

Spondylogenic diseases, back pain

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HOW TO CLASSIFY SPONDYLOGENIC DISEASES?

- According to the character of structural changes
 - Degenerative changes (spondylosis)
 - Non-degenerative structural changes (tumor, trauma, inflammation, osteoporosis, maldevelopment)
 - Non-structural „functional“ changes
- According to clinical manifestation
 - BACK PAIN SYNDROMES
 - PSEUDORADICULAR SYNDROME
 - RADICULAR SYNDROME
 - MYELOPATHY
 - CAUDA EQUINA SYNDROME

HOW TO CLASSIFY SPONDYLOGENIC DISEASES?

- According to involved part of the spine
 - cervical
 - thoracic
 - lumbosacral
- According to aetiology
 - developmental (congenital)
 - trauma
 - infection
 - tumors
 - metabolic (osteoporosis)
 - physical overload (occupational, sports)

HOW TO CLASSIFY SPONDYLOGENIC DISEASES?

It is not possible to establish reliably the etiology of s.c. simple back pain attacks in up to 85% of cases.

It seems to be useful and pragmatic to classify spondylogenic syndromes according to clinical manifestation a try to establish etiology.

DIAGNOSTIC ALGORITHM IN ACUTE BACK PAIN: TRIAGE BASED ON DIFFERENT PROGNOSIS AND DIFFERENT MANAGEMENT

There exists a dilemma, how on one side **not to burden** a lot of patients with otherwise benign and self-limited conditions with sometimes risky diagnostic procedures and not negligible side effects (and with respect to high frequency of these patients also not to increase economical burden of health care system), and on the other side **not to postpone** causal treatment in a small group of patients with potentially threatening disease that may lead to serious consequences.

DIAGNOSTIC ALGORITHM IN ACUTE BACK PAIN: TRIAGE BASED ON DIFFERENT PROGNOSIS AND DIFFERENT MANAGEMENT

Possible solution is an entry *„triage“*, who could perform a physician of the first contact with a patient suffering from acute back pain. The triage is based on taking a history, a basic neurological examination and on identification of „risk factors“ increasing probability of serious structural spine disease or damage - (*„red flags“*).

DIAGNOSTIC ALGORITHM IN ACUTE BACK PAIN: TRIAGE BASED ON DIFFERENT PROGNOSIS AND DIFFERENT MANAGEMENT

The triage could differentiate 3 big groups of acute back pain with different prognosis and necessity to differentiate diagnostic-therapeutic approach:

A. Up to 85% of acute back pain patients belongs to **non-specific, „simple“ back pain**, whose natural course is self-limited and who usually recovers spontaneously. It is, however, differentiate two other groups with more serious prognosis and requiring different diagnostic and therapeutic approach.

DIAGNOSTIC ALGORITHM IN ACUTE BACK PAIN: TRIAGE BASED ON DIFFERENT PROGNOSIS AND DIFFERENT MANAGEMENT

B. Patients with ***compressive neurological syndromes*** due to **spondylosis**, endangered by development of **neurological deficit: radicular syndromes** (discogenic or osteogenic), **neurogenic claudication syndrome** in multilevel lumbar stenosis and **cauda equina syndrome** (usually due to medial disc herniation). These compressive syndromes form about 8-10 % of patients with low back pain.

DIAGNOSTIC ALGORITHM IN ACUTE BACK PAIN: TRIAGE BASED ON DIFFERENT PROGNOSIS AND DIFFERENT MANAGEMENT

C. Patients with **serious specific structural and usually progressive disease of the spine** (tumor, infection, autoimmune inflammation, trauma, osteoporosis), that are in danger of development of neurological deficit, but pain could be the first symptom of serious, life-threatening, but potentially treatable disease (about 5 % of back pain patients). Identification of indicators (risk factors) of increased risk of such a disease („red flags“) **is considered as already verified strategy.**

DIAGNOSTIC ALGORITHM IN ACUTE BACK PAIN: TRIAGE BASED ON DIFFERENT PROGNOSIS AND DIFFERENT MANAGEMENT

„RED FLAGS“:

- age >50 (55) yrs or <20 yrs (tumor); age >70 yrs (suspicion of trauma);
- presence of primary extravertebral tumor (increased OR from 0.7 to 9%), chronic inflammation (infection of kidney, skin, lungs), or other serious disease (diabetes – infection);
- long-term steroid treatment (trauma, infection); other immunosuppression (HIV, cytostatics – infection); intravenous administration of drugs (infection);

DIAGNOSTIC ALGORITHM IN ACUTE BACK PAIN: TRIAGE BASED ON DIFFERENT PROGNOSIS AND DIFFERENT MANAGEMENT

„RED FLAGS“:

- spine surgery or other invasive procedure (lumbar puncture, periradicular therapy, epidural catheter - infection);
- loss of weight, unexplained fever (tumor, infection);
- history of trauma;
- pain lasting >1 month (especially tumor);
- pain of extraordinary intensity or lasting >1 month without relief, resting, especially nocturnal pain (tumor, infection); pain provoked by stance and decreasing while sitting; localized in thoracic level; considerable local tenderness of vertebra

DIAGNOSTIC ALGORITHM IN ACUTE BACK PAIN: G.P. VS. SPECIALIST?

All current clinical guidelines on the management of back pain agree on the attitude that patients with acute non-specific low back pain without red flags, extravertebral disease or neurological deficit should be managed by a doctor of the first contact, ie general practitioner for approximately one month. A specialist should be contacted in case of red flags, neurological deficit or if a patient does not respond to standard treatment for at least one month standardní léčbu.

In all other cases a patient should be managed by a specialist.

WHOM WILL A PATIENT WITH ACUTE LOW BACK PAIN VISIT IN THE USA?

- ← GP 58,6%
- ← Ortopedic surgeon!!!) 36,9%
- ← Chiropractist 30,8%
- ← Osteopathy specialist 13,8%
- ← Internist 7,6%
- ← Rheumatologist 2,5%
- ← Neurologist: 0!!!

Deyo R, Tsui-Wu Y-Jo. Descriptive epidemiology of low-back pain and its related medical care in the United States. Spine 1987; 12:264-268.

A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW FOR AN AMERICAN COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS (CHOU ET AL. 2017): LBP

Table 2. Pharmacologic Therapies Versus Placebo for Acute Low Back Pain

Drug	Pain			Function		
	Magnitude of Effect	Evidence	SOE	Magnitude of Effect	Evidence	SOE
Acetaminophen	<u>No effect</u>	1 RCT	Low	No effect	1 RCT	Low
NSAIDs	<u>Small (pain intensity); no effect (pain relief)</u>	1 SR (4 RCTs), 1 RCT	Moderate	Small	2 RCTs	Low
Opioids	No evidence	-	-	No evidence	-	-
Skeletal muscle relaxants	<u>Pain relief: relative risk, 1.72 (95% CI, 1.32-2.22) at 5-7 d</u>	1 SR (4 RCTs), 1 RCT	Moderate	No evidence	-	-
Benzodiazepines	Unable to estimate	2 RCTs	Insufficient	Unable to estimate	2 RCTs	Insufficient
Antiseizure medications	No evidence	-	-	No evidence	-	-
Systemic corticosteroids	No effect	2 RCTs	Low	No effect	2 RCTs	Low

NSAID = nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug; RCT = randomized, controlled trial; SOE = strength of evidence; SR = systematic review.

A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW FOR AN AMERICAN COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS (CHOU ET AL. 2017): LBP

Table 3. Pharmacologic Therapies Versus Placebo for Chronic Low Back Pain

Drug	Pain			Function		
	Magnitude of Effect	Evidence	SOE	Magnitude of Effect	Evidence	SOE
Acetaminophen	No evidence	-	-	No evidence	-	-
NSAIDs	<u>Small to moderate</u>	1 SR (4 RCTs), 2 RCTs	Moderate	None to small	4 RCTs	Low
Opioids (strong opioids)	<u>Small</u>	1 SR (6 RCTs), 4 RCTs	Moderate	Small	1 SR (4 RCTs), 4 RCTs	Moderate
Opioids (buprenorphine patch or sublingual)	<u>Small</u>	3 RCTs	Low	Unable to estimate	3 RCTs	Insufficient
Tramadol	<u>Moderate</u>	1 SR (5 RCTs), 2 RCTs	Moderate	Small	1 SR (5 RCTs), 2 RCTs	Moderate
Skeletal muscle relaxants	Unable to estimate	3 RCTs	Insufficient	-	-	-
Benzodiazepines: tetrazepam	Failure to improve at 10-14 d: relative risk, 0.71 (95% CI, 0.54-0.93)	1 SR (2 RCTs)	Low	-	-	-
Tricyclic antidepressants	No effect	1 SR (4 RCTs)	Moderate	No effect	1 SR (2 RCTs)	Low
Antidepressants: selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors	No effect	1 SR (3 RCTs)	Moderate	-	-	-
Antidepressants: duloxetine	<u>Small</u>	3 RCTs	Moderate	Small	3 RCTs	Moderate
Gabapentin/pregabalin	Unable to estimate	2 RCTs	Insufficient	Unable to estimate	2 RCTs	Insufficient

NSAID = nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug; RCT = randomized, controlled trial; SOE = strength of evidence; SR = systematic review.

