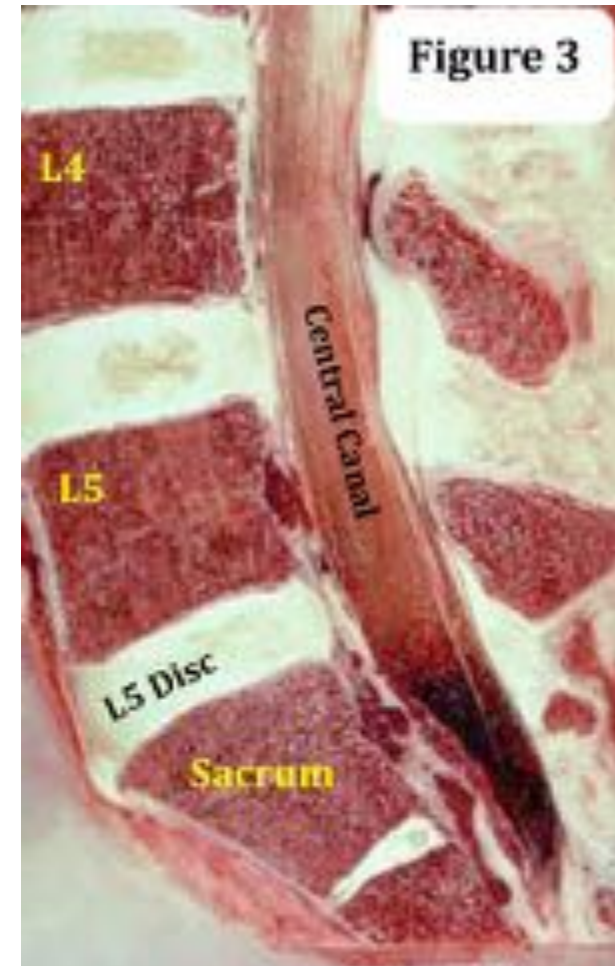
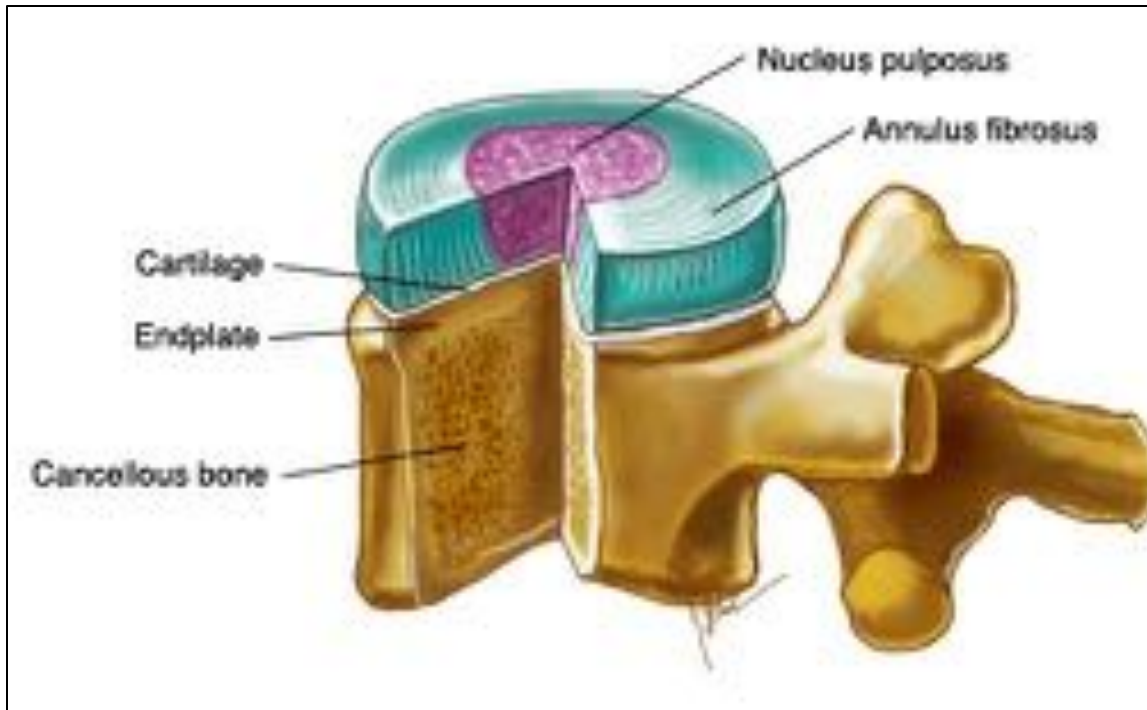


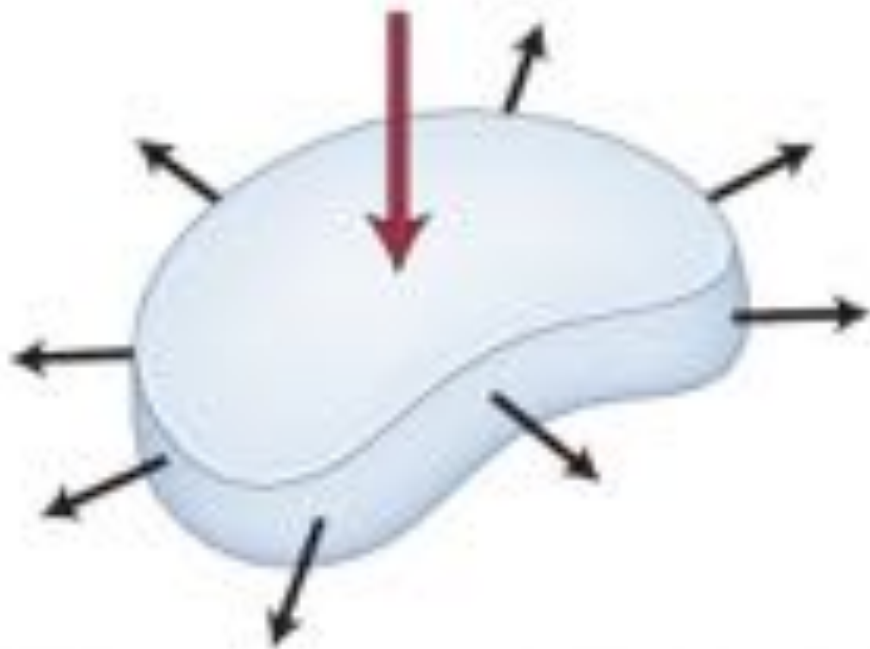
# Lumbar disc prolapse



Dr.C.S.Vishnuprasath.,M.S.,DNB.,FNB(Spine).,  
Consultant spine surgeon,  
SKS Hospitals, Salem.

# Lumbar Disc





• collagen fibres & fibroblasts

• disc expansion & expands circumferentially

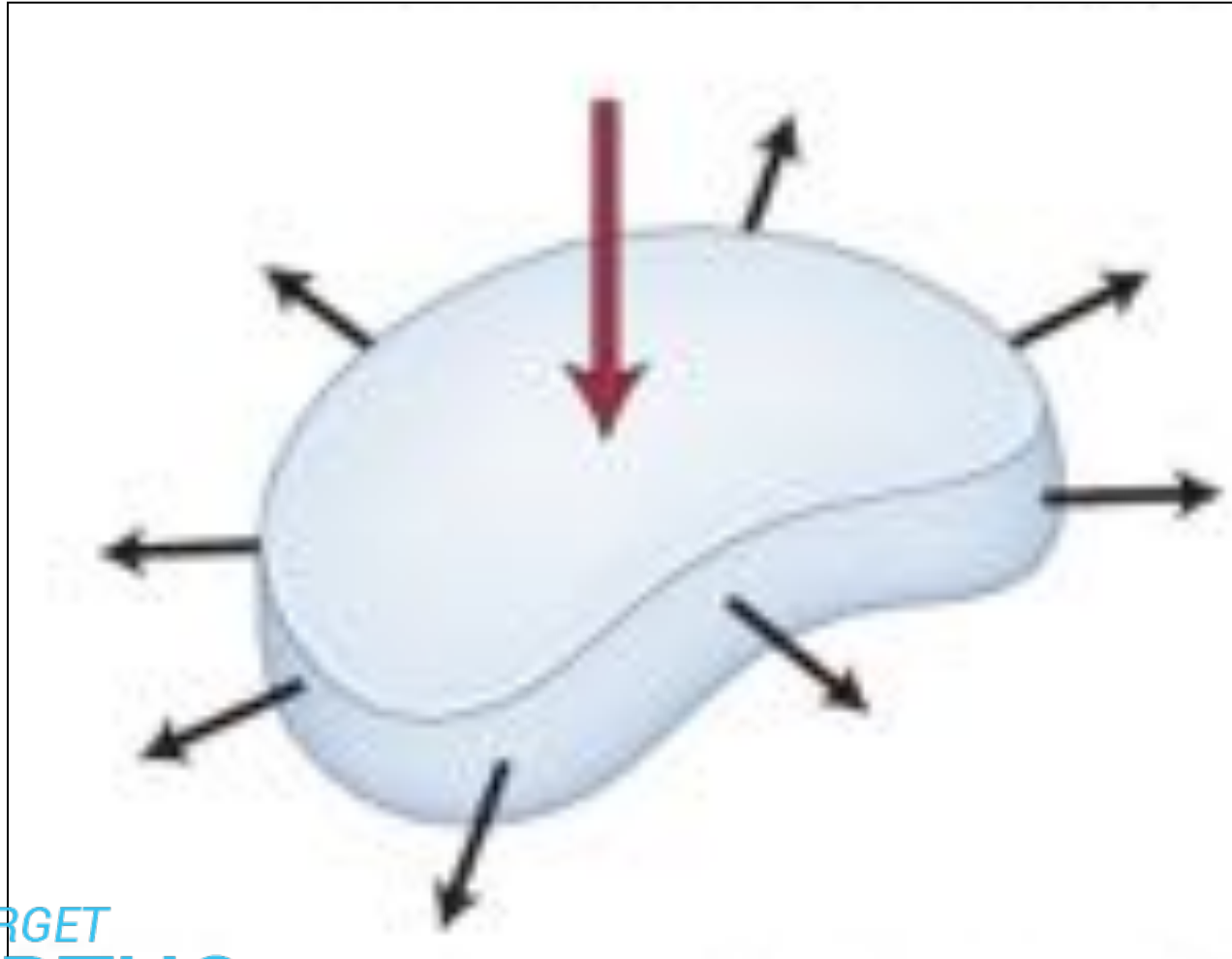
• proteoglycans (glycosaminoglycans) & chondrocytes

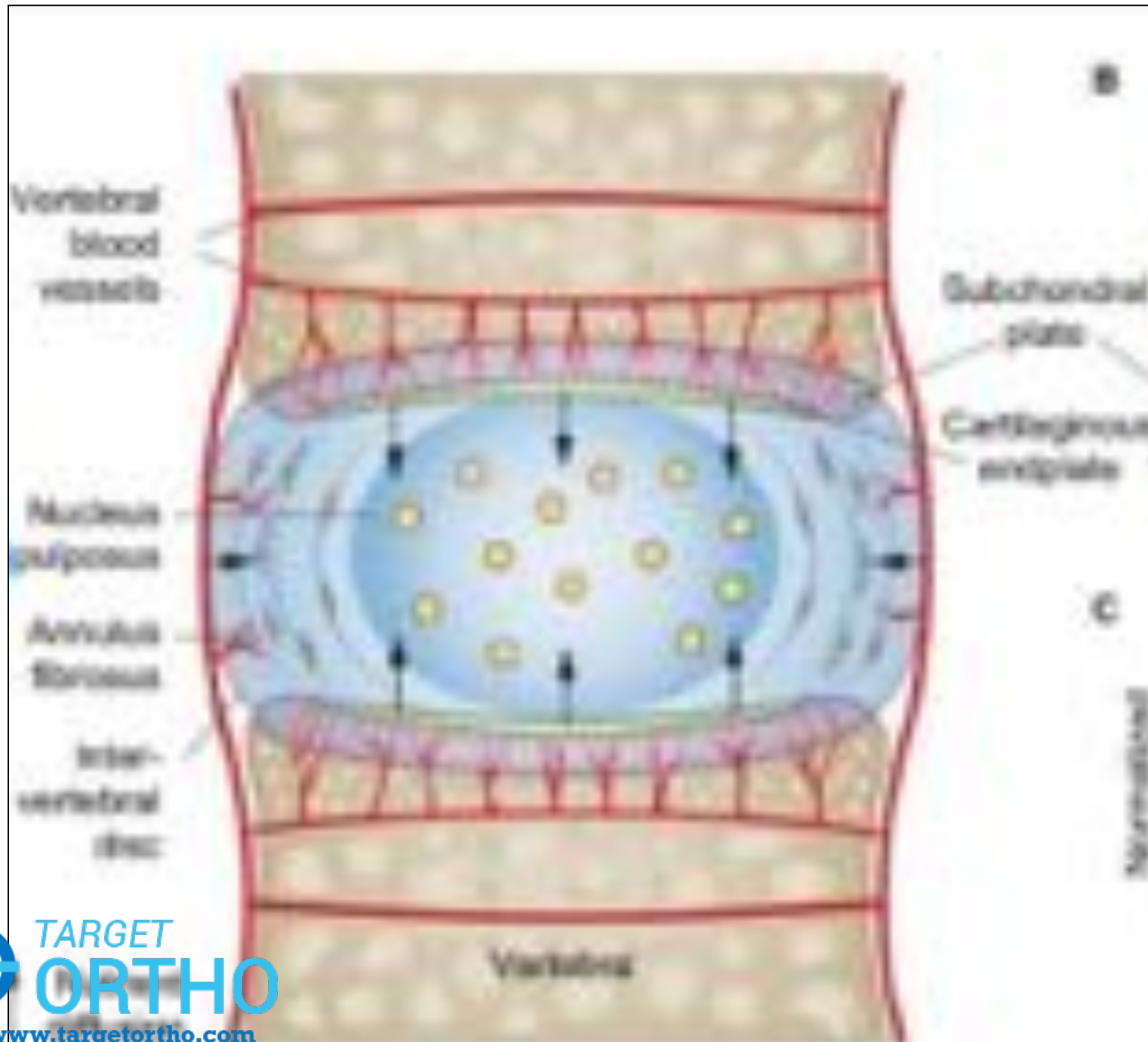
• Glycosaminoglycans-hydrophilic .

