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The potential impact of dynamic upright MRI in the surgical management of patients with degenerative lumbosacral spine disease

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In cases of clinical and radiological mismatch, conventional MRI fails to demonstrate convincing finding to explain patient's symptoms that warrant surgical intervention. Completely open MRI scanner allows upright, angled-intermediate, as well as recumbent imaging. This would at the same time allow partial or full weight bearing and simultaneous kinetic maneuvers of the patients' whole body. The objective of the study was to assess the utility of upright dynamic MR examination to reveal occult lesions of the lumbar spine and the underlying etiology of low back pain or sciatica in conventional MRI, under-estimated these findings.

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