

Brief review on the differentiation between hip pain and lumbar root syndrome

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Lumbar root syndrome has a sudden onset. The pain exists in sitting and would be improved with standing and walking while in hip pain there would be a pain with a gradual onset in standing and walking and would be improved with sitting. The hip movement would be restricted and lumbar traction and sciatic nerve tests are negative in hip pain. In lumbar root syndrome, hip movements are free and lumbar traction and sciatic nerve tests are positive. Hip pain can be diagnosed by using intra-articular injection and plain radiography while myelography, CT scan