



**D**r. Kraus has been selected as an *H Texas* Top Doc for the third time. We asked him what the most exciting advances in neurosurgery are. "Minimally invasive neurosurgery, being able to perform larger operations through smaller openings, which preserves muscle, decreases pain and recovery time, and improves the quality of life for my patients." Dr. Kraus has tailored much of his practice around the concept of minimally invasive neurosurgery of the spine and the brain, and routinely performs spinal fusions in this manner. He incorporates the most advanced technology in the surgical care of his patients, and is involved in the design of surgical instrumentation, with patents pending.

When it comes to the brain, Dr. Kraus utilizes computer-guided navigation to guide him in the surgical removal of brain tumors. "This tremendous advance helps the neurosurgeon to approach and remove tumors in a much safer manner" he told us. Dr. Kraus also has ten years of experience in treating approximately 500 patients with the Gamma Knife, a minimally invasive device (*pictured here*) for treating brain tumors and facial pain. "These patients usually return home the same day as their treatment, and can get back to their daily activities immediately."

Dr. Kraus feels strongly that "patients with neurosurgical disorders of the spine and brain require and deserve the most advanced surgical techniques, delivered in an environment of compassionate and personalized care. Patients trust us with their most valuable possession, their lives." During his 23 years of practice, including training, Dr. Kraus has emphasized this philosophy.

In addition to his vast surgical experience on the spine and brain, Dr. Kraus has devoted a significant amount of his time to the non-surgical treatment of back and neck pain. "Understanding the surgical anatomy of the spine helps in the non-surgical treatment as well." Because of this approach, many patients have been able to successfully avoid spinal surgery. Dr. Kraus is also implementing novel approaches in the treatment of osteoporosis.

Dr. Kraus is Director of Neurosciences and the Gamma Knife Center at West Houston Medical Center. He performs surgery at West Houston and at Memorial Hermann Memorial City Hospitals. He is Assistant Clinical Professor in the Department of Neurosurgery at the University of Texas Medical School at Houston. Dr. Kraus is board certified by the American Board of Neurological Surgery, and is listed in "Best Doctors in America," and "Who's Who in America."

Dr. Kraus has authored a textbook "Microsurgical Anatomy of the Brain: A Stereo Atlas," which received international acclaim (published by Williams and Wilkins). He has published numerous papers in neurosurgery journals and chapters in textbooks.

**Specialty:** Neurosurgery

**Education:** Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, NY, B.S. Physics, Electrical Engineering; State University of New York/Stony Brook, M.D.; St. Louis University School of Medicine, St. Louis, MO, Residency in Neurosurgery; Barrow Neurological Institute, Phoenix, Ariz., Fellowship Neurovascular, Skull Base Surgery



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