A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW FOR AN AMERICAN COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS (CHOU ET AL. 2017): LBP

Table 4. Pharmacologic Therapies Versus Placebo for Radicular Low Back Pain

Drug	Pain			Function		
	Magnitude of Effect	Evidence	SOE	Magnitude of Effect	Evidence	SOE
NSAIDs	Unable to estimate	1 SR (2 RCTs)	Insufficient	-	-	-
Benzodiazepines: diazepam	Relative risk, 0.5 (95% CI, 0.3-0.8) for pain relief	1 RCT	Low	No effect	1 RCT	Low
Antidepressants: duloxetine	Unable to estimate	1 RCT	Insufficient	Unable to estimate	1 RCT	Insufficient
Systemic corticosteroids	No effect	6 RCTs	Moderate	No to small effect	6 RCTs	Moderate
Gabapentin/pregabalin	Unable to estimate	5 RCTs	Insufficient	Unable to estimate	5 RCTs	Insufficient

NSAID = nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug; RCT = randomized, controlled trial; SOE = strength of evidence; SR = systematic review.

A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW FOR AN AMERICAN COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS (CHOU ET AL. 2017): LBP: WHAT IS NEW?

- New evidence of no-effectiveness of paracetamol in acute LBP!!!
- New evidence of effectiveness of duloxetine in chronic LBP!!!
- NSAIDs have lower effect in acute and chronic LBP compared to previously believed effect
- Myorelaxants has short-lasting effect in acute LBP, but cause sedation
- Opioids – moderate effect in chronic LBP
- Effect of systemic administration of corticosteroids doesnot seem to be proved
- Generally, all proved effects are short-lasting and of mild or moderate degree

NONINVASIVE TREATMENTS FOR ACUTE, SUBACUTE, AND CHRONIC LOW BACK PAIN: A CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINE FROM THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS (QASEEM ET AL. 2017)

Acute/subacute LBP:

- Start with non-pharmacological treatment
- If pharmacological treatment is necessary, consider NSAIDs or myorelaxants

Chronic LBP

- Start with non-pharmacological treatment
- If non-pharmacological treatment is ineffective, consider NSAIDs, tramadol, duloxetine.
- If ineffective, consider opioids with respect to their risks

RECOMMENDATION NICE 2016

([HTTPS://WWW.NICE.ORG.UK/GUIDANCE/NG59](https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng59))

- Consider NSAIDs with respect to side-effect profile and risk for an individual patient
- After NSAIDs administration monitor a patient, side effects and use gastroprotection, use lowest-possible dose and shortest-possible duration of treatment!
- Consider weak opioids (as monotherapy or in combination with paracetamol) in case of ineffectiveness, intolerance or contraindication of NSAIDs!
- Don't use paracetamol in monotherapy!!
- Don't use opioids routinely for acute LBP
- Don't use opioids for chronic LBP
- Don't use SSRI, SNRI??? and TCA in LBP
- Don't use anticonvulsants (pregabalin, gabapenti) in LBP (except radicular pain)

CONCLUSIONS

Always consider the use of pharmacotherapy in LBP:

- “most episodes of acute LBP are self-limited and not every patient needs pharmacotherapy!
- It is recommended to explain to patients benign character of acute LBP episodes, expected benefit of pharmacotherapy and possible side-effects
- Risks of side effects of pharmacotherapy could overweight its benefit!
- Use non-pharmacological treatment?

CONCLUSIONS

In acute LBP after decision to start pharmacotherapy:

- Short-lasting therapy, for necessary episode only, follow side effects, instruct a patient!
- Consider NSAIDs, non-benzodiazepin myorelaxants
- In severe pain (even in chronic LBP) consider weak opioids and their combination with paracetamol, strong opioids (oxycodon), tapentadol

CONCLUSIONS

In chronic LBP:

- Consider pharmacotherapy (complex problem, change of regimen, exercise, yellow flags!!!)
- In case of acute exacerbations of pain consider NSA, opioids (weak, strong, tapentadol)
- In case of a neuropathic component of pain consider gabapentinoids, duloxetine, opioids, tapentadol, eventually in combination with analgesics relieving nociceptive pain (NSAIDs, paracetamol)
- Short-lasting therapy!

CONCLUSIONS

As non-indicated procedures in LBP are currently considered:

- Paracetamol in monotherapy
- Myorelaxants in chronic LBP
- Antidepressants (TCA, SSRI)
- Long-term pharmacotherapy (especially opioids, NSAIDs)
- Systemic administration of corticosteroids

EPIDEMIOLOGY

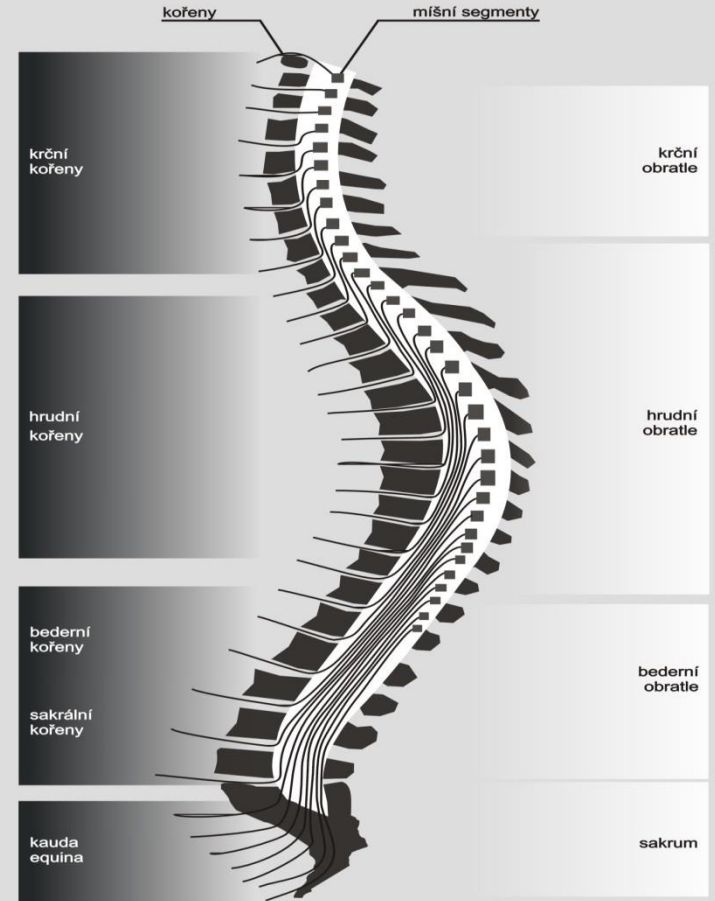
- 1. Most frequent cause of working disability in people younger than 45 years
- 2. Most frequent cause to visit the doctor
- 3. Most frequent cause of surgery
- 5. Most frequent cause of hospital admission

EPIDEMIOLOGY

- 1% of population is on sick leave
- 10-15% of sick leave days
- 1% of population is permanently disabled

