

Nerve root sedimentation sign for spinal stenosis assessed

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(HealthDay)—The nerve root sedimentation sign (SedSign), seen on magnetic resonance images, can differentiate lumbar spinal stenosis (LSS) from asymptomatic controls, according to a study published in the Nov. 15 issue of *Spine*.

Christy C. Tomkins-Lane, Ph.D., from Mount Royal University in Calgary, Canada, and colleagues examined the sensitivity and specificity of the SedSign in a retrospective study involving three blinded raters who independently reviewed [magnetic resonance images](#) from 67 subjects with clinically diagnosed LSS confirmed on imaging by a spine specialist; 31 people with low back pain (LBP) but no LSS; four people with severe vascular claudication; and 46 asymptomatic participants.

The researchers found that inter-rater reliability ranged from 0.62 to 0.69 and intrarater reliability for the sign ranged from $\kappa = 0.87$ to 0.97. Sensitivity and specificity ranged from 42 to 66 percent and 49 to 78 percent, respectively. Inclusion of images with only a smallest cross-sectional area of the dural sac

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