

Spine Case 3

EXAM: MRI lumbar spine

INDICATION: Low back pain.

TECHNIQUE: Sagittal T1-weighted, sagittal T2-weighted, sagittal STIR images, axial T1-weighted, axial T2-weighted scans were performed through the lumbar spine without contrast administration.

FINDINGS:

These images demonstrate normal appearance to the conus medullaris, which terminates at an appropriate level. There is slight retrolisthesis of L3 with respect to L4. There is disc space narrowing and endplate degenerative changes about the L3-4 disc. A hemangioma of bone is present in the L2 vertebra.

The disc height at L3-4 is diminished and there is decreased disc signal at L3-4 and L4-5.

Axial scans through the L1-2 level are unremarkable.

Axial scans through the L2-3 level show only minimal facet hypertrophy without thecal sac or nerve root compromise.

At the L3-4 level, there is a right foraminal disc herniation, which appears to abut the right L3 nerve root. There is minimal indentation on the thecal sac as well. There is mild degenerative facet joint disease.

At the L4-5 level, there is mild disc bulge slightly indenting the thecal sac with mild degenerative facet joint disease.

At the L5-S1 level, there is mild degenerative facet joint disease without foraminal narrowing or nerve root impingement.

IMPRESSION:

1. Foraminal disc herniation L3-4 on the right side abutting on right L3 foraminal nerve root.