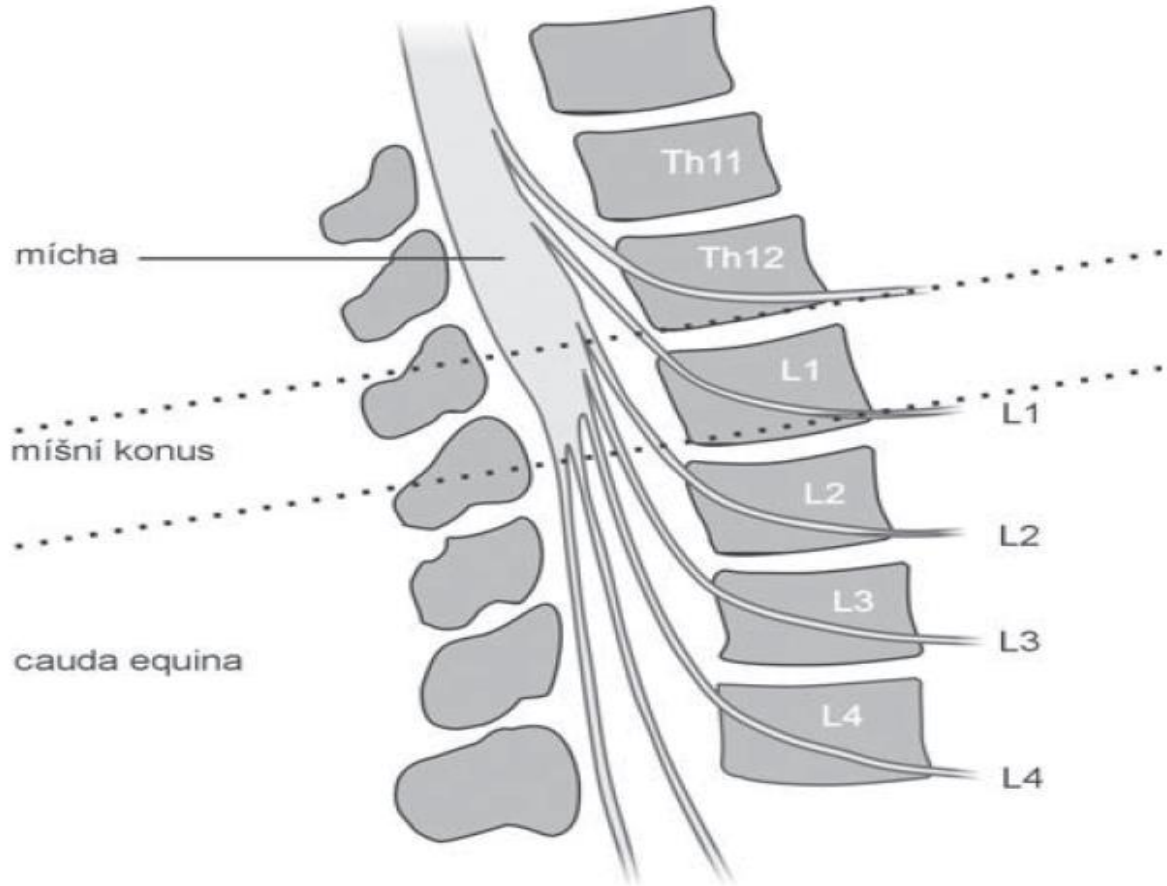
VERTEBROMEDULLAR TOPOGRAPHY

Vertebrae	Medullar segments and roots
C1-7	C1-8 (+1)
Th1-6	Th1-6 (+2)
Th7-10	Th7-12 (+3)
Th 11	L5
Th 12	S2
L1-2	S3-5 (conus medullaris)



VERTEBROMEDULLAR TOPOGRAPHY

Vertebrae	Medullar segments and roots
C1-7	C1-8 (+1)
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Th 11	L5
Th 12	S2
L1-2	S3-5 (conus medullaris)



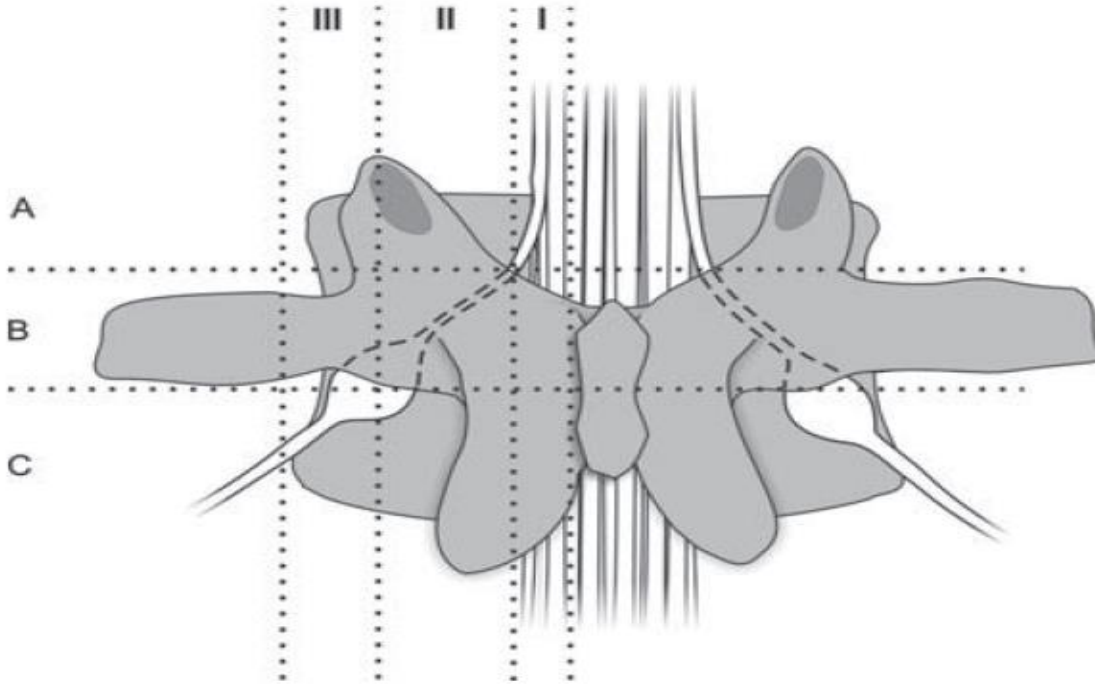
Úseky kořenového kanálu ve frontální rovině

Mediolaterální aspekt

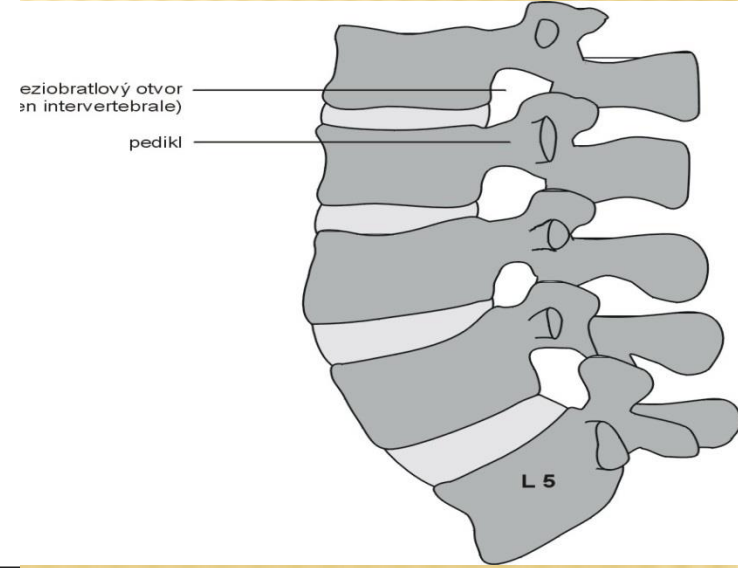
- I zóna laterálního recesu
- II zóna foraminální
- III zóna extraforaminální

Kraniokaudální aspekt

- A parapedikulární úroveň
- B foraminální úroveň
- C extraforaminální úroveň



LUMBAR ROOT CANAL



CAUSES OF RADICULOPATHIES

A. Compressive radiculopathies

1. Degenerative

Discopathy: herniations (+fragments)

Osteophytes - mostly uncovertebral (anterior part of the upper recessus articularis)

