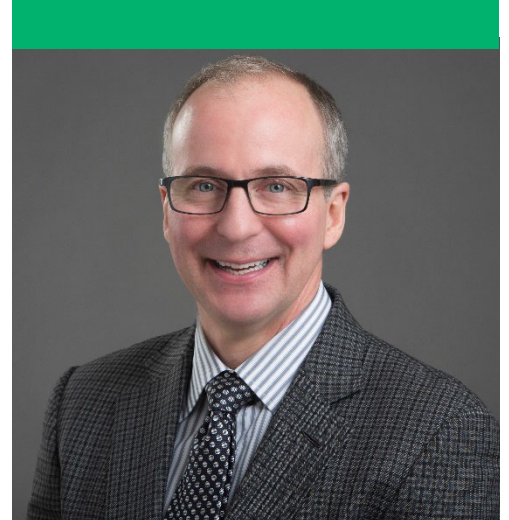


Vincent C. Traynelis, MD

The A. Watson Armour and Sarah Armour
Presidential Professor of Neurosurgery



Advancement of Medicine

In 2023, the Rush Spine Group continued to study the outcomes of spinal surgery using an important data registry which is maintained through the generous support provided by this meaningful endowment.

Also, our work on C5 palsy, a condition that produces profound weakness in the upper arm, is nearing completion. One paper has been published and the second will likely be published in the next few months. The work was largely supported by the endowment.

In addition, I will assume the chair of the Committee on Advanced Subspecialty Training — or CAST — in April 2024. CAST defines the standards for post graduate training in all neurosurgical subspecialties and accredits all neurosurgery fellowship programs offering training in these disciplines. Finally, I was honored to receive the Alumni of the Year Award from the West Virginia School of Medicine.

Research

Funds from The A. Watson Armour and Sarah Armour Presidential Professor of Neurosurgery endowment have been used to support our research in many ways, including the collection of patient-derived outcomes, our work on C5 palsy, travel to professional conferences to share our research, medical journal subscriptions and faculty support.

Publication Highlights — Abbreviated

- “Comparison of perioperative complications after anterior-posterior versus posterior-anterior-posterior cervical fusion: a retrospective review of 153 consecutive cases,” *Neurosurgery* (2023).
- “‘It’s a 7-year program’ – Allostasis in neurosurgical training,” *World Neurosurgery* (2023).
- “The evolving role of postgraduate year 7 in neurological surgery residency,” *Neurosurgery* (2024).
- “Risk factors for C5 palsy: a systemic review and multivariate analysis,” *Journal of Neurosurgery Spine*, (2023).

The Year Ahead: 2024 and Beyond

We are interested in the changes that occur following anterior cervical fusion with plates and screws, particularly how the screws may migrate following surgery.

We have started a new project examining spinal cord perfusion with novel MR protocols. The protocols were developed at UCLA and have been shared with the Rush group. The study is focused on patients with cervical spondylotic myelopathy and has been funded. This type of blood flow determination has never been done.

With Gratitude

Thank you for your support. These funds have allowed us to improve educational efforts, support the faculty at Rush and perform collaborative research. I am grateful for these opportunities to advance the specialty of neurosurgery spine surgery.