• Receives the axial load & converts into radial force



# How axial load is distributed





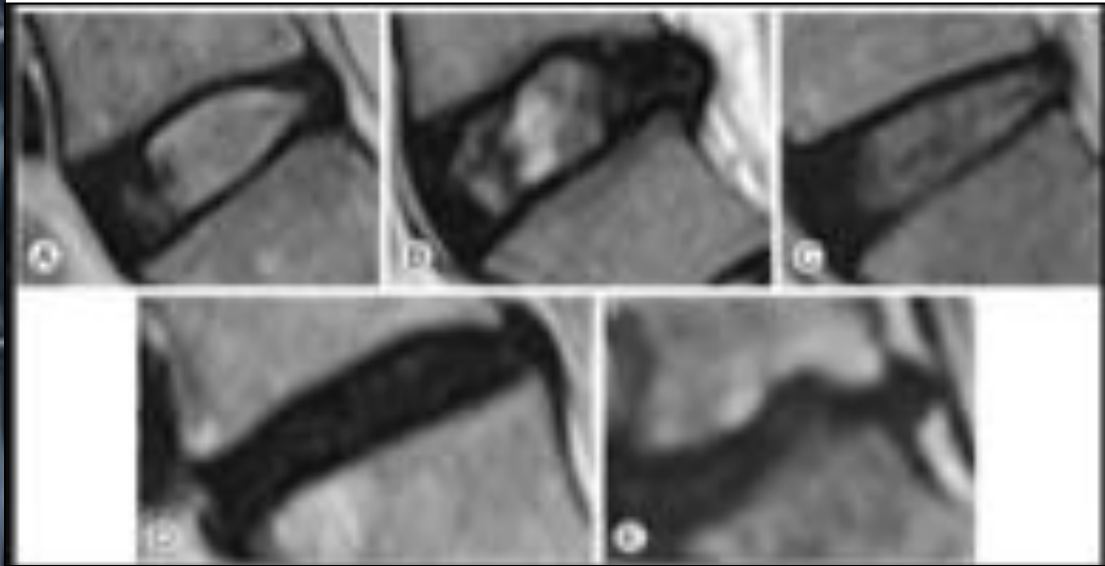
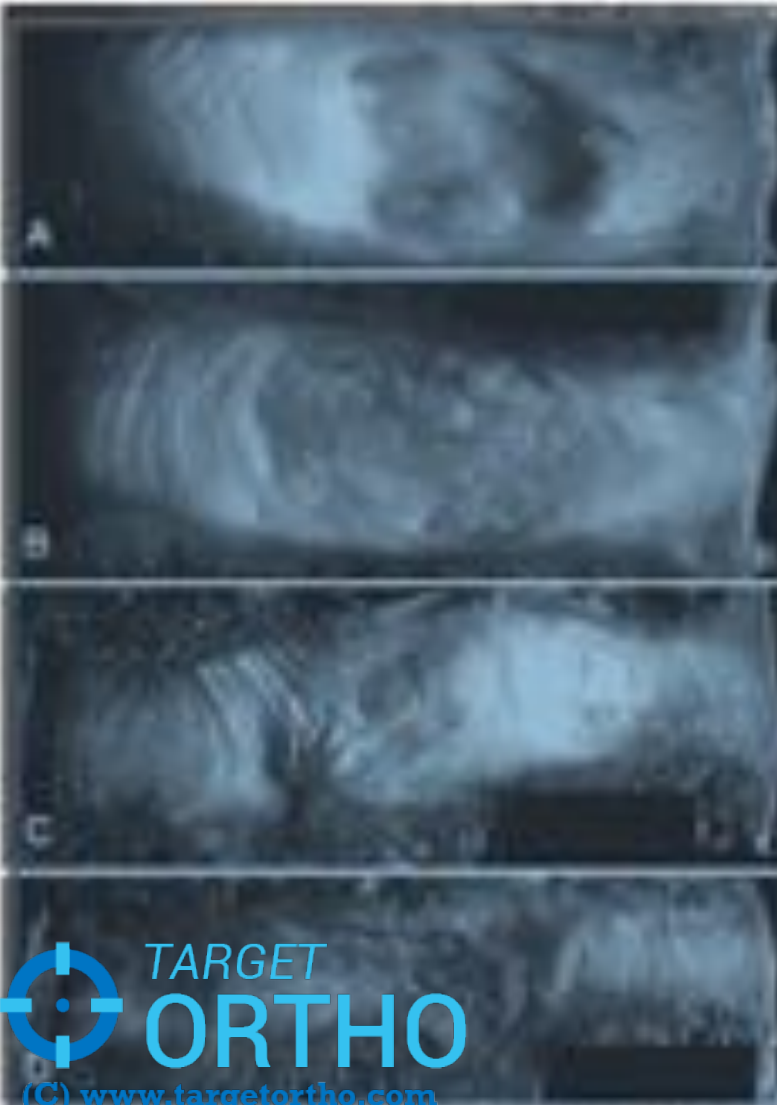


# Disc degeneration



# Disc degeneration

## Pfirmann's grading

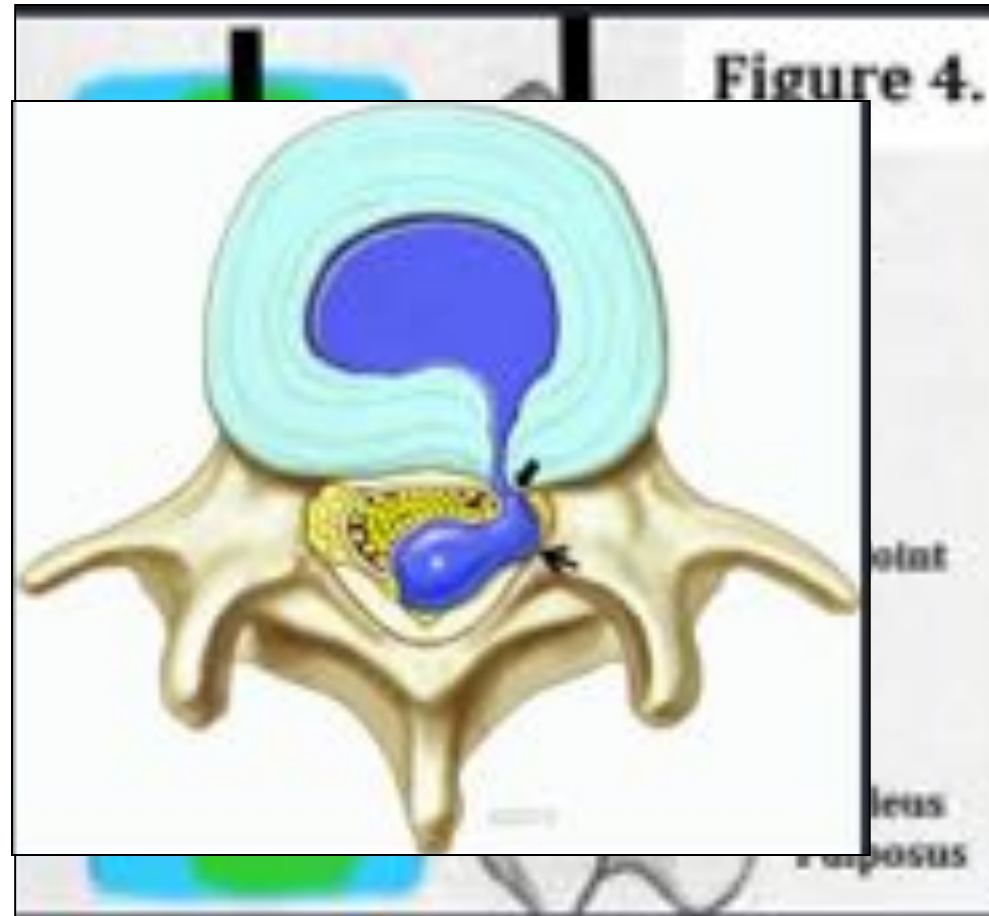
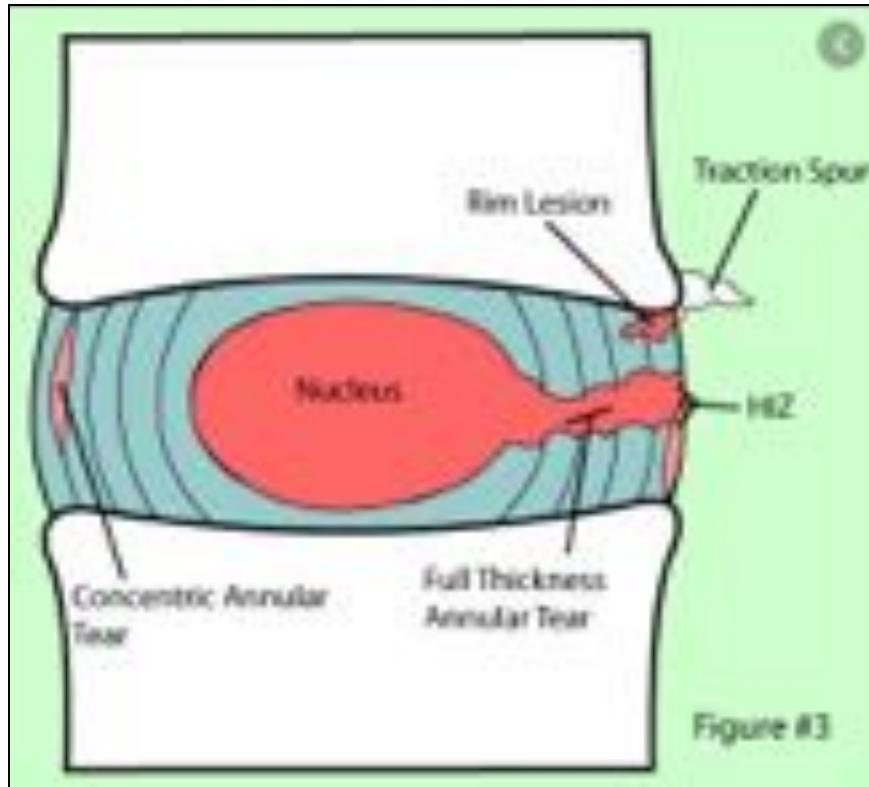


# Disc prolapse more common in lumbar & cervical spine





# Disc prolapse



# History and symptoms

- LBA with radiating leg pain
- H/o long standing mechanical LBA
- H/O trauma- exacerbating the pain along with radicular leg pain (***fall/twist/lifting heavy objects***)

# History and symptoms

- More risk- **vibration + flexion/rotation**
- **Leg pain- predominant / treatable**

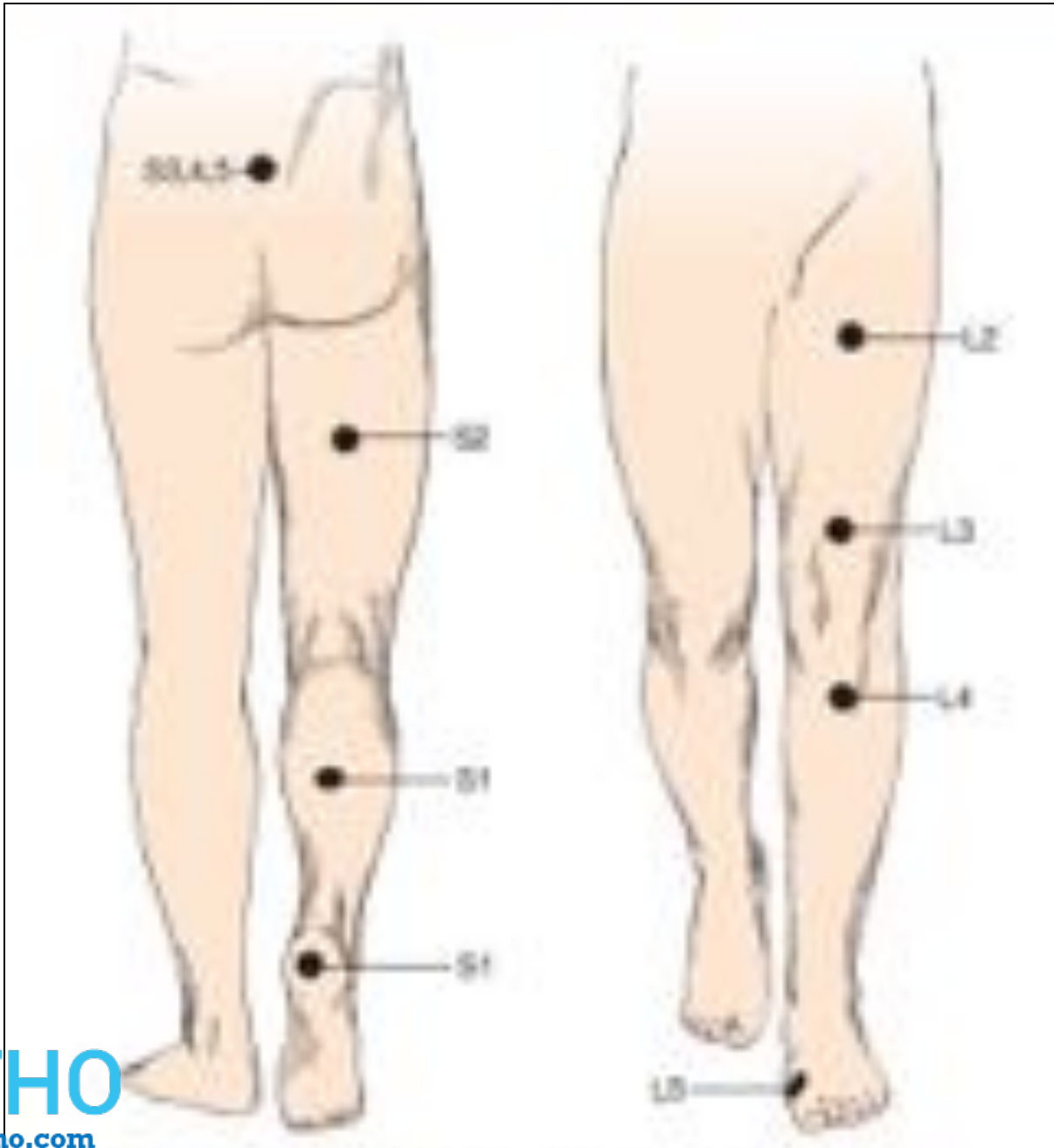
- Leg pain

- Disc prolapse- constant pain

**Pain increases** – bending/ lifting/ coughing

- Lumbar canal stenosis- only on walking

**Pain decreases** – lying supine with hip and knee in flexion



# History and symptoms

- History pertaining to motor & sensory weakness
  1. Walking difficulty
  2. Numbness.
- Bladder & bowel symptoms