Disc collapse

2. Non-degenerative: tumors, trauma, osteoporosis, developmental...

B. Non-compressive radiculopathies:

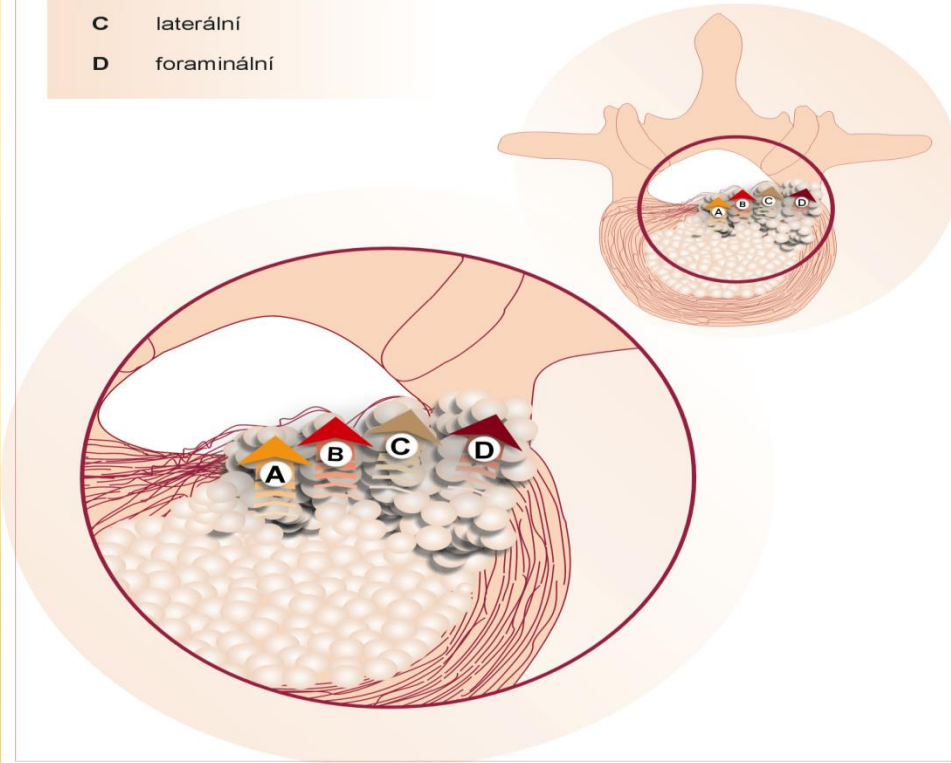
herpes zoster, borreliosis, diabetes mellitus

LUMBAR RADICULOPATHY

- A. Medial herniation
- B. Mediolateral herniation
- C. Lateral herniation
- D. Foraminal herniation
- E. Extraforaminal herniation

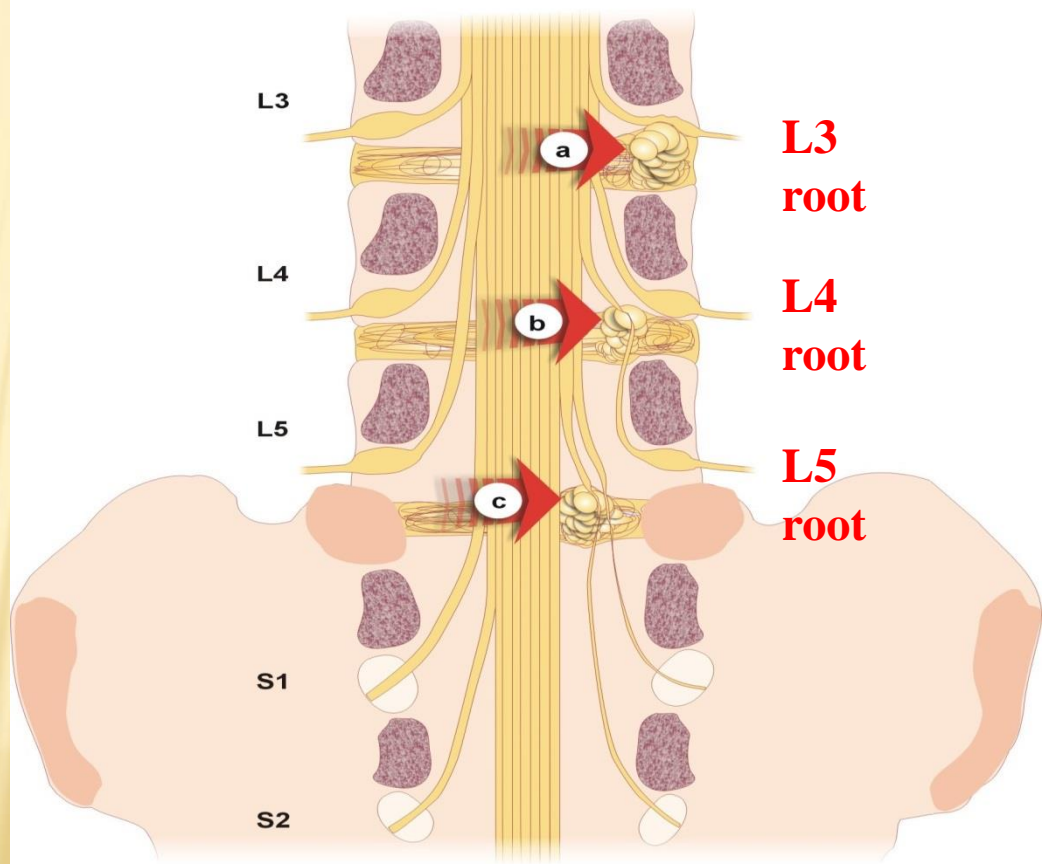
Schéma lokalizace výhřezů disku

- A mediální (dorzální)
- B paramediální (dorzolaterální)
- C laterální
- D foraminální

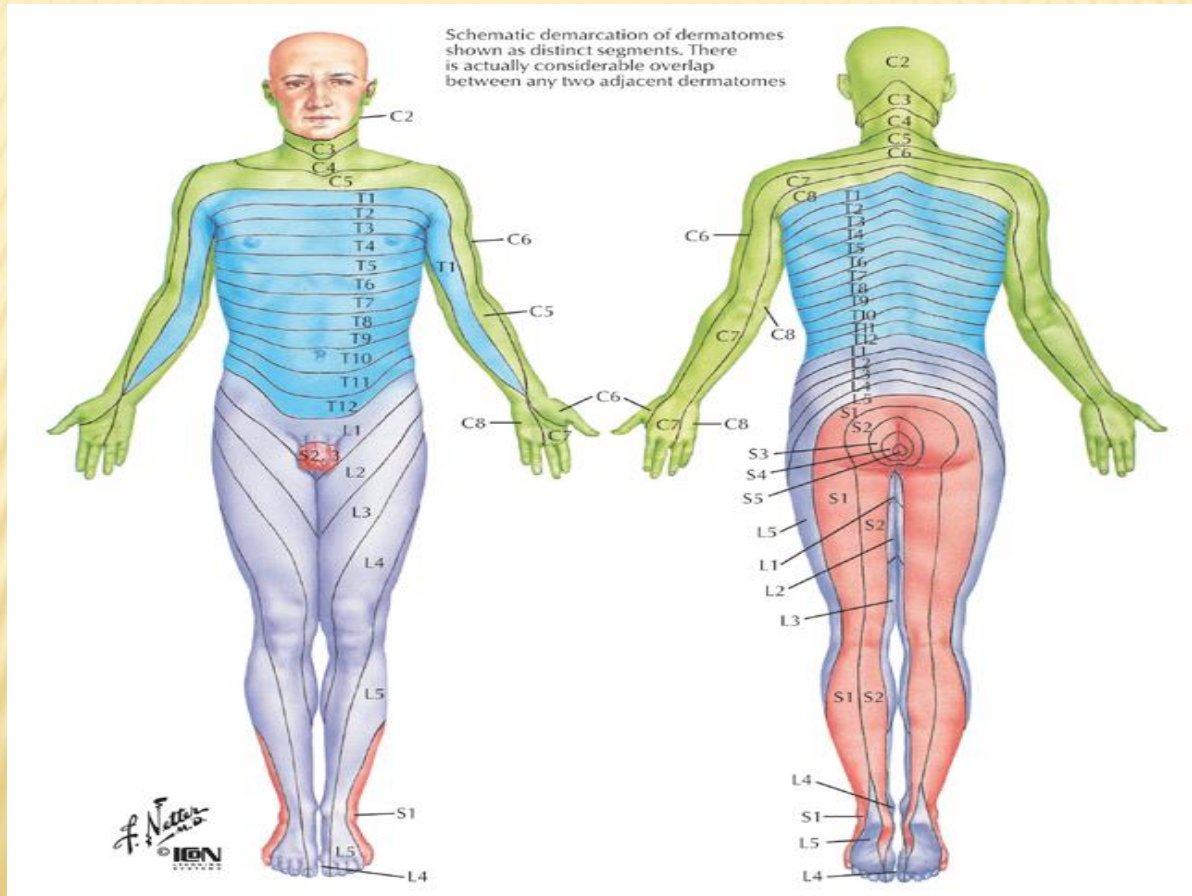


TOPOGRAPHY OF DISC HERNIATIONS AND INJURED ROOTS

- a foraminální výhřez disku L3 / 4 s kompresí kořene L3
- b laterální výhřez disku L4 / 5 s kompresí kořene L5
- c paramediální výhřez disku L5 / S1 s kompresí kořenů S1 a S2

