



PATIENT DISABILITY and FAMILY MEDICAL LEAVE

The UC Davis Spine Clinic will certify ***short-term patient disability*** and ***family medical leave*** for surgery and the recovery time after surgery only. Contact your referring provider for any other disability needs prior to your surgery.

We do not complete any paperwork before surgery.

If you require notice for your employer prior to surgery, we can provide a letter with the scheduled surgery date and planned minimum time off.

Paperwork may be submitted to our office in person or via a MyChart. Please complete all information required by the patient. We will return all completed paperwork through MyChart.

California State Disability Insurance (SDI) Claims and **California Paid Family Leave (PFL) Claims** are completed online through the [CA EDD Website](#). Please initiate your claim and let us know when a physician certification needs to be done *after your surgery has taken place*.

The Physician Certification is electronically submitted by the UC Davis Disability Coordinator's Office (phone: **916-734-1150**). The Spine Center team will make sure the necessary documentation is available in your chart for form completion.

Please contact the **California EDD** directly for questions related to eligibility for State Disability Leave:

1-800-480-3287 (SDI); **1-877-238-4373** (PFL); <https://edd.ca.gov/>

Expected time off

Patients: the total time off work depends on the type of work you do and your surgery. If you have surgery to the front of your neck (anterior approach) or a lumbar decompression surgery, you will most likely be able to get back to work 4-6 weeks after surgery. If you have a fusion surgery, it is not unusual to take 8-12 weeks off to recover and maintain your post-operative restrictions.

Caregivers should plan to be off work for at least the first week after surgery and possibly longer depending upon the extent of the surgery and the assistance needed at home by the patient.