# Clinical examination

## Inspection

- Sciatic list

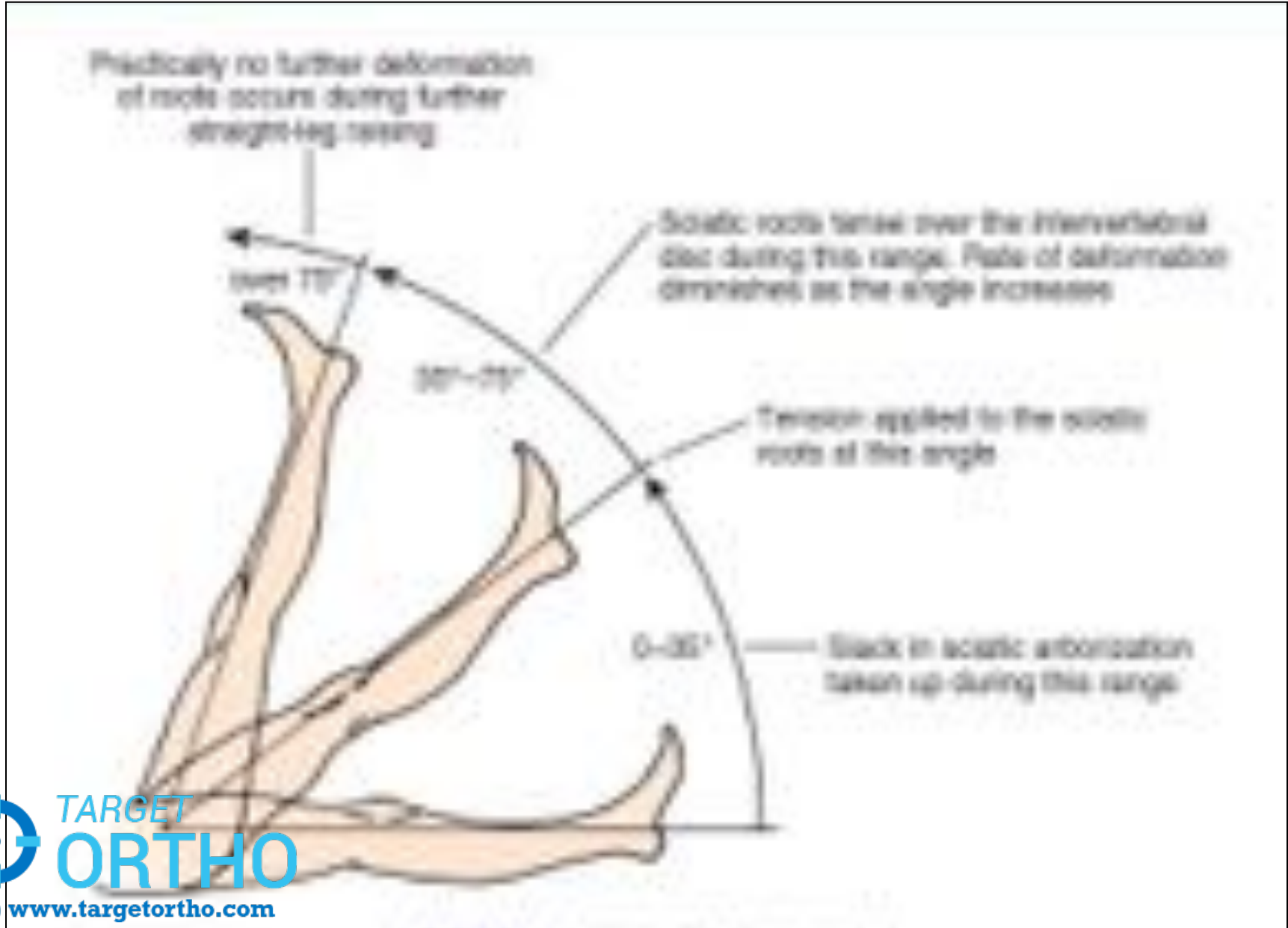




# Paraspinal muscle spasm



# Straight leg raising test – SLR



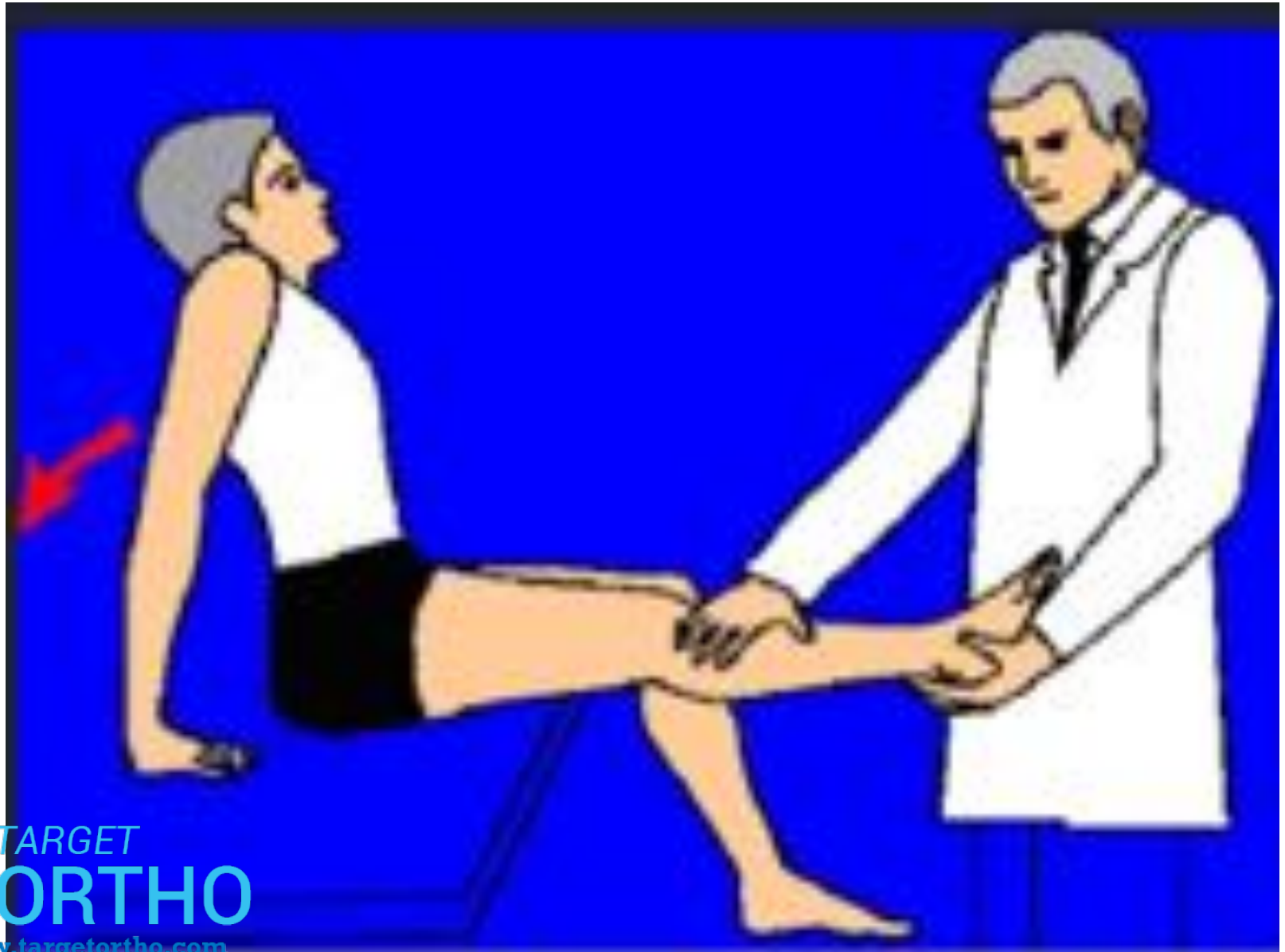




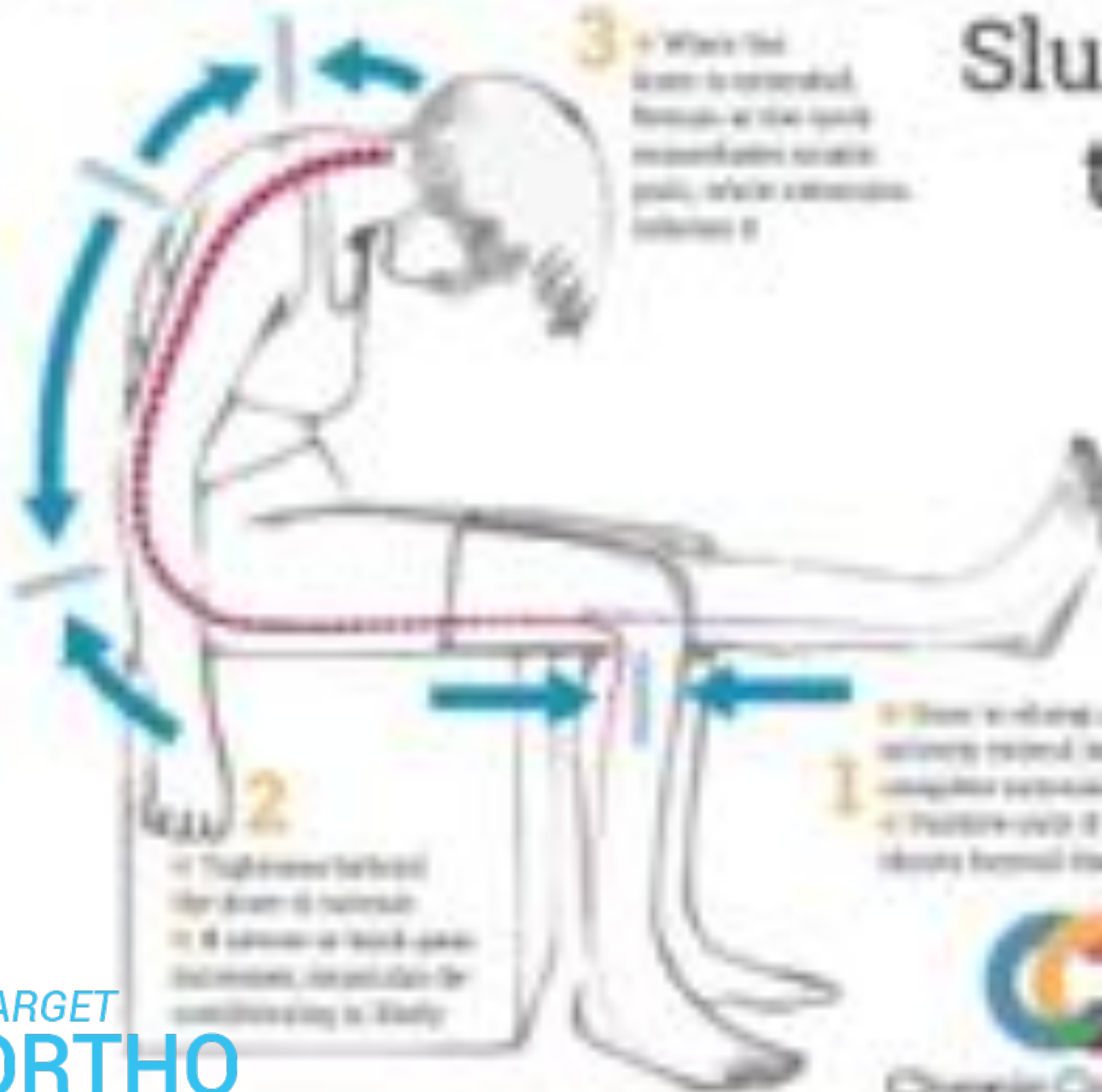
# Bowstring test



# Sitting SLR

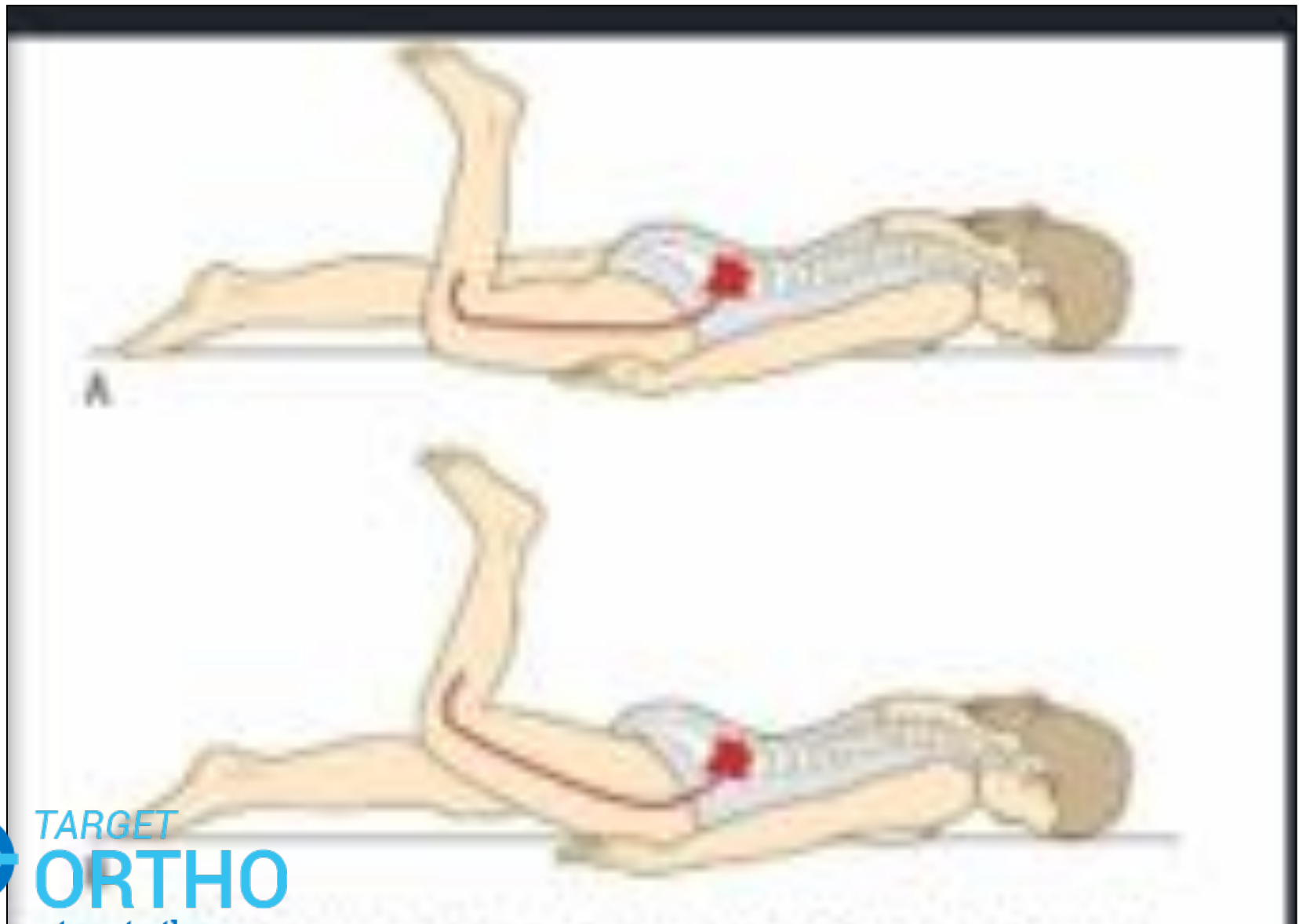


# Slump test



Chronic Conditions

# Femoral nerve stretch test



# Neurologic Examination

## L4

- Foot inversion (Tibialis anterior)
- Patellar reflex
- Medial aspect of foot sensation