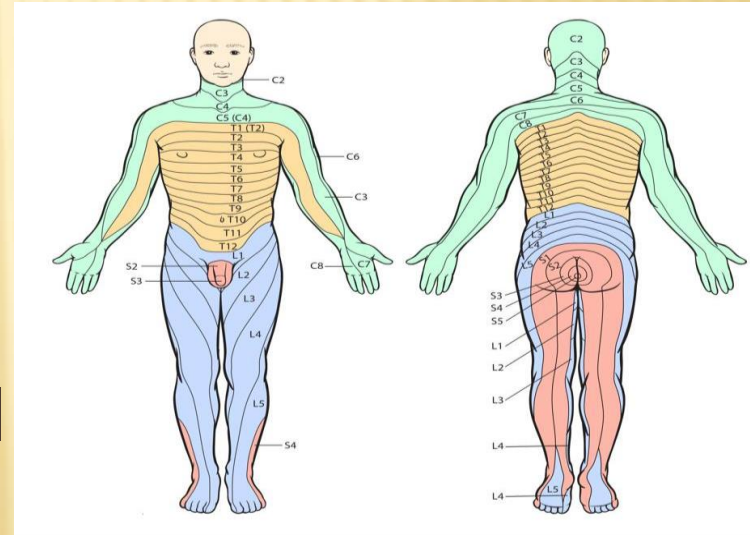


Dermatomes (areae radicales)



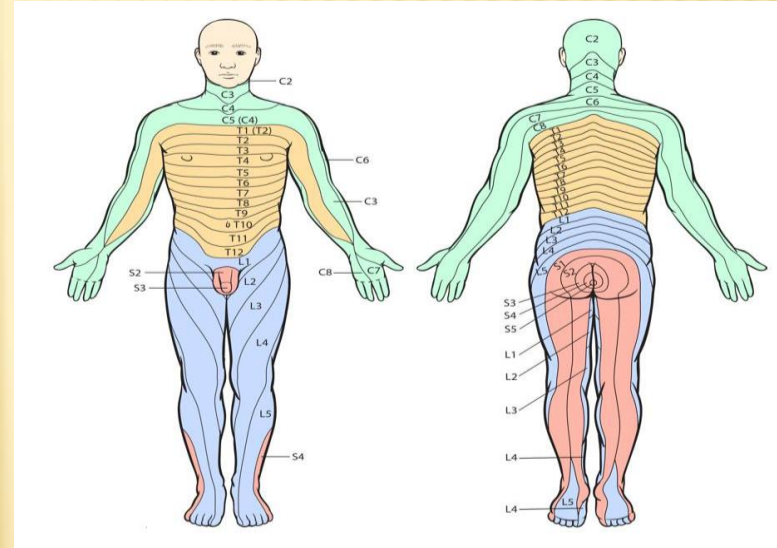
RADICULOPATHY C5

- PAIN - neck, shoulder
- SENSATION – shoulder
- STRENGTH – weakened arm abduction and forearm flexion
- REFLEXES: unelicited bicipital reflex



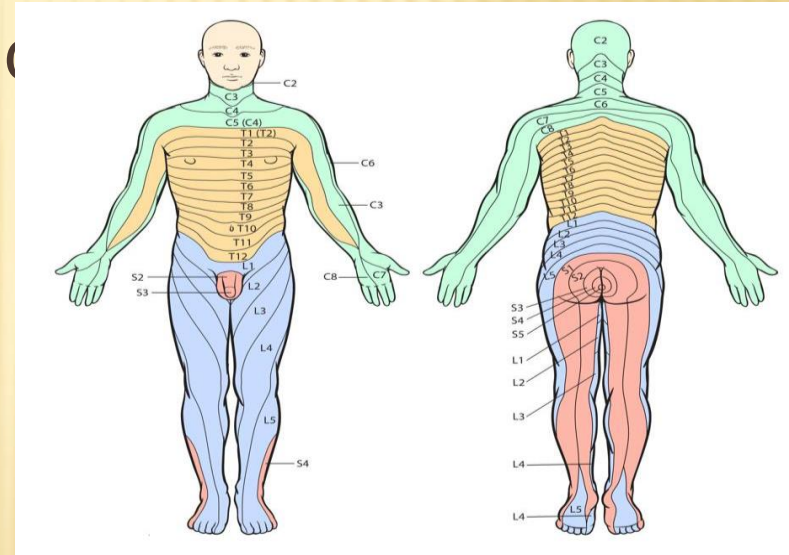
RADICULOPATHY C6

- PAIN, SENSATION:
shoulder, lateral arm,
forearm, thumb
- STRENGTH – weakened
forearm flexion
- REFLEXES: unelicited
bicipital reflex



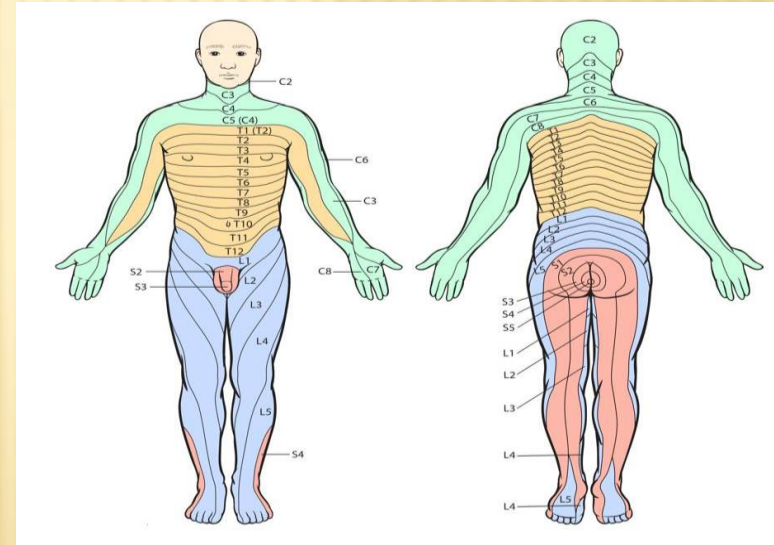
RADICULOPATHY C7

- PAIN, SENSATION - dorsal aspect of arm, forearm, hand dorsum, digit II-IV.
- STRENGTH – weakened forearm extension
- REFLEXES: unelicited triceps reflex



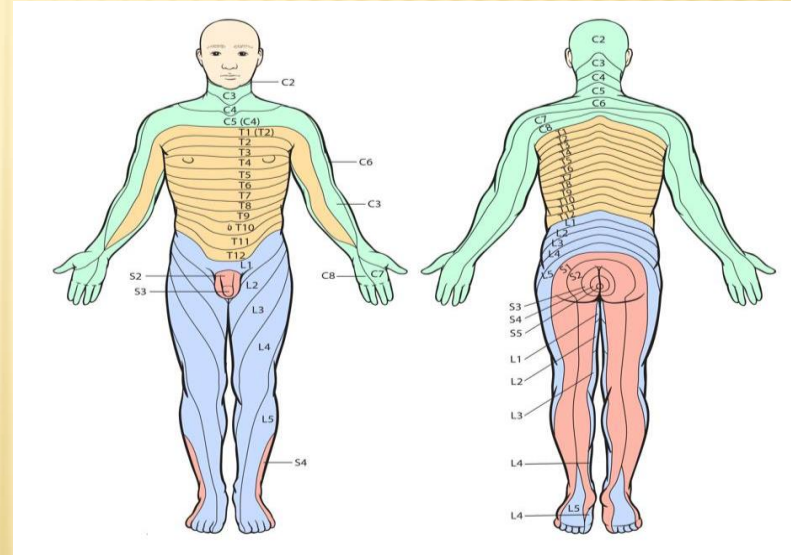
RADICULOPATHY C8

- PAIN, SENSATION – medial aspect of arm, forearm, digit IV-V.
- STRENGTH – weakened hand muscles
- REFLEXES: unelicited flexor digitorum reflex



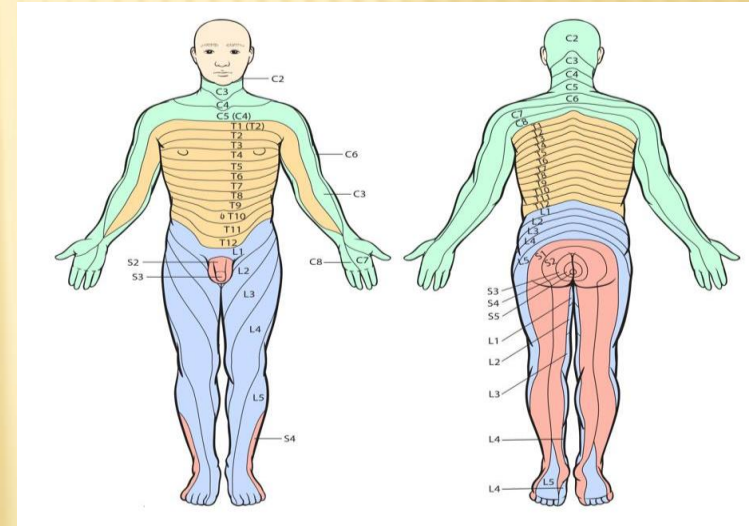
RADICULOPATHY L4

- PAIN, SENSATION – anterior aspect of thigh, medial aspect of leg
- STRENGTH – weakened knee extension
- REFLEXES: unelicited patellar (knee) reflex



