

In Neurology

Sciatica

The term sciatica is a misnomer. The condition usually refers to lumbosacral radiculopathy, commonly due to involvement of S1 nerve root due to L5-S1 disc involvement. Disc herniation is the usual etiology in young people while osteophyte formation is seen more commonly in older individuals. Since this distribution corresponds to the pathway of the sciatic nerve that sciatica has been applied to the same. Back pain radiating to the lower limb in the distribution of the involved nerve root is a characteristic feature. MRI of the lumbosacral spine confirms the diagnosis.

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