



*The Medical **Bulletin***

In Neurology

Lumbosacral radiculopathy

The term lumbosacral radiculopathy refers to involvement of the lumbar (L2, L3, L4 and L5) and/or sacral (S1) roots. Involvement of S1 root is the commonest and is referred to as sciatica. Back pain with radiation of the same along the involved nerve root is a characteristic feature. Additional motor, sensory, and reflex deficits maybe related to the roots involved. For instance L5 involvement will result in weakness of tibialis anterior, peroneus longus and gluteus maximus with sensory impairment along the lateral lower leg. S1 involvement will result in weakness of gluteus maximus and gastrocnemius with sensory deficits along the lateral foot extending 2 digits 4 and 5 and outside of the sole. S1 involvement will also result in hypo – areflexia of the ankle jerk. Involvement of the other routes namely L2, L3, and L4 are rather uncommon.

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