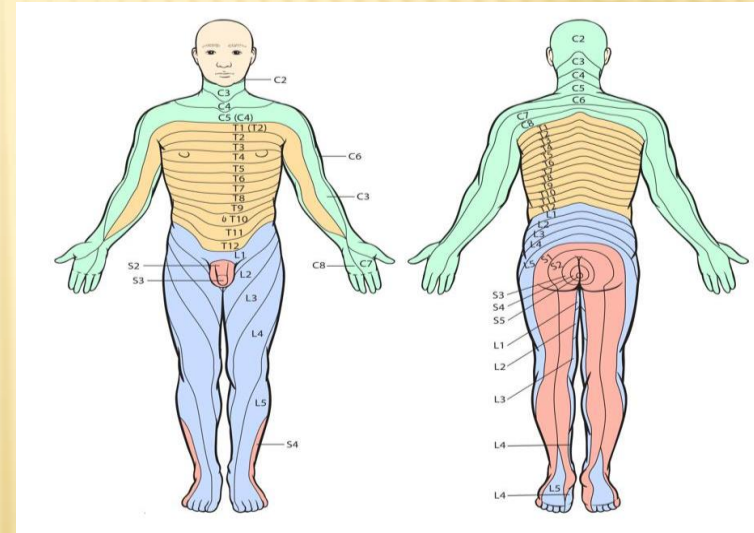
RADICULOPATHY L5

- PAIN, SENSATION – lateral aspect of thigh, anterolateral aspect of leg, dorsum of hand, big toe
- STRENGTH – weakened foot dorsiflexion
- REFLEXES: 0



RADICULOPATHY S1

- PAIN, SENSATION – gluteal region, dorsal aspect of thigh, leg, lateral aspect of foot, digit. II-V
- STRENGTH – weakened flexion of foot
- REFLEXES: unelicited Achilles tendon reflex



DIAGNOSTIC WORKUP

- Clinical examination: pain characteristics and topography, strength, sensation, reflexes, compressive maneuvers
- Radiograms (AP, lateral, oblique projections, dynamic scans)
- MRI
- CT
- Myelography, myelo/CT
- Electrophysiological exams (EMG, SEP, MEP)

COMPRESSIVE ROOT TESTS



L4



L5, S1

PATRICK' TEST

Patrick's test

If pain is elicited on the ipsilateral + anteriorly = hip joint disorder on the same side

If pain is elicited on the contralateral + posteriorly = SIJ disorder.

The sensitivity of this test in predicting response from SI injection is 57% and almost 100% specific



**TORG-PAVLOV INDEX = A/B
(C5)**

**TA INDEX < 0,82 =
CONGENITAL STENOSIS**

RTG



LSS - MYELOGRAPHY (RADICULOSACOGRAPHY)

- ◆ „Gold standard“
- ◆ Quantification of dural sac compression (Porter 1992)



CT EXAM

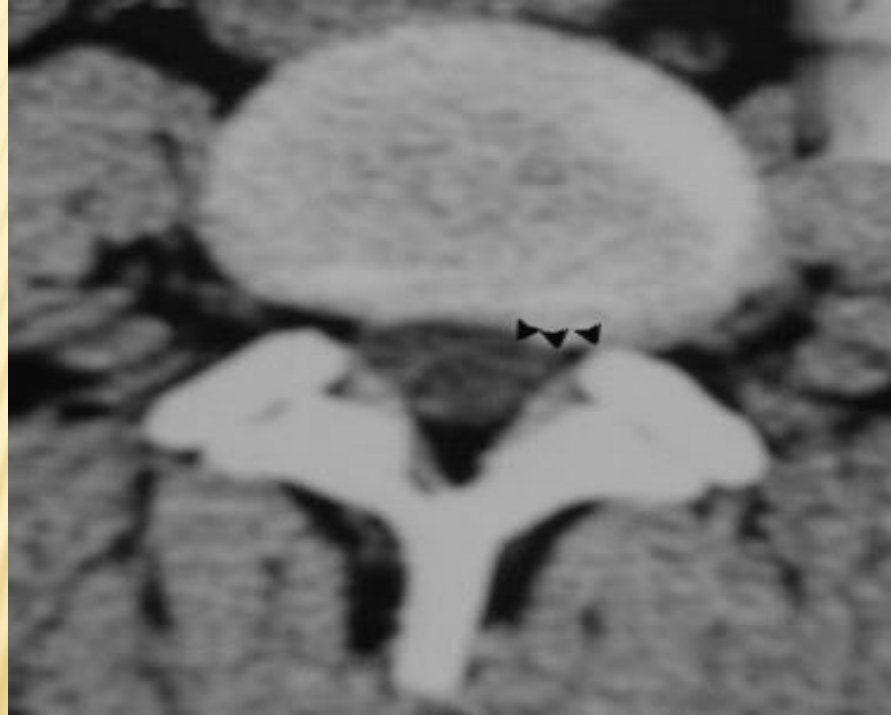
DEGENERATIVE LUMBAR STENOSIS



CT EXAM: MEDIAL DISC HERNIATION L5/S1 (AXIAL SCAN)



CT EXAM: LATERAL DISC HERNIATION L5/S1 (AXIAL SCAN)



MYELO CT

Axial CT scan above and below block



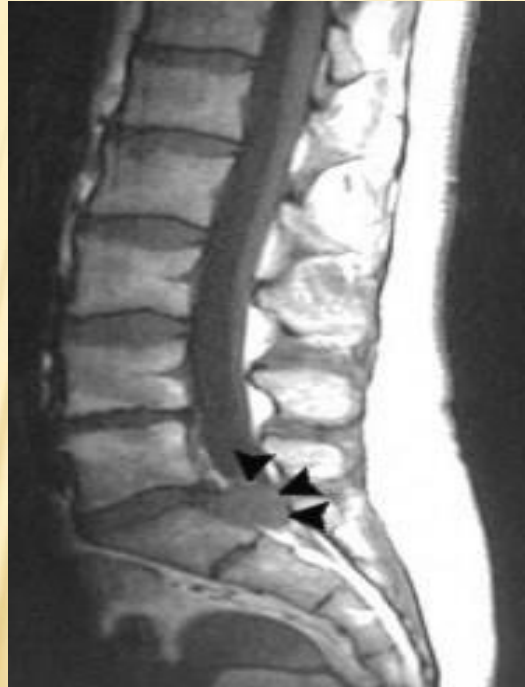
**MAGNETIC RESONANCE
IMAGING: MEDIAL
HERNIATION C6/7 WITH
CERVICAL CORD
COMPRESSION (MR
SAGGITAL SCAN, T2W
IMAGE)**



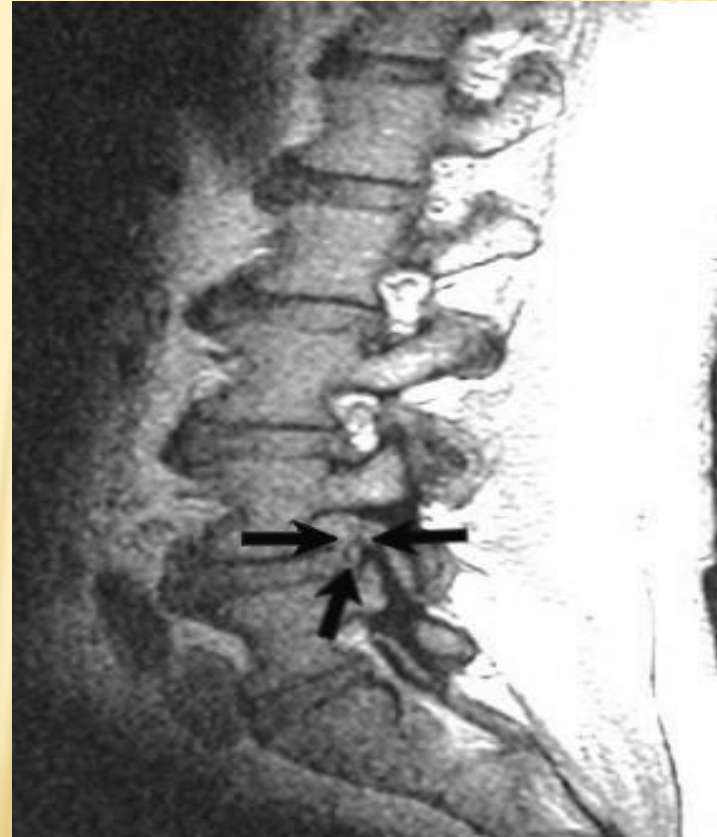
**MAGNETIC RESONANCE
IMAGING: CERVICAL CORD
COMPRESSION BY DORSA
OSTEOPHYTES AT C5/6
AND C6/7 LEVEL (MR
SAGGITAL SCAN, T2W
IMAGE)**



