opportunities Northern Nevada has to offer.

Greg joined Dr. Sekhon's practice in 2014 and ROC in 2019

