

17

opening formed at least partially in a bottom surface of the top wall and at least partially in a side surface of the top wall.

44. A universal, intervertebral combination internal screw guide and fixation apparatus configured to be inserted into a disc space between a first vertebral body and a second vertebral body and to provide fusion of the first vertebral body to the second vertebral body via biological bone fusion and screw fusion, the apparatus comprising:

an intervertebral cage including:

a top wall, a bottom wall, and two sidewalls defining an open space capable of receiving bone filling for the biological bone fusion; and

an internal screw guide having an internal bore with an entry opening and an exit opening, the entry opening of the internal bore formed only in a top surface of the top wall,

the exit opening of the internal bore formed at least partially in a bottom surface of the top wall, and the exit opening of the internal bore formed at least partially in at least one of:

a side surface of the top wall; and
a surface of one of the two sidewalls.

18

45. The apparatus of claim 44, wherein the exit opening of the internal bore is formed partially in the side surface of the top wall.

46. The apparatus of claim 44, wherein the exit opening of the internal bore is formed partially in the surface of the one of the two sidewalls.

47. The apparatus of claim 44, wherein the exit opening of the internal bore is formed partially in the side surface of the top wall and partially in the surface of the one of the two sidewalls.

48. The apparatus of claim 44, wherein the internal screw guide further comprises:

a counterbore formed at least partially in the top surface of the top wall for accommodating a screw head of a screw member,

wherein the entry opening of the internal bore is formed in a lower surface of the counterbore, and

wherein the entry opening of the internal bore is formed entirely between all edges of the top surface of the top wall when viewed from a direction perpendicular to a plane of the top surface.

* * * * *