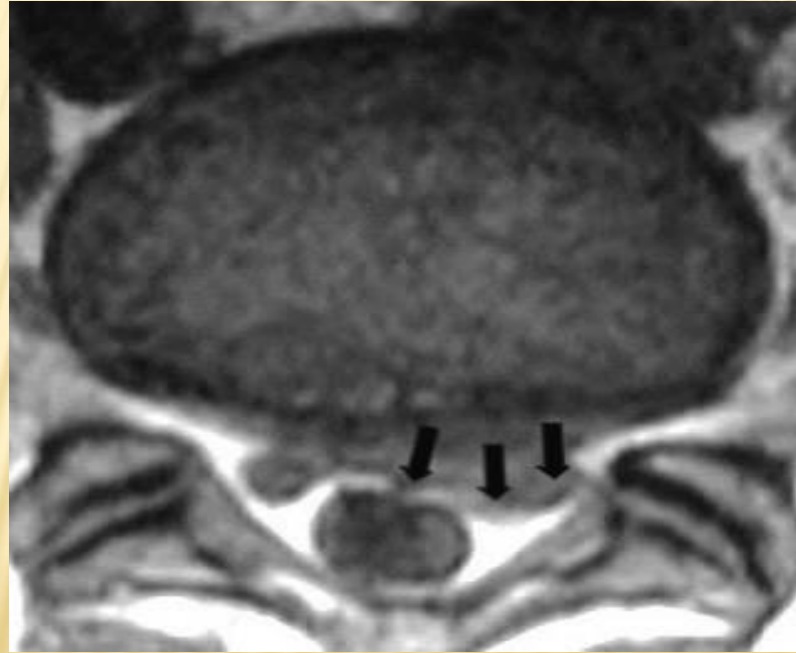
MRI: PARAMEDIAL SEQUESTERED L5/S1 DISC HERNIATION (MR SAGGITAL SCAN, T1W IMAGE)



**MRI: FORAMINAL L4/5
DISC HERNIATION
(SAGGITAL SCAN, T1W
IMAGE)**



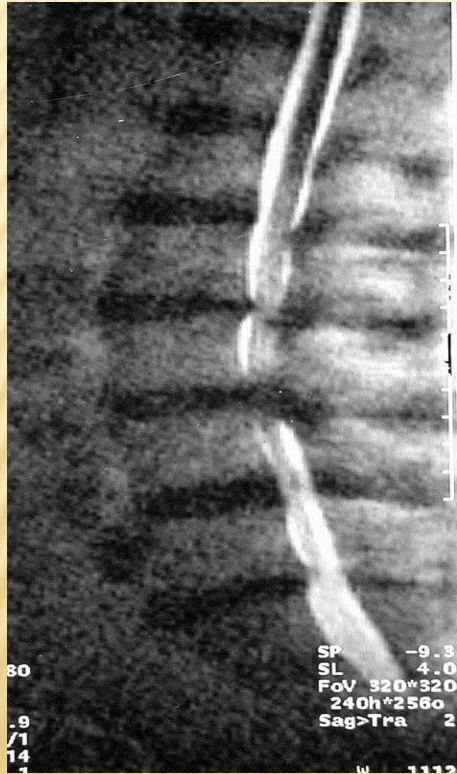
MRI: PARAMEDIAL L5/S1 DISC HERNIATION ON THE LEFT SIDE (T1W IMAGE, AXIAL SCAN)



MRI: LEFT-SIDED PARAMEDIA L5/S1 DISC HERNIATION (TW1 IMAGE, FRONTAL SCAN)

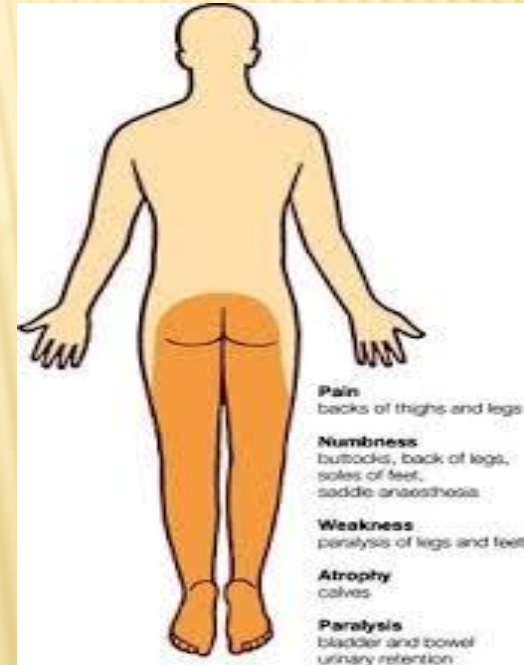


MRI MYELOGRAPHY: MULTISEGMENTAL DEGENERATIVE LUMBAR STENOSIS



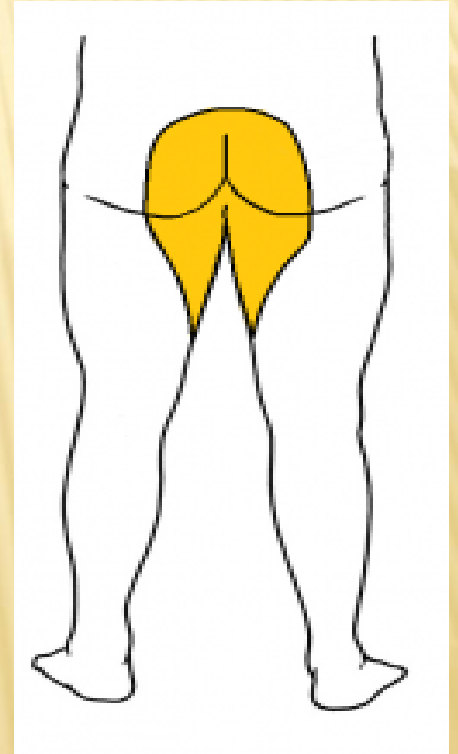
CAUDA EQUINA SYNDROME

- Sphincter dysfunction
- Sensation, pain: Saddle hypo/anaesthesia + more proximal dermatomes
- Possible asymmetry
- Flaccid paraparesis
- Positive compressive tests (Lassegue)



CONUS MEDULLARIS SYNDROME

- Sensation: saddle hypo/anaesthesia, no pain
- Sphincter disturbances



DEGENERATIVE (SPONDYLOTIC) CERVICAL MYELOPATHY (DCM)

Epidemiology: the most frequent cause of lower paraparesis above the age of 55 years

Pathophysiology:

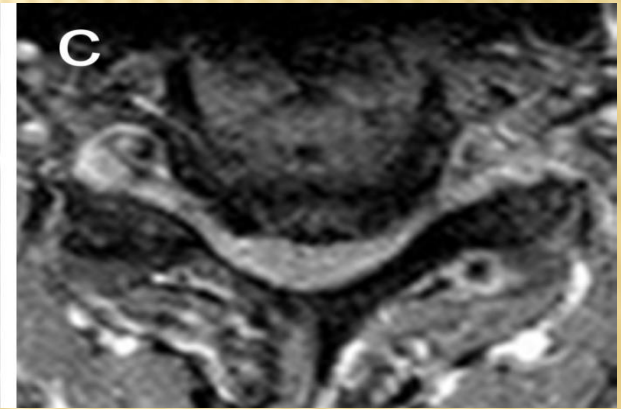
- Cervical cord mechanical compression (static, dynamic)
- Vascular factor



MOST FREQUENT CLINICAL SYMPTOMS AND SIGNS OF DCM

- Clumsy hands
- Disturbance of gait
- Cervical pain, radicular cervical pain
- Paretic signs
- Sensory signs
- Sphincter disturbance

