

In Neurology

Pyriformis syndrome is an uncommon condition were there is compression of sciatic nerve in the posterior gluteal area by the pyriformis muscle. Hypertrophy of pyriformis muscle may predispose to the development of the syndrome. Additionally there may be involvement of the superior gluteal nerve also in this condition.

The characteristic symptom reported by the patient is the buttock pain radiating to the leg exacerbated by abduction and flexion of the hip. Prolonged sitting and climbing stairs may aggravate the pain. The diagnosis is typically clinical. When the clinical diagnosis is strongly suspected Radiologist may be appropriately informed to pick up the condition by focused MRI studies. Treatment is with anti-inflammatory drugs and physiotherapy. Local steroid administration and surgical management strategies are employed in a small number of patients.

Dr. Meenakshi Sundaram