Ankle dorsi flexion – Foot drop

HEEL WALKING

FUNCTIONAL EXAMINATION OF THE LUMBAR SPINE

**L4**  
NEUROLOGIC  
LEVEL

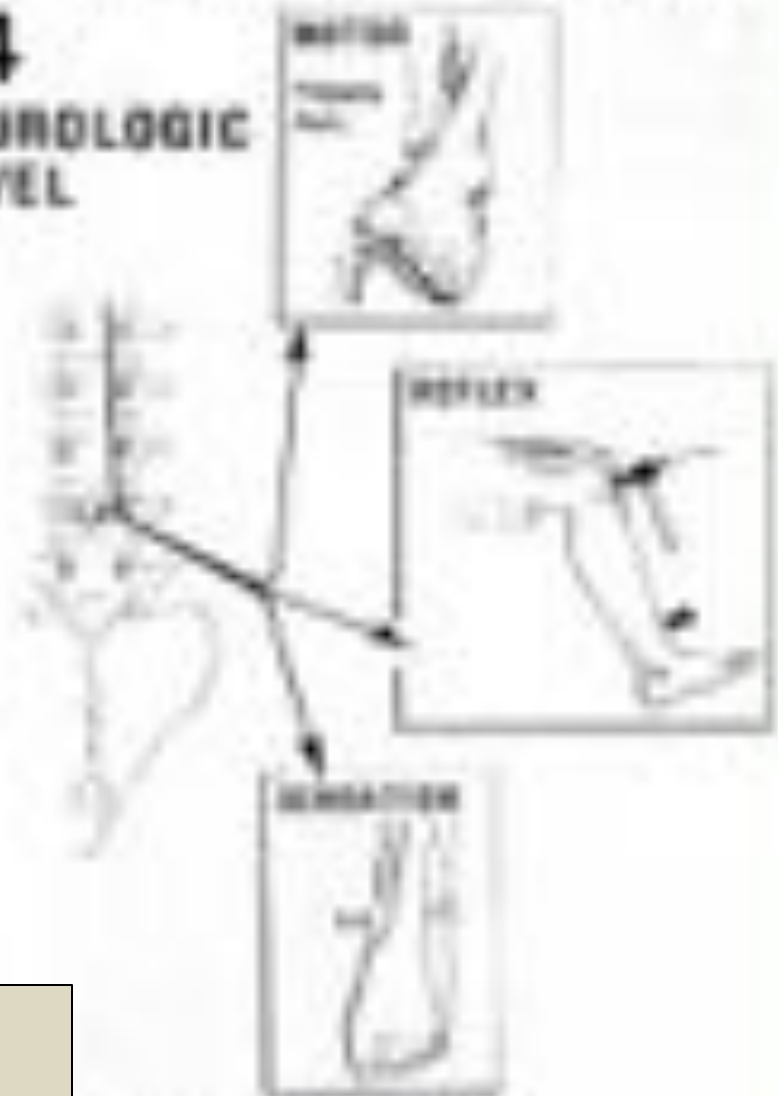


Fig. 18. Functional level L4



# Neurologic Examination

## L5

- Great toe extension (Extensor Hallicis longus)
- No reflex
- Dorsum of foot sensation

Foot drop- Heel walking

Hip abductor weakness-

Trendelenburgh gait

(C) [www.targetortho.com](http://www.targetortho.com)

### PHYSICAL EXAMINATION OF THE LUMBAR SPINE

## L5

### NEUROLOGIC LEVEL

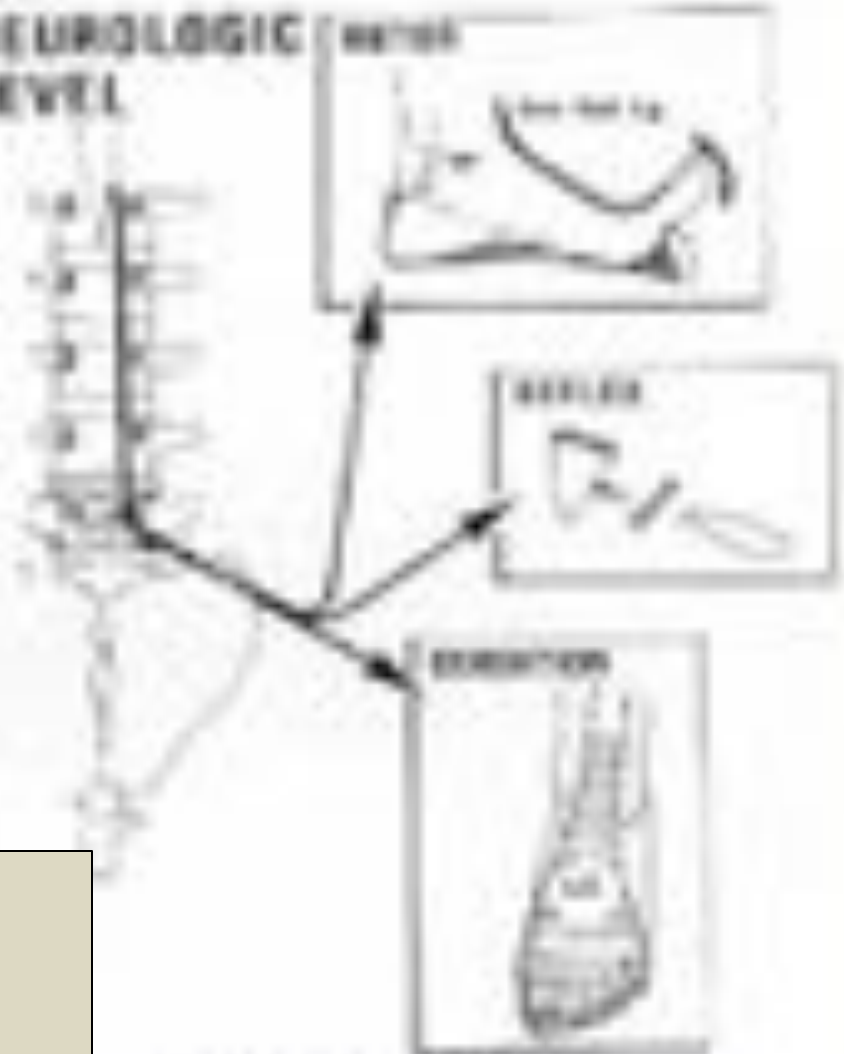


Fig. 25. Neurologic level L5.

# Neurologic Examination

## S1

- Foot eversion (Peroneus longus and brevis)
- Achilles tendon reflex
- Lateral foot sensation

Ankle plantar flexion

Toe – walking

Hip extensor

### PHYSICAL EXAMINATION OF THE LOWER SPINE

## S1 NEUROLOGIC LEVEL

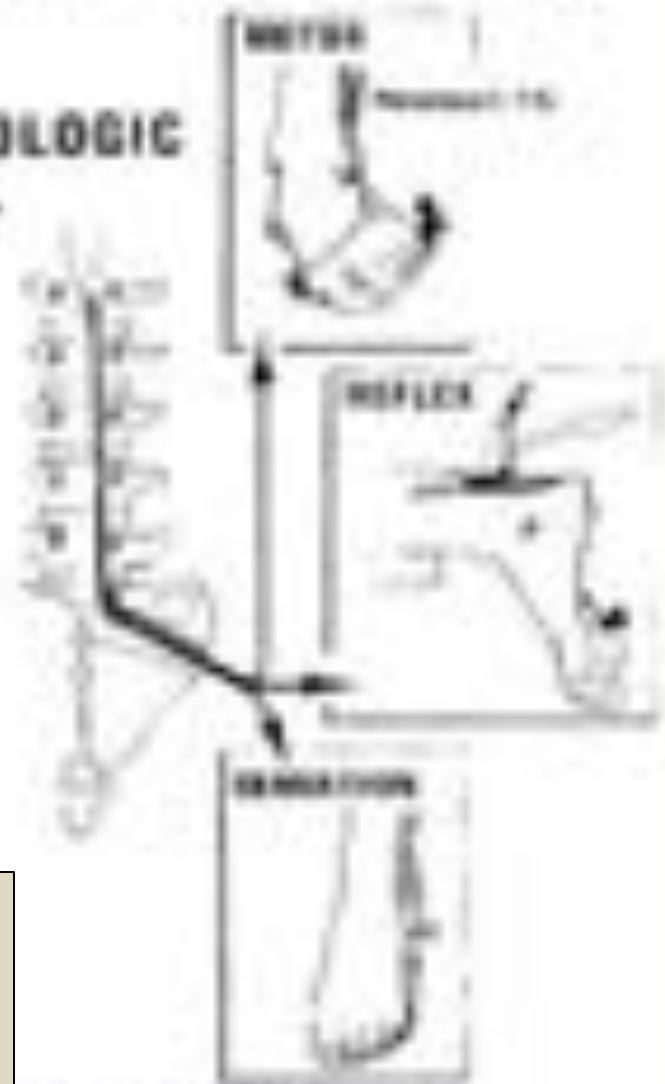


Fig. 28. Neurologic level S1.

# Upper lumbar disc prolapse



**Predominant back pain**

**Radicular pain- anterior thigh**

**Femoral nerve stretch test**

**L2- Hip flexion**

**L3- Knee extension-Quadriceps**

# X- ray

- Initial imaging modality – standing lateral view
- Does not show disc prolapse
- Look for



# Instability







# MRI – indications

- Persistent symptoms
- Constitutional symptoms- fever/ chills
- H/o malignancy
- Neurological deficit
- Bladder / bowel incontinence

Degeneration



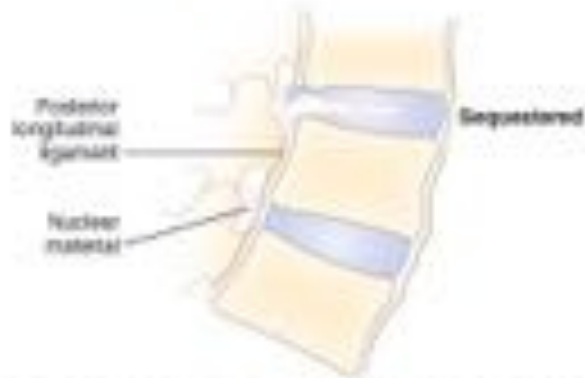
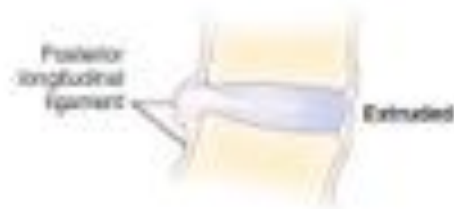
Prolapse