MRI: DEGENERATIVE CERVICAL CORD COMPRESSION (T1W IMAGE, AXIAL SCANS)



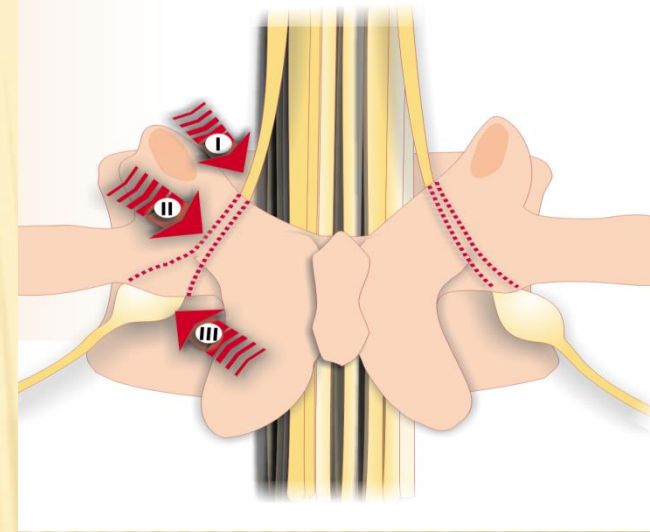
LUMBAR STENOSIS – ANATOMICAL CLASSIFICATION

1. Central stenosis

- 1.1. Anteroposterior (usually congenital)
- 1.2. Transversal (rarely congenital)

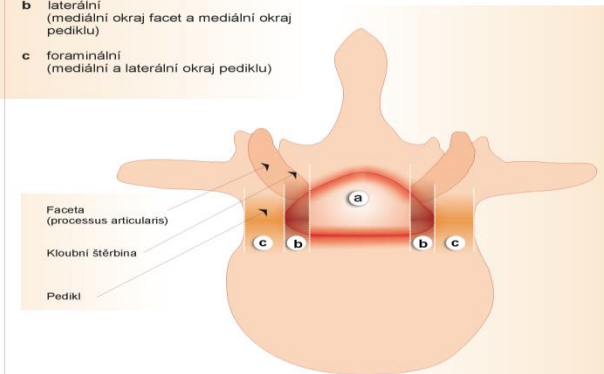
2. Lateral stenosis (root canal stenosis)- degenerative

- 2.1. Stenosis of lateral recessus (medially to pedicle)
- 2.2. Foraminal stenosis (caudally to pedicle)
- 2.3. Extraforaminal stenosis (laterally to pedicle)



Zóny stenózy páteřního kanálu

- centrální (ohraničená mediálním okrajem facet)
- laterální (mediální okraj facet a mediální okraj pediklu)
- foraminální (mediální a laterální okraj pediklu)



LSS – ETIOLOGICAL CLASSIFICATION

1. Congenital (developmental)

2. Acquired

2.1. Degenerative

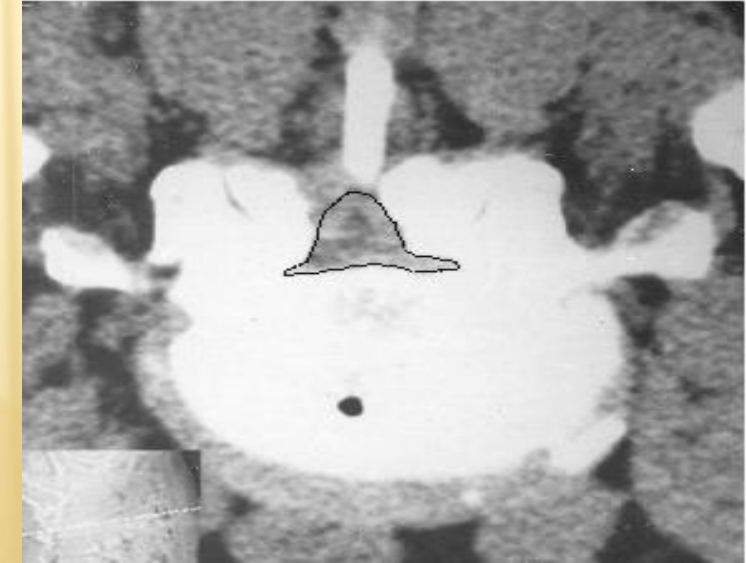
2.2. Combined congenital and degenerative

2.3. Iatrogenic (postlaminectomy)

2.4. Spondylolytic

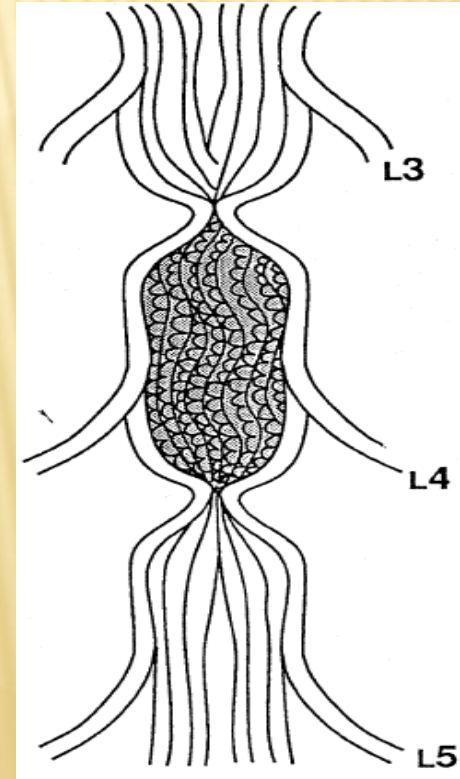
2.5. Posttraumatic

2.6. Various (Paget disease)



SYMPTOMATIC LUMBAR SPINAL STENOSIS

- Neurogenic claudication
- Chronic cauda equina syndrome



DIAGNOSIS OF CLAUDICATION

Clinical Spectrum of Claudication

Intermittent (Atherosclerosis)	Neurogenic (Lumbar Spinal Stenosis)	Venous (Deep Vein Thrombosis)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pain is in the muscle of the calf, thigh or buttock• Unilateral in femoropopliteal disease• Bilateral in aorto-iliac disease• Gradual onset after walking "claudication distance"• Pain is relieved by rest• Absent/reduced pulses <p>NB. The Claudication distance is a constant distance the patient was able to walk before the onset of symptoms.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pain is in whole leg can be associated with tingling and numbness• Bilateral (Can also be less commonly unilateral)• Comes on suddenly on standing up or walking• Relieved by sitting down, bending over and stopping walking• Unable to straighten legs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Involvement of whole leg.• Pt may describe feeling their "leg is going to burst"• Most commonly unilateral• Gradual onset after beginning to walk• Relief on elevating the leg• Cyanosed• Varicose Veins• Oedematous

COCHRANOVÁ DATABÁZE: FARMAKOTERAPIE BOLESTÍ ZAD

Typ léčby	Cílová skupina	Aktualizace	Průkaz efektu
NSA	LBP	2008	ANO: krátkodobý efekt u akutní LBP bez kořenové symptomatiky , síla efektu je malá. NE: větší účinnost jednoho typu NSAID oproti jinému. COX-2 inhibitory mají méně nežádoucích účinků oproti klasickým NSAID, ale vyšší kardiovaskulární toxicitu
NSA	Neuropatická bolest u LBP	2015	NE: efekt na snížení bolesti
NSA	Chronická LBP	2016	ANO: průkaz nízké kvality efektu oproti placebo na bolest a mírného efektu na disabilitu NE: rozdíl v účinnosti i bezpečnosti jednotlivých NSA
NSA	Ischias	2016	ANO: průkaz nízké kvality na celkové zlepšení NE: průkaz efektu na bolest
Myorelaxancia	Nespecifické LBP	2004	ANO: efekt u akutní LBP (ne-benzodiazepinová myorelaxancia) NE: efekt u chronické LBP; větší účinnost oproti NSA či jiným analgetikům
Antidepresiva	Nespecifické LBP	2008	NE: efekt u chronické LBP
Opioidy	Chronická LBP	2013	ANO: průkaz nízké až střední kvality krátkodobého efektu na bolest a funkci NE: rozdíl v efektu oproti NSA nebo antidepresivům
Paracetamol	LBP	2016	NE: lepší efekt než placebo u akutní i chronické LBP v monoterapii
Tapentadol	Chronická muskuloskeletální bolest	2015	ANO: efekt na redukci bolesti oproti placebo a oxykodonu ; klinický význam je nejistý; lepší bezpečnostní profil oproti oxykodonu