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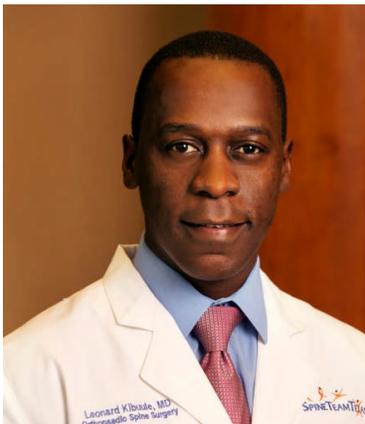
Contact: Andrea Becicka
Spine Team Texas
817-749-2141
abecicka@spineteamtexas.com
SpineTeamTexas.com

Spine Team Texas Physicians Awarded D Magazine Honor

Two Southlake doctors achieve peer-nominated award

Southlake, Texas—October 1, 2014 Spine Team Texas physicians Leonard Kibuule, M.D., board-certified orthopedic spine surgeon, and Michael Garcia, M.D., board-certified in physical medicine and rehabilitation, received *D* magazine's Best Doctors designation for 2014. Both physicians work full-time in the Southlake location and embody the practice's philosophy of providing innovative and conservative spine care where nonsurgical options are explored before surgical intervention is considered (as a last resort) or when medically necessary.

The award is particularly noteworthy to both the physicians and the practice because it's a peer-review voting process. According to DMagazine.com: "We rely on the doctors' expertise to determine who deserves to be on the list, just like a doctor would recommend a specialist to a patient." Thousands of local physicians are invited to vote using an online ballot. Last year, nearly 30,000 votes were cast by almost 1,500 doctors, who could vote for up to three doctors in 43 categories. Additionally, voters must have a valid Texas medical license, and votes are sent to an outside marketing firm for a final tally. A panel of esteemed physicians, along with D staff, reviewed the tallied results and decided the finalists based on number of votes in each category. The final list was then referenced for each doctor's Texas medical license status and board certification as well as his or her disciplinary status.



Leonard K. Kibuule, M.D.

Orthopedic Spine Surgeon

Dr. Kibuule is a fellowship-trained, board-certified orthopedic surgeon specially trained on the minimally invasive approach to spine surgery and has a special interest and extensive experience in the treatment of adult scoliosis and spinal deformities. He graduated from the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School, completed his orthopedic surgery residency at the University of Nebraska/Creighton University in Omaha, and did a fellowship in orthopedic spine surgery at William Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak, Michigan. Prior to pursuing a career in medicine, Dr. Kibuule received an engineering degree from the University of Texas at Austin.



Michael D. Garcia, M.D.

Physiatrist

Dr. Garcia is a fellowship-trained physiatrist who specializes in the nonsurgical relief of back and neck pain. His focus is on diagnosing, managing and interventionally treating spinal disorders and musculoskeletal dysfunction. He completed his fellowship in spine and sports medicine at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center in Denver, where he also completed his residency. He attended The University of Texas Southwestern Medical School, where he earned his medical degree after completing his undergraduate studies at Texas A&M University.

About Spine Team Texas

Spine Team Texas is a comprehensive spine center specializing in the treatment of neck and back pain, ranging from simple back or neck strains to the most complex spine surgeries. Through in-depth knowledge and a team approach to care, Spine Team Texas physicians and medical staff are dedicated to treating patients conservatively through education, spine-focused physical therapy, non-surgical treatments, and minimally-invasive spine surgery as a last resort or when medically necessary.

The comprehensive team includes physiatrists, specialized in acute spine pain management; neurosurgeons and an orthopedic surgeon, specializing in minimally-invasive spine surgery techniques; spine-focused physical therapists; anesthesiologists, fellowship-trained in chronic spine pain management; and on-site registered nurses who help patients return to everyday activities. Established in December 2004, Spine Team Texas is headquartered in Southlake, Texas. The practice opened a full-service, sister-facility in March 2009 in Rockwall, Texas, one in Fort Worth, Texas (Alliance) in 2013, and a fourth location in Bedford, Texas, in August 2014. For more information, please visit SpineTeamTexas.com or follow on Facebook at [Facebook.com/SpineTeamTexas](https://www.facebook.com/SpineTeamTexas).