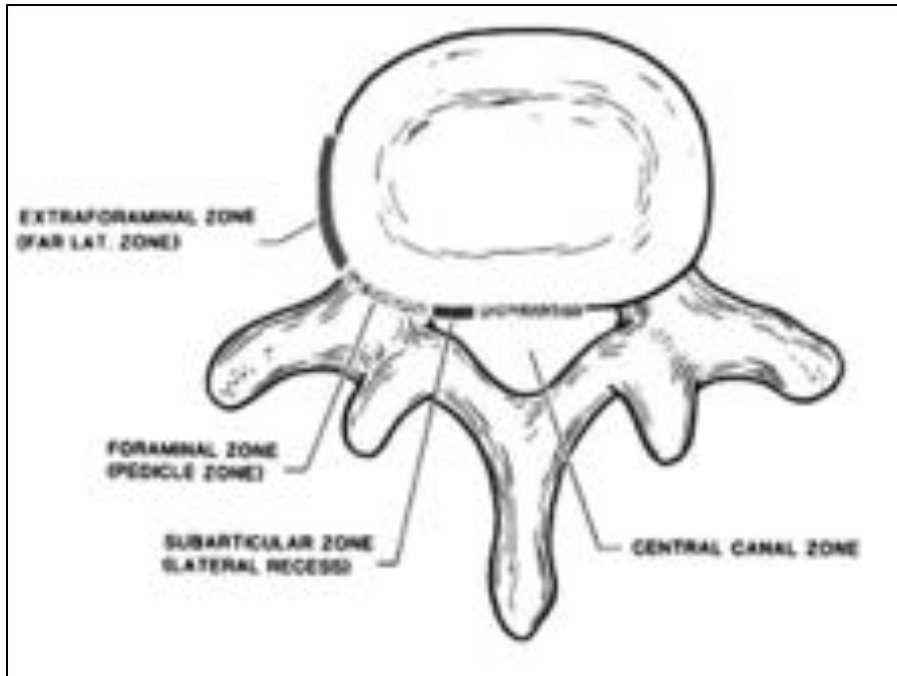


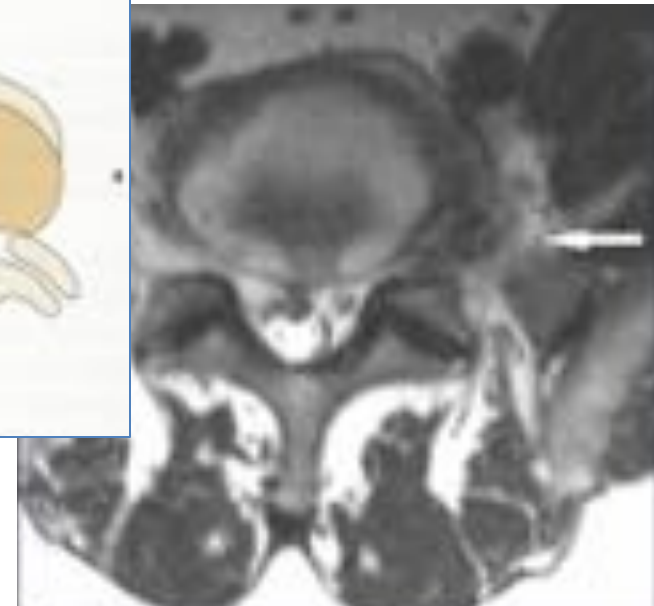
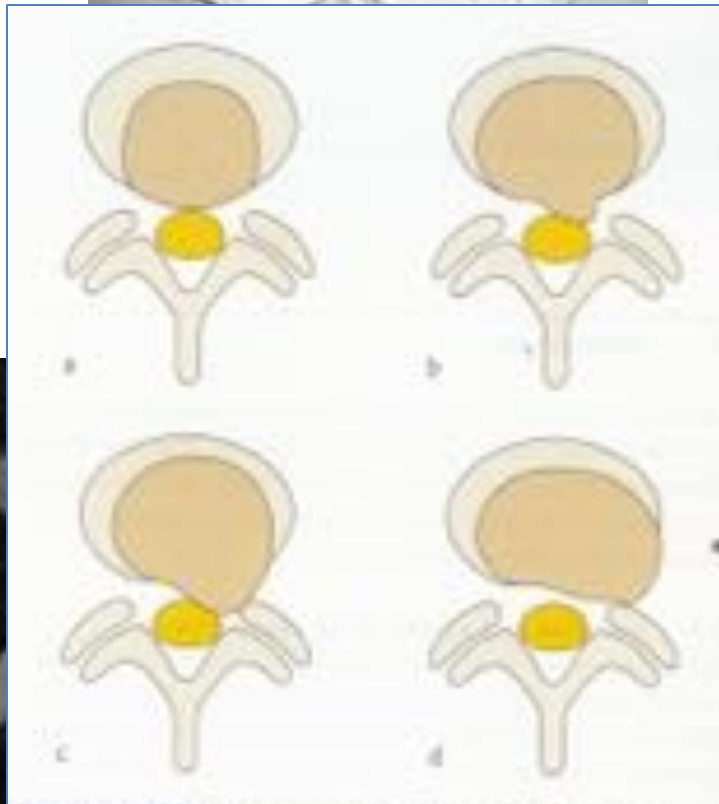
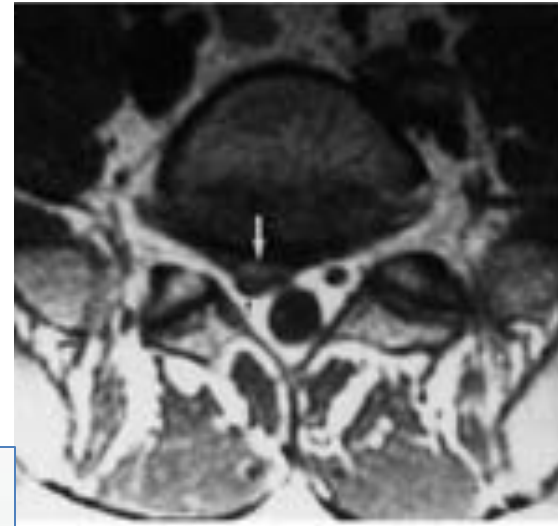
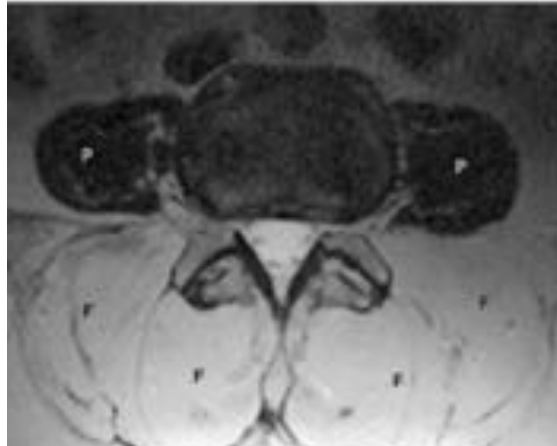
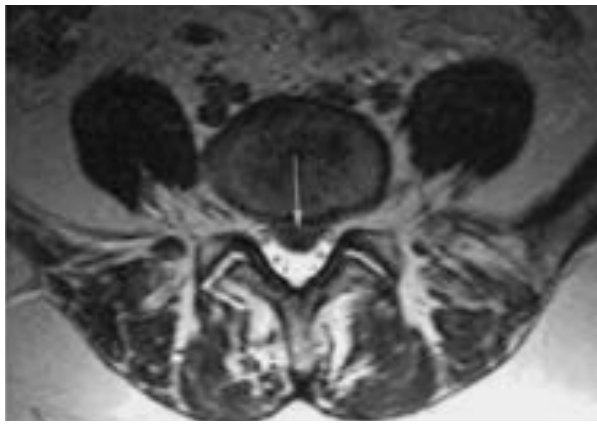
Extrusion



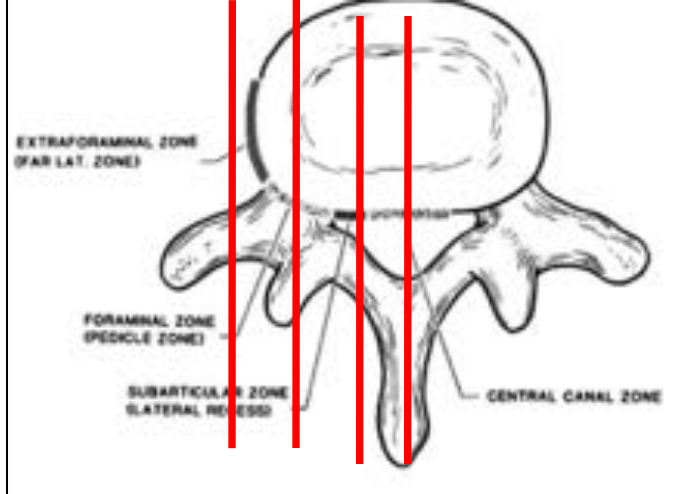
Sequestration



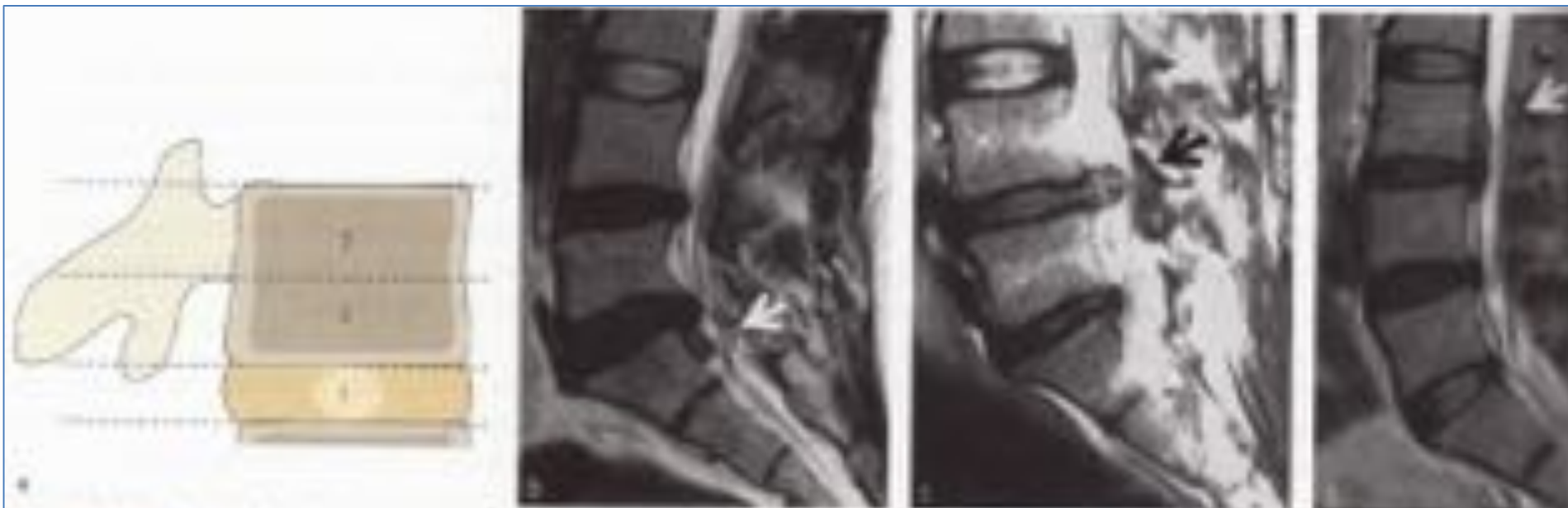




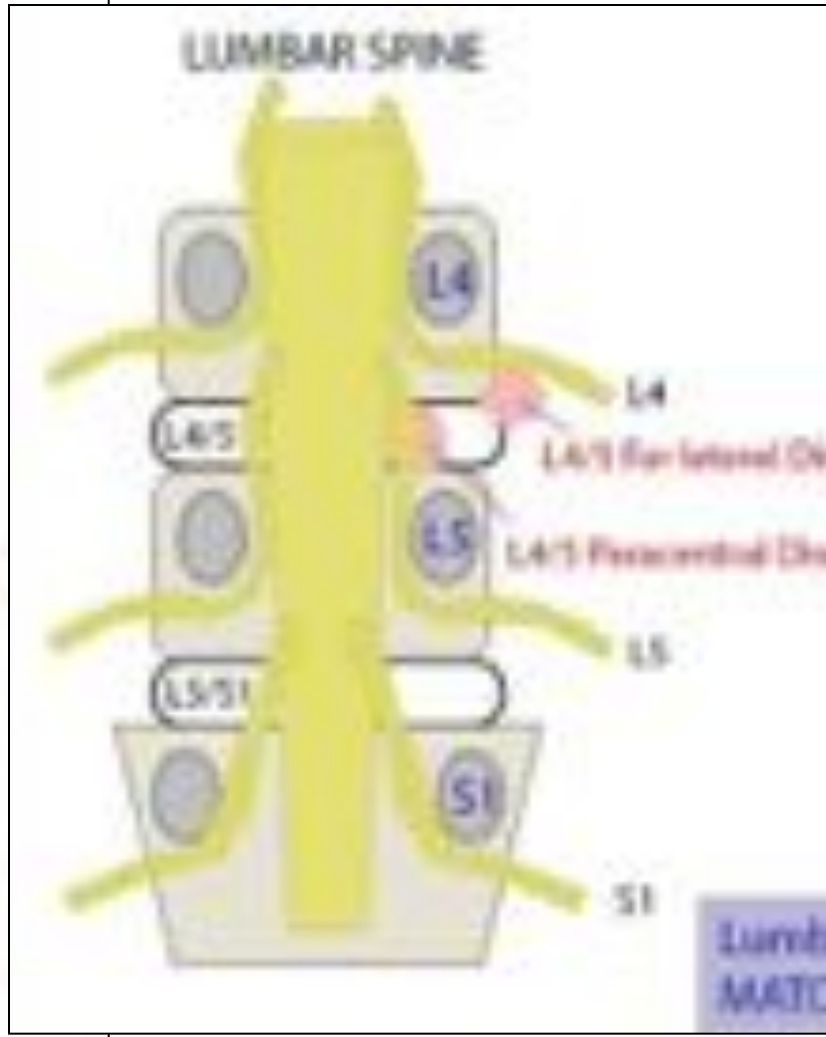
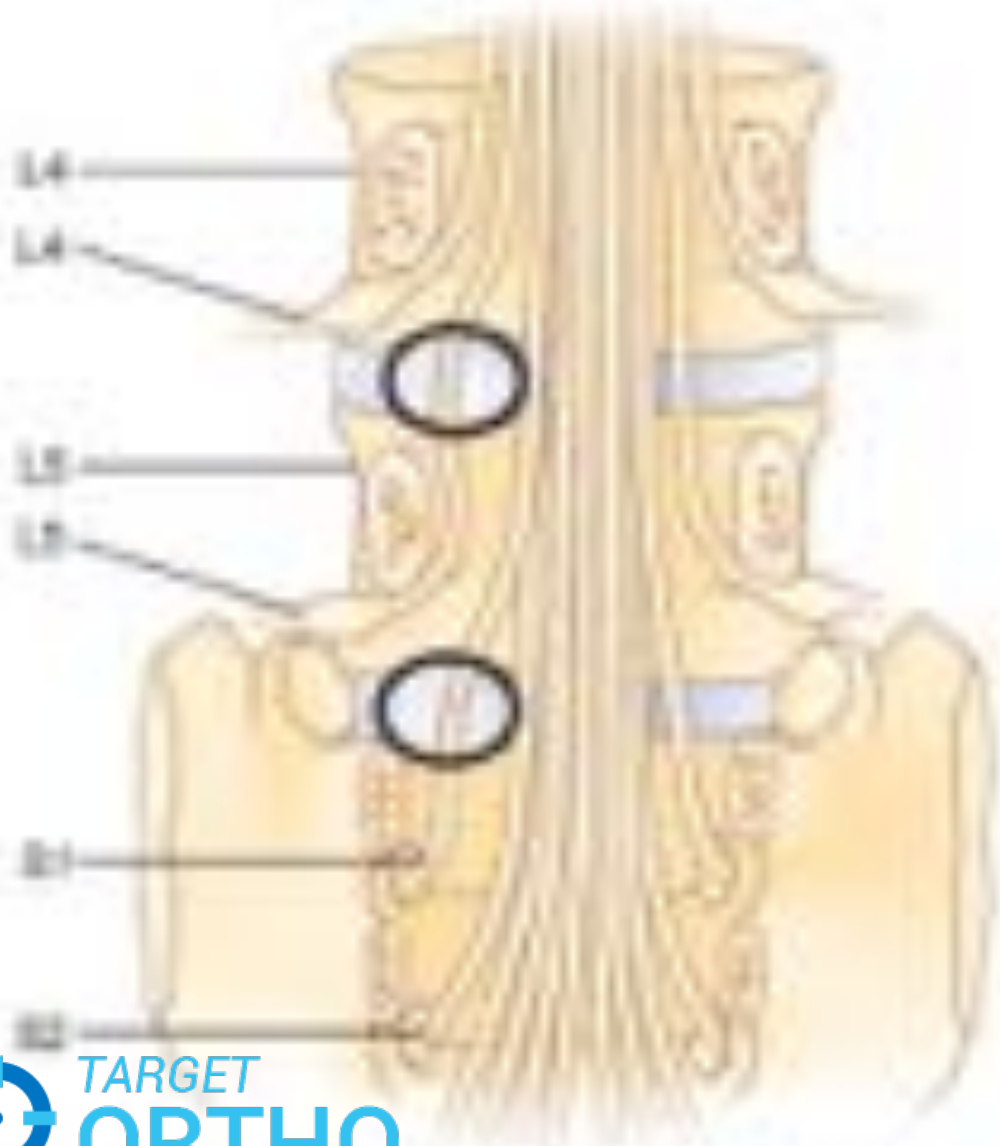




