



Dr Sigurd H. Berven

Professor in Residence, Chief of Spine Service

UCSF Dept of Orthopaedic Surgery

Sigurd Berven, MD, studied Human Biology and Economics at Stanford University, graduating in 1987. He then studied Philosophy, Politics and Economics as a graduate student at University College, Oxford. He studied at Harvard Medical School for his doctorate in medicine, followed by residency in the Harvard Combined Orthopaedic Program. He trained as a fellow at UC San Francisco, and he has been on the faculty at UC San Francisco since August 2000. Dr. Berven is the Professor in Residence at UC San Francisco, and he serves as the Chief of the Spine Service and Director of the Spine Surgical Home Program. His clinical interests include complex spinal deformity in the adult and pediatric patient. His research interests include studies on the value of interventions including non-operative management, operative strategies and new technologies. He serves on the Board of Directors of the Scoliosis Research Society, the Evaluation Committee of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgery, the executive committee of the US Bone and Joint Decade Initiative, and he has been Chairman of the Value Council of the North American Spine Society.

Dr. Berven has been a leader in developing an evidence-based approach to disorders of the spine, including degenerative and deformity pathologies. Through systematic study of clinical outcomes and complications of care, his research has contributed importantly to optimal management of spinal disorders. He served as the co-principal investigator at UC San Francisco for the NIH- funded SPORT study, and he has been the principal investigator on many prospective trials including IDE studies on disc arthroplasty, and multi-center studies on clinical outcomes and complications. His present research includes development of criteria for appropriateness of surgery for adult scoliosis and predictive modelling in spine surgery to empower informed choice regarding expected outcomes and risks of surgery