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SPECIALISTS IN DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING

MRI CASE STUDY LUMBAR SPINE

This case study is based on an actual diagnostic interpretation generated by a NationalRad board certified musculoskeletal radiologist.

CLINICAL INFORMATION:

Constant, achy, stabbing pain in low back extending down left leg following a fall 2 weeks ago. Patient had numbness and tingling in the left foot initially, which has subsided. History of surgery at L4-5 and L5-S1 15 years prior.

COMPARISON:

None.

CONTRAST:

None.

TECHNIQUE:

Sagittal T1, sagittal T2, sagittal STIR, axial T2 pulse sequences.

IMPRESSION:

1. A mild superior endplate compression deformity is seen at T12 with a fracture line and marrow edema paralleling the superior vertebral body endplate, compatible with a recent compression fracture.
2. A chronic appearing mild compression deformity of L1 is also noted.
3. Moderate to severe left neural foraminal narrowing and moderate right neural foraminal narrowing at L4-5 with impingement on the left exiting L4 nerve root.
4. Moderate bilateral neural foraminal narrowing at L5-S1 with questionable impingement on the bilateral exiting L5 nerve roots.
5. Moderate bilateral neural foraminal narrowing at L3-4. Mild left neural foraminal narrowing at T11-12.



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