# MRI – sagittal section





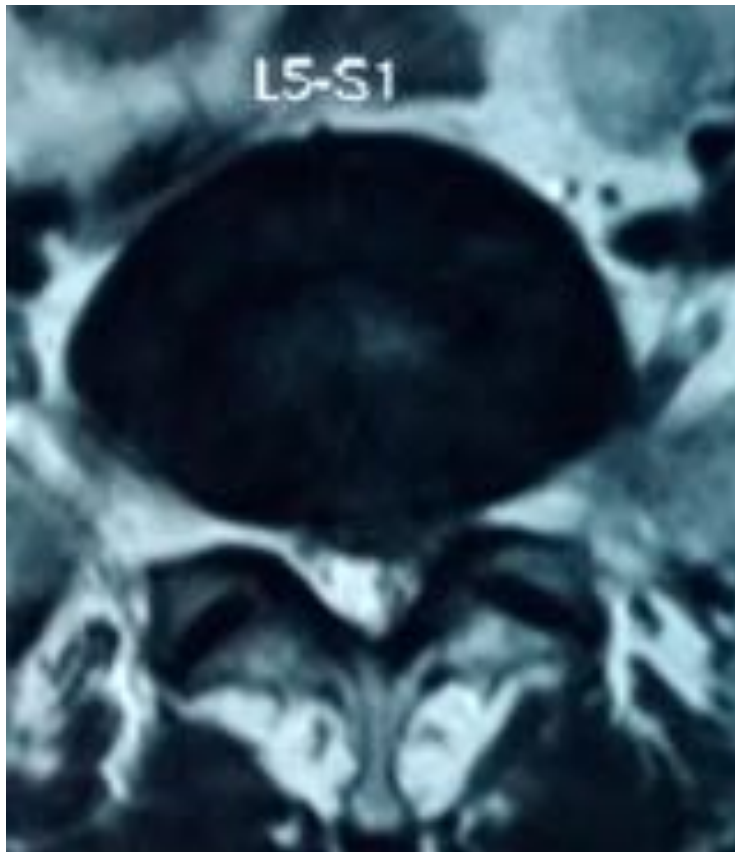


## LUMBAR SPINE

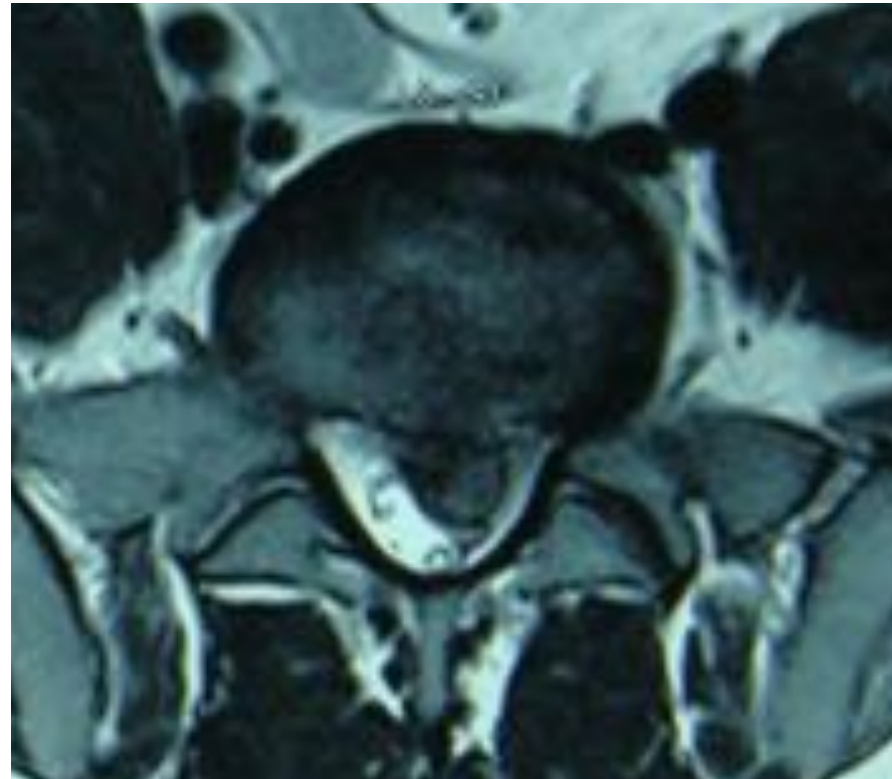


**L4 root- L3-L4 paracentral disc  
L4-L5 far lateral disc**

**L5 root- L4-L5 paracentral disc  
L5-S1 far lateral disc**



# Natural history what causes pain ?



# Sciatica

- Pure mechanical compression – only sensory and motor deficit
- Inflammation of the nerve root – pain
- Nucleus pulposus – shielded from immune system
- On prolapse-releases **TNF- $\alpha$**

# Conservative management

- **Natural history-** Radicular pain without significant neurological deficit will settle down in 60% individuals in 6 weeks.
- Rest
- Analgesics
- Physiotherapy

# Conservative treatment

## What I do...

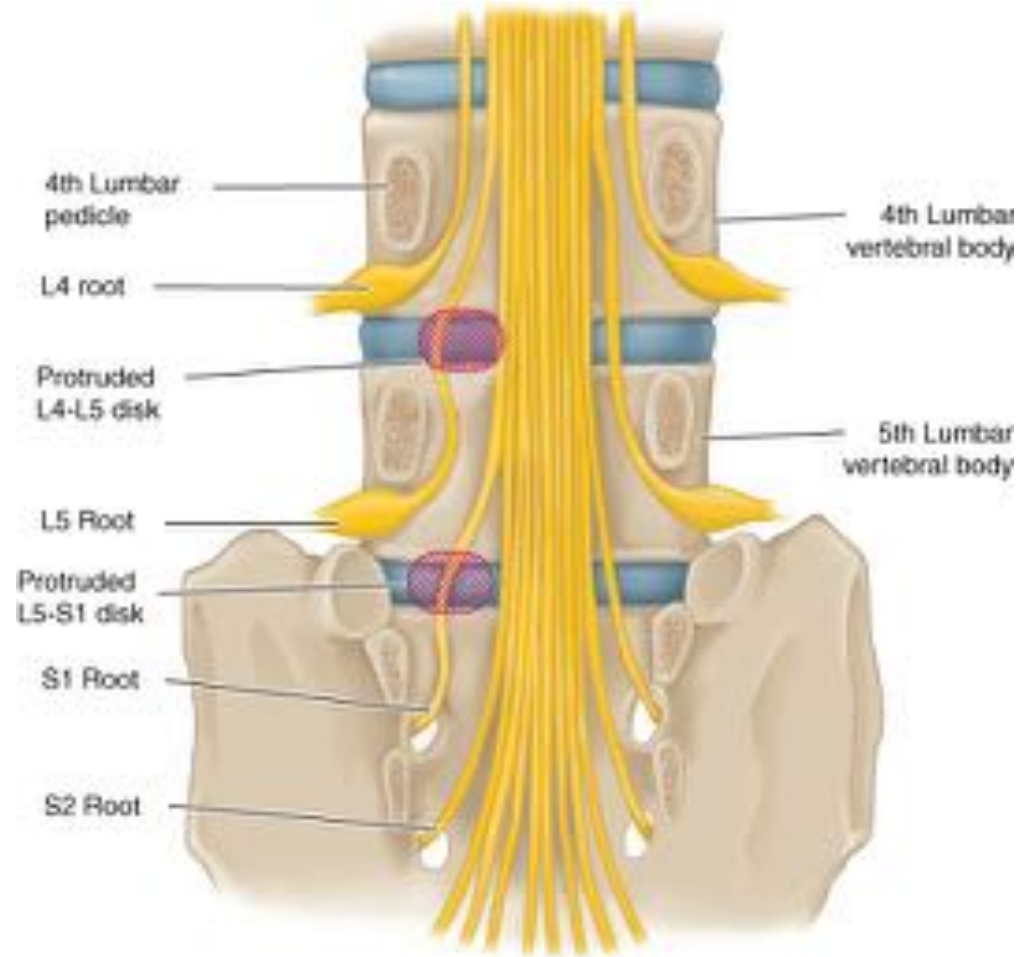
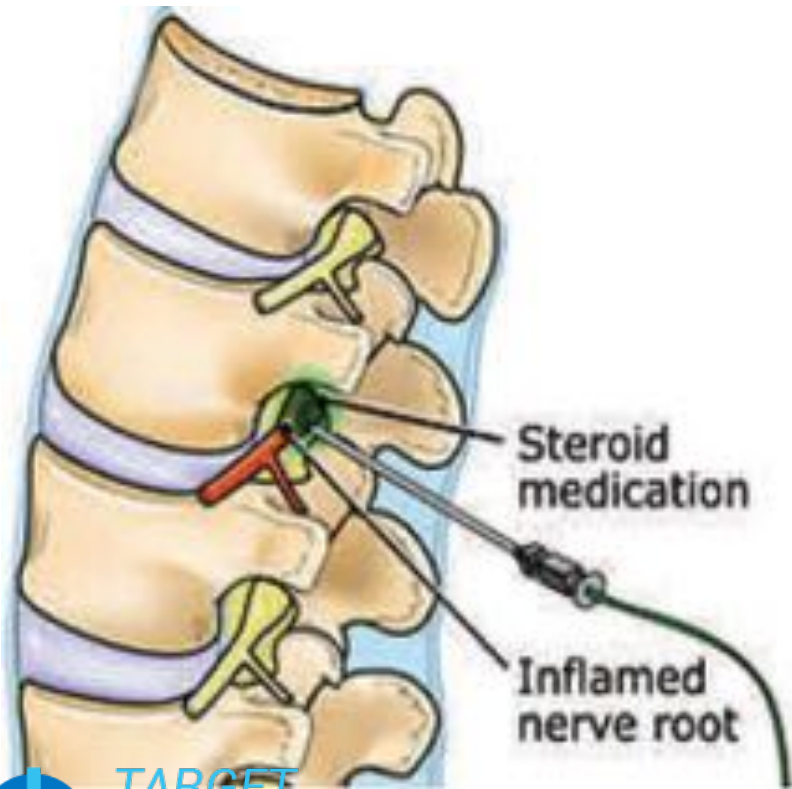
- Bed rest for 2 to 7 days
- Gentle back exercises
- Strong analgesics- Aceclofenac/pregabalin
- Oral steroids- ? Use – I don't use
- Increase the exercises and level of activity.

