252 anterior cervical surgeries

98 patients excluded:
- Multilevel surgery (n=60)
- Additional plating for single-level DDD (n=25)
- Prior cervical surgery (n=6)
- Trauma (n=5)
- Spondylodiscitis (n=2)

154 patients with single-level surgery for DDD

101 patients eligible

53 patients excluded:
- filled cages (n=23)
- subsequent surgery of the adjacent segment (12)
- not accessible (n=8)
- location > 100 km distance (10)

15 patients excluded:
- did not appear (15)

86 included