

Doctor Felix did his residency at the University of Illinois medical school in Chicago and a two-year surgical oncology fellowship at the NIH. He began his career in surgery at the University of Illinois as an Assistant professor and surgical oncologist in the Department of surgery under the direction of professors Nyhus and Das Gupta in 1978. He went into private practice in Fresno CA in 1980 as a general surgeon and surgical oncologist. In 1990 he was fortunate enough to become one of the early pioneers in minimally invasive surgery. In 1991 he began to investigate MIS approaches to inguinal hernia repair based on his previous work with doctor Nyhus, one of the fathers of the posterior approach. He went on to publish multiple papers and book chapters as well as present his work at multiple meetings and courses. In 1999 after performing thousands of MIS procedures, his clinical and research efforts became directed toward the treatment of morbid obesity and metabolic diseases. He has now performed over 5000 bariatric procedures, several important studies especially ones concerning complications after bariatric surgery and has presented this work both nationally and internationally. He has had a deep interest in teaching others the basics of MIS surgery as well as bariatric and metabolic surgery. He has been an assistant clinical professor of surgery at UCSF, directed a Bariatric surgery division and the director of a fellowship council approved MIS and bariatric fellowship. He received the LEAD Award from the ASMBS for Excellence in Clinical Care in 2015. Today his interests continue to be directed towards MIS and metabolic surgery, but with an emphasis on improving quality of care for patients. He has now moved to the Central Coast of California and continues to teach the lessons he has learned over his 40 years as an academic in private practice surgeon.