# Physiotherapy

- **Pelvic traction**
- **IFT**
- **USG massage**



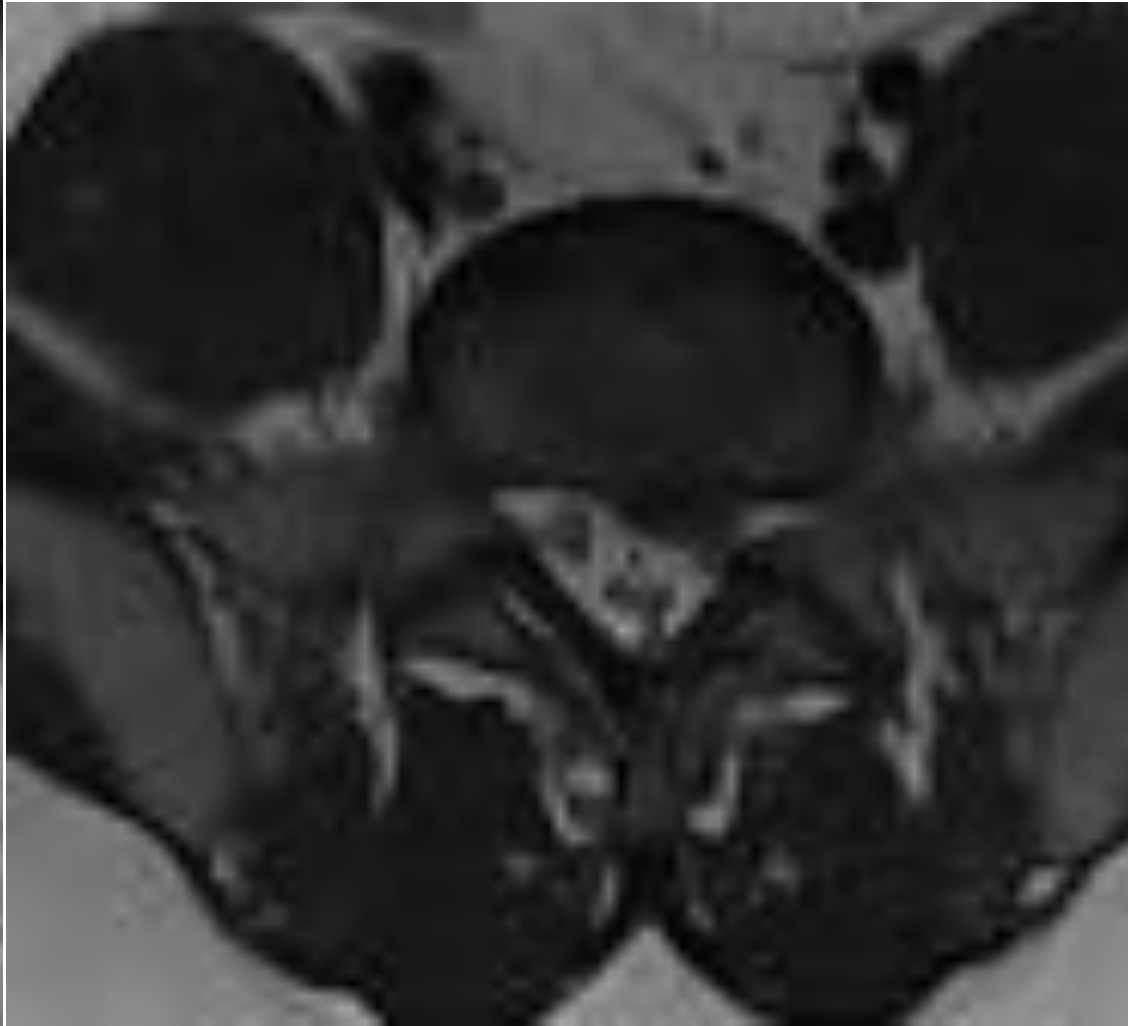
# Nerve root block

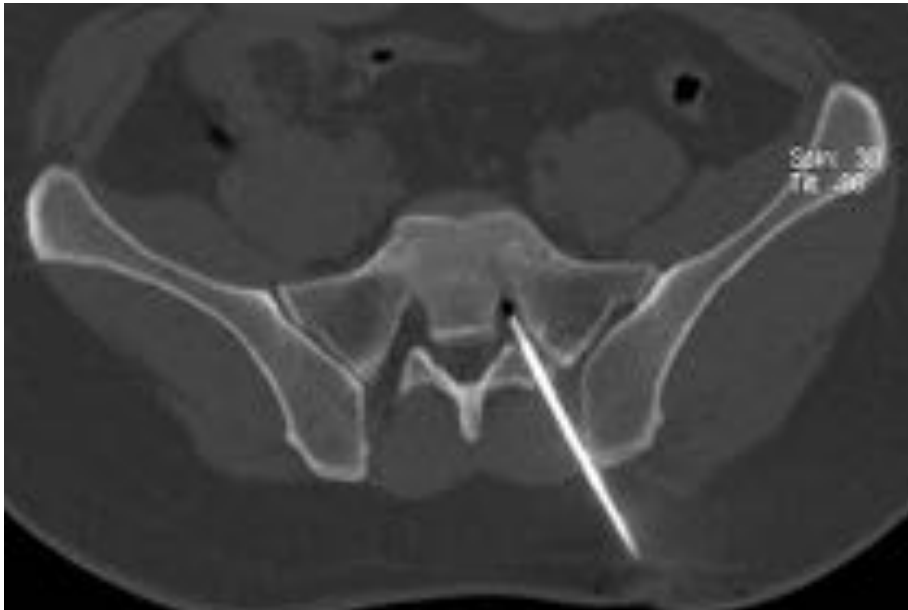


Source: Fautz AG, Kasper DL, Braunwald E, Hauser SL, Longo DL, Jameson JL, Loscalzo J, Harrison's Principles of Internal Medicine, 17th Edition: <http://www.accessmedicine.com>

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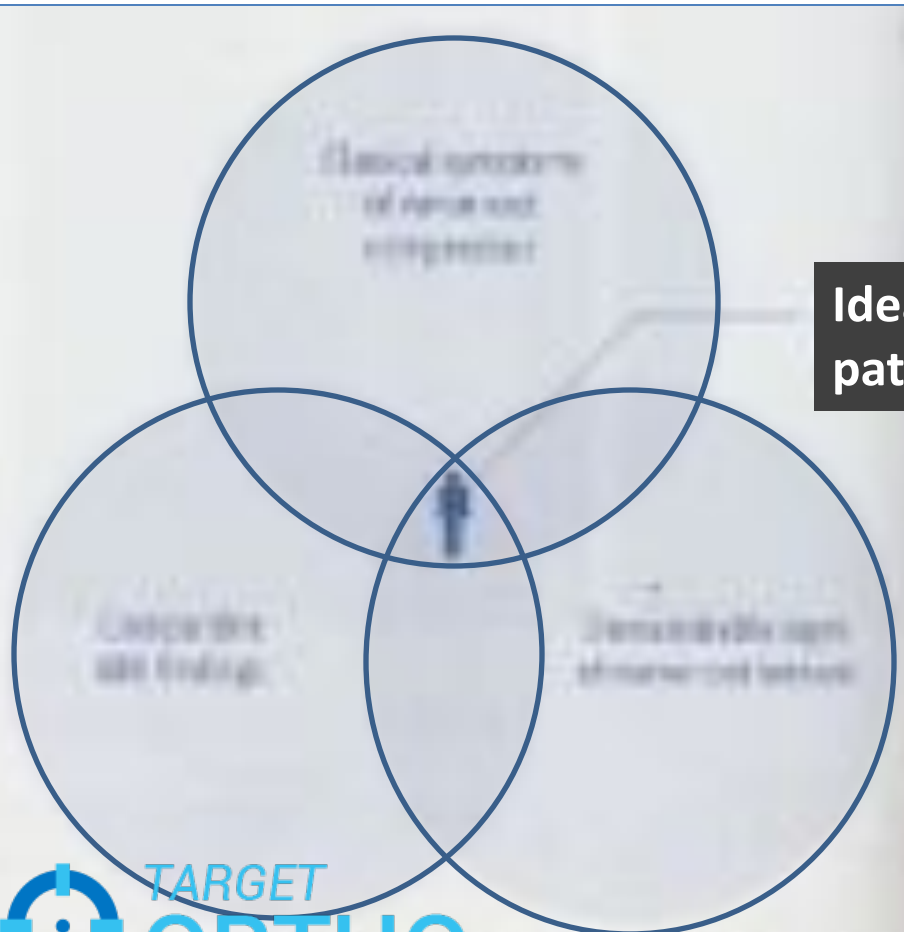




# Surgery

- Failure of conservative treatment
- Neurological deficit
- Cauda equina syndrome

# Patient selection – lumbar disc surgery



**Ideal patient**

1. Leg pain > Back pain
2. Disc prolapse - MRI
3. MRI finding = symptoms

# Surgery for disc prolapse

- Conventional laminectomy and discectomy
- Micro lumbar discectomy- gold standard
- Endoscopic transforaminal discectomy

# Positioning



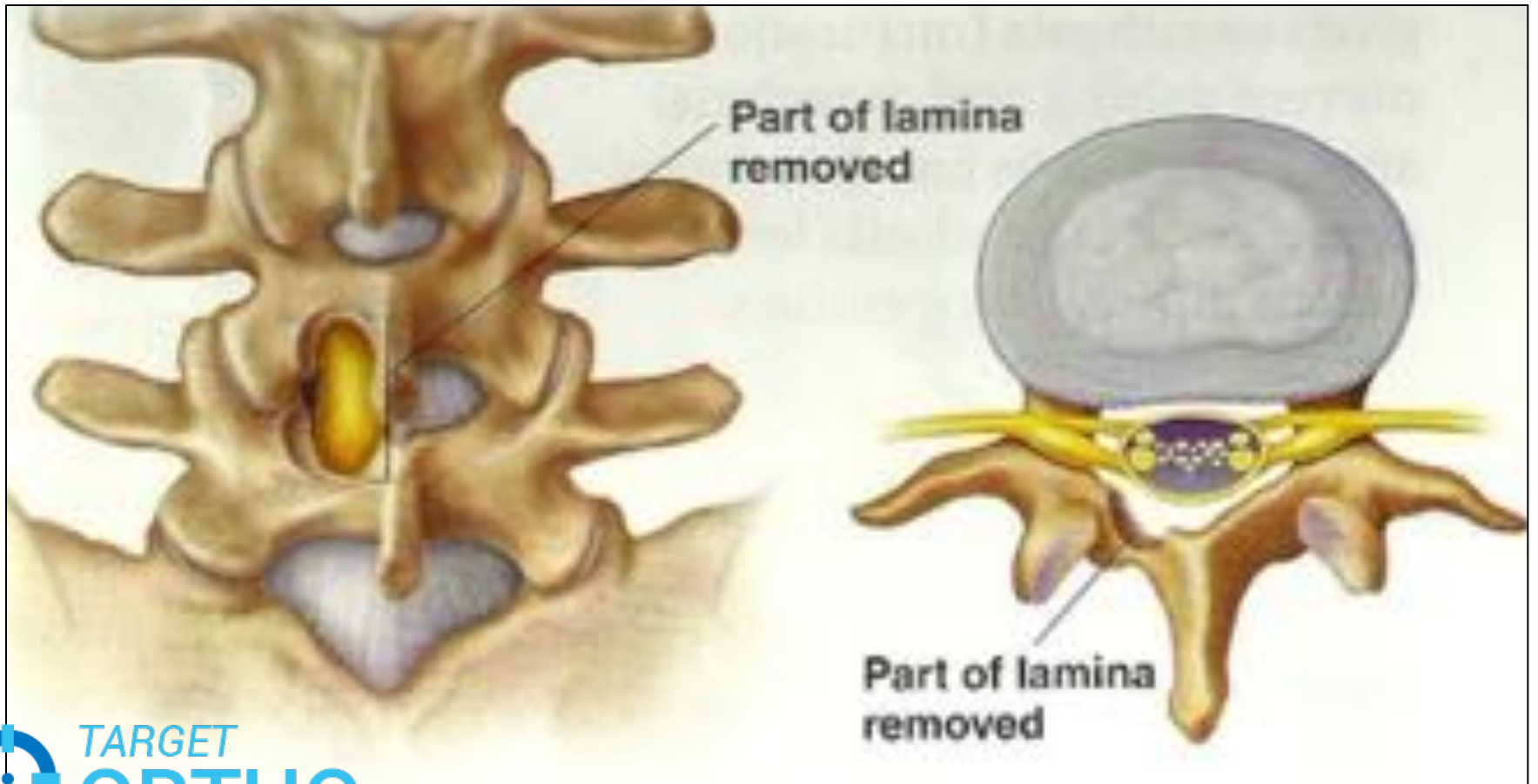


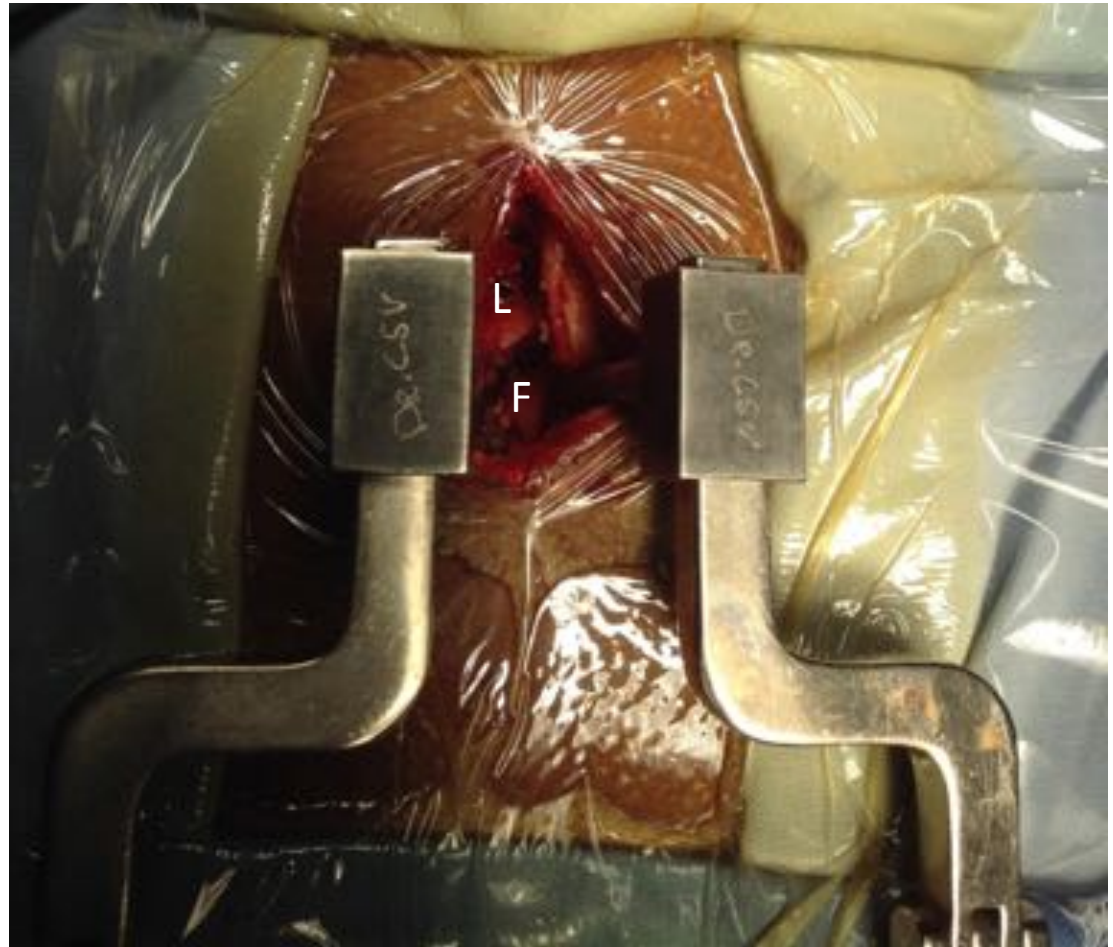
# Check your level



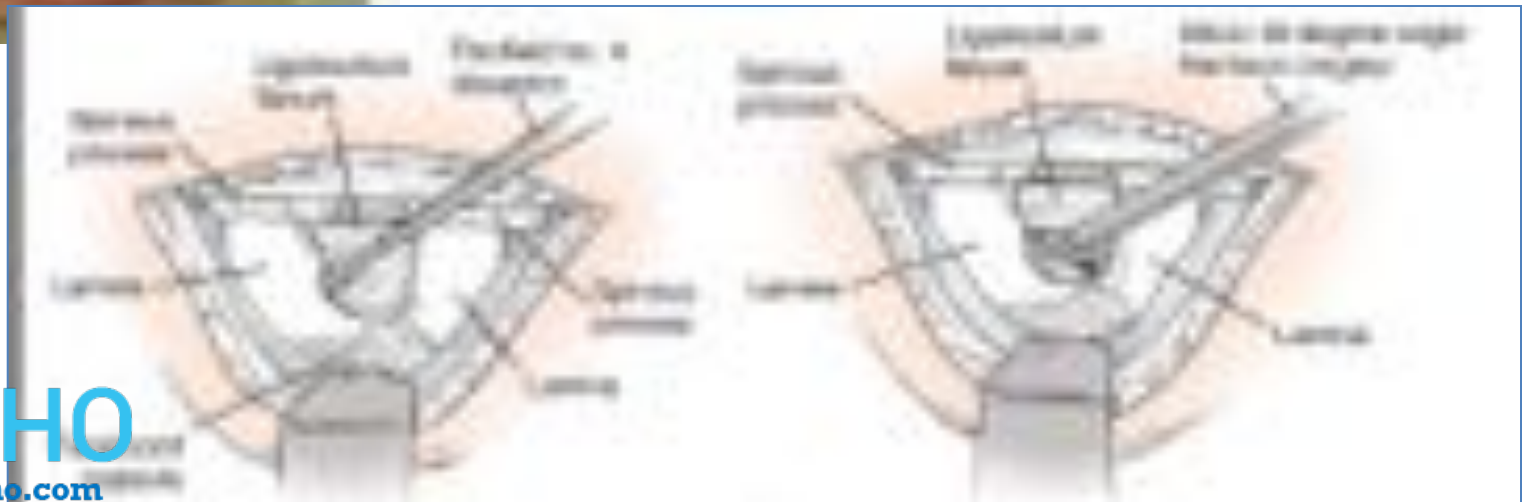
# Surgical exposure

- 2.5 cm midline incision
- Skin and sub cut hemostasis – prevent blood spilling into field
- Fascia incised few mm from midline
- Paraspinal muscles elevated spinous process and lamina.





