

Sunnybrook Medical Centre

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Acute Spinal Cord Injury Unit

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Dr. Byron C. Pevehouse
President
The American Association of
Neurological Surgeons
2340 Clay Street
Suite 402
San Francisco, California 94115
U.S.A.

Dear Dr. Pevehouse:

I am writing about my concerns for the field of acute spinal cord injury with respect to neurosurgical involvement. The growing trend of orthopaedic surgeons to take over this field should be a concern of the American Association of Neurological Surgeons. There are several units in both Canada and the United States where orthopaedic surgeons play a predominant role in the management of acute spinal cord injuries. I think it is an unwise situation.

Organized neurosurgery and in particular the AANS should take steps to counteract this. I think that perhaps this was one of the aims of the Spinal Section of the AANS. I have been a member of the section since its inception and I must say that I am extremely disappointed with its progress. In addition, the spinal content of the annual meeting has also been of some concern. In the main, there has not been enough of the program devoted to spinal topics.

I would strongly urge the AANS to deal with this problem.

Yours sincerely,

C. H. Tator

C.H. Tator, M.D.
Head, Division of Neurosurgery and
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