

Stephen Ryu, MD, is a board-certified spine-fellowship trained neurological surgeon and serves as the Chair of Neurosurgery at the Palo Alto Medical Foundation and Adjunct Full Professor of Neurosurgery and Electrical Engineering at Stanford University.

Stephen received a BS and MS in Electrical Engineering from Stanford University. He received an MD from the University of California at San Diego through a Regents' Scholarship. He then completed a general surgery internship and neurosurgical residency at Stanford University. During his residency, he also completed a postdoctoral fellowship in Electrical Engineering and Neurosciences at Stanford University. After residency, he completed a spine fellowship at Stanford University. He was then appointed Assistant Professor of Neurosurgery at Stanford University.

His clinical research has focused on spinal surgery in particular to minimally invasive spine surgery, motion preservation, navigation and robotics, and stereotactic radiosurgery. He wrote the first publication on fractionated stereotactic radiosurgery (SRS) for spine tumors. His basic science research has focused on brain computer interfacing (BCI), and he is a world authority on neural prosthetics that converts a paralyzed patient's thoughts into usable information. He has been a member of the Stanford Neural Prosthetics Systems Lab for over twenty years.

He has given over 120 invited lectures internationally on spine surgery and technology. He has also authored over 110 articles, book chapters, and reviews, including over 12 Nature publications. He is a reviewer for Spine, Neurosurgery, IJSS, Spinal Cord, Journal of Neurooncology, JBJS, PLOS, and IEEE Biomedical Engineering.

Stephen has been involved with early stage and well-established companies in the design, development, and implementation of spine surgery devices for over a decade. Lately, he has focused on companies that develop new technologies that improve outcomes, satisfaction, value, and safety in spine surgery. He also enjoys studying and teaching courses on happiness and personal finance, especially for those early in their careers.

Stephen is a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons and the American Association of Neurological Surgeons. He currently serves on the Board of the Society of Minimally Invasive Spine Surgery and is President of the San Francisco Neurological Society.