# Flavectomy











# Cauda equina syndrome

1. Severe low back pain (LBP)
  2. Sciatica-bilateral
  3. Saddle anesthesia
  4. Bladder, bowel and sexual dysfunction
- It occurs most frequently following a large lower lumbar disc herniation, prolapse or sequestration.



# Cauda equina syndrome

**Pain:**  
Backs of thighs and legs

**Numbness:**  
Buttocks, backs of legs,  
soles of feet

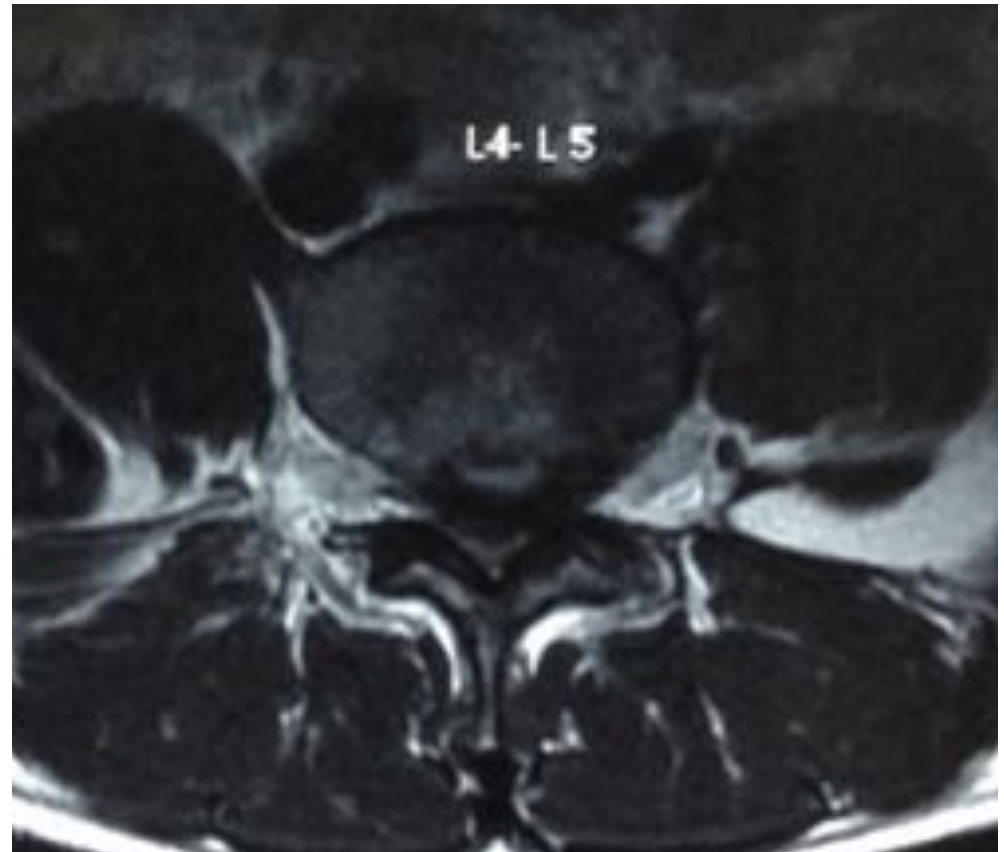
**Weakness:**  
Paralysis of legs and feet

**Atrophy:**  
Chest

**Paralysis:**  
Eyes, bladder and bowels



# Not to do MLD !!



# Complications

- Persistent back pain
- Recurrent disc prolapse
- Surgical site infection
- Instability

# Disc

A 34 years old man present with weakness of his right extensor hallucis longus and decreased sensation over the dorsal aspect of this right foot . deep tendon reflexes are normal. which of the following types of lumbar disc herniation would best explain this patients symptoms?

**A) Postero lateral L5-S1 disc herniation**

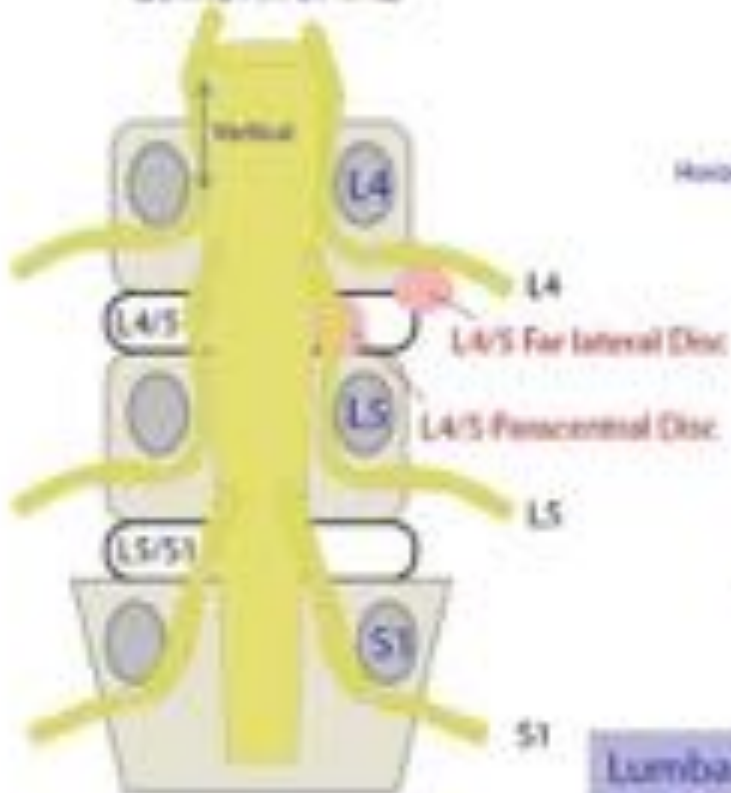
**B )Extra foraminal L5-S1 Disc herniation**

**C) Postero lateral L3-L4 disc herniation**

**D)Extra foraminal L4-L5Disc herniation**

**E)Lateral L3-L4 Disc heniation**

### LUMBAR SPINE



### CERVICAL SPINE



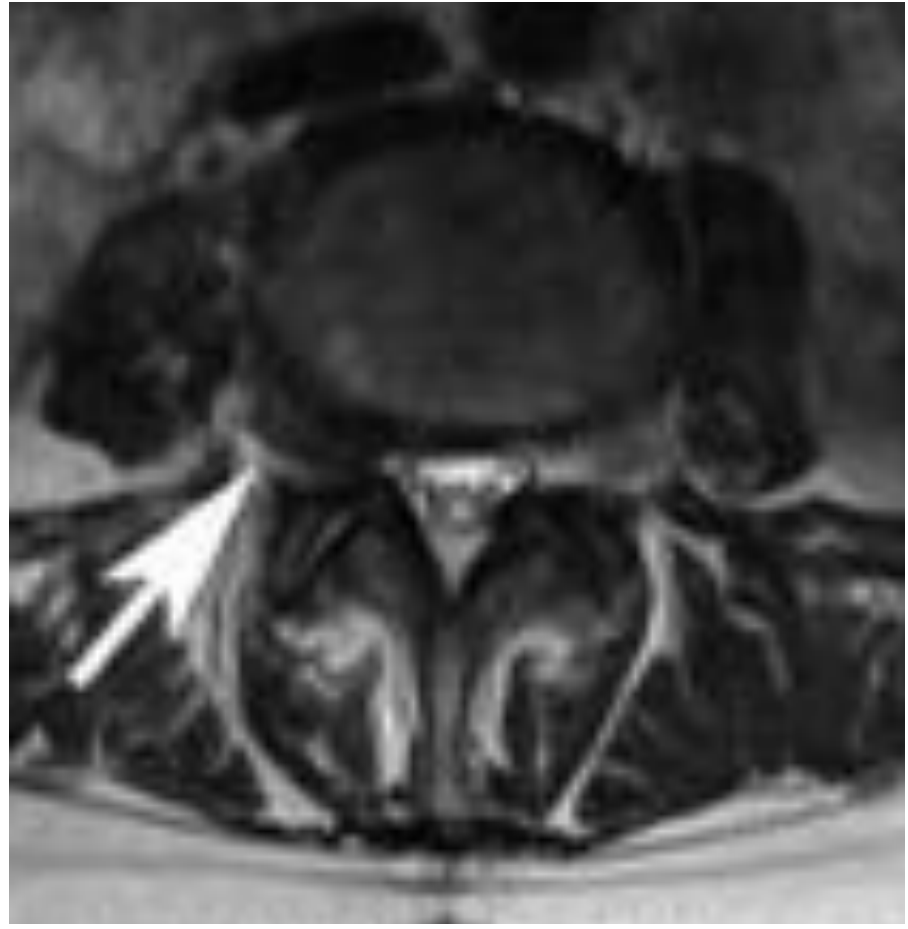
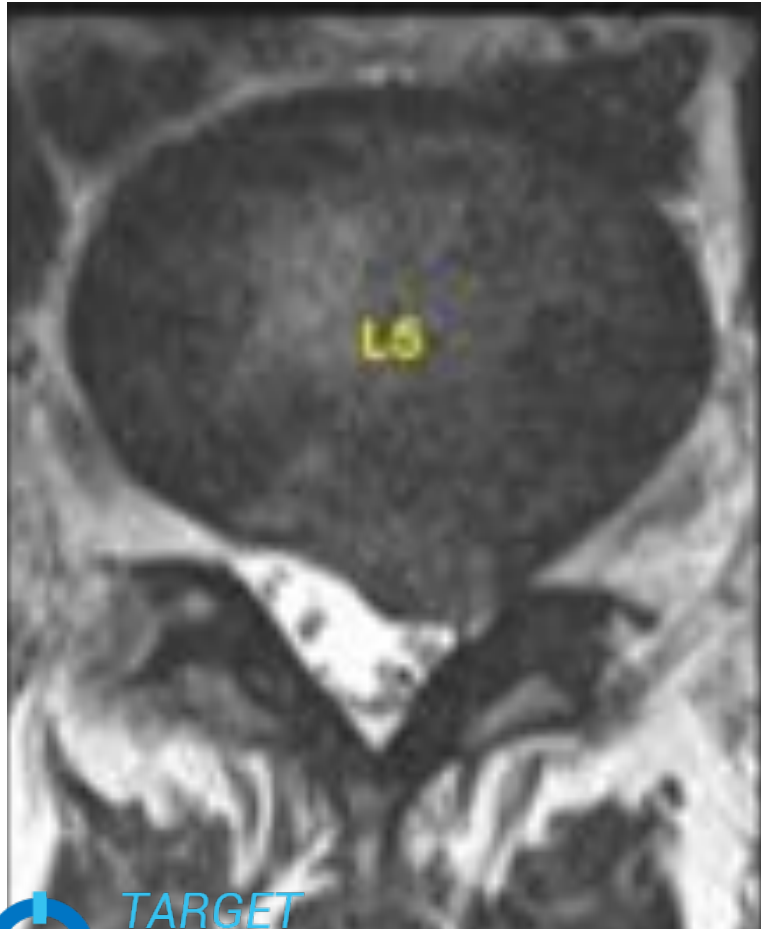
Due to horizontal anatomy, both discs affect same nerve root in cervical spine, different than lumbar spine

C6 and above Pedicle / Nerve Root MISMATCH

\*Extra C8 Nerve Root (without C8 pedicle) allows transition from MISMATCH to MATCH  
T1 and below Pedicle / Nerve Root MATCH

Lumbar Spine Pedicle/nerve Root MATCH







# Disc pressure

Higher lumbar disc pressure is generated in which of the following positions ?

- A) Sitting with lumbar Support
- B) Sitting with out support
- C) Standing at the case
- D) Lying supine
- E) Lying Prone

# What constitutes a spinal motion segment?

- a. A disc and the facet joints at that level.
- b. A disc and the vertebrae above and below, including their interlocking facet joints.
- c. A section of the spine involved in a physiological curve with the similar function (i.e. thoracic kyphosis).
- d. A vertebral body and the disc above.
- e. A disc and the vertebrae above and below, including their interlocking facet joints and surrounding musculature.

# Spinal motion segment

## Facet Joints in Motion



# Waddell sign

Waddell sign include all the following expect

- A) Nonorganic tenderness
- B) Simulation tests
- C) motor and /or sensory compromise
- D) Distraction tests
- E) Over reactions

# Indication for disc surgery all except?

- Significant leg pain X 8 weeks
- Foot drop
- Cauda equina syndrome
- Acute recurrent disc prolapse



# WADDELL'S SIGNS

## Non-Organic Physical Findings

Nonanatomic tenderness

Stimulation tests

Distraction

Regional sensory changes

Overreaction

# Pfirmanns grading ?









