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## Blue Jackets' Berard Undergoes Back Surgery

POSTED: 5:02 pm EDT October 20, 2006

**Columbus, OH --** (Sports Network) - Columbus Blue Jackets defenseman Bryan Berard underwent successful back surgery to repair a herniated disc, and is expected to be out of the lineup for at least two months.

The surgery was performed by Dr. Robert Watkins in Los Angeles on Thursday.

"Bryan's surgery was successful and hopefully this will finally resolve the injury situation that has kept him out of the lineup since last January," said Columbus president and general manager Doug MacLean.

Berard has not played this season because of the back problem after missing the final 31 games of the 2005-06 campaign for the same reason. He played in just 44 games last season and posted 12 goals with 20 assists for 32 points.

In 554 career games, Berard has netted 71 goals and notched 227 assists for 298 points with the New York Islanders, Toronto Maple Leafs, New York Rangers, Boston Bruins, Chicago Blackhawks and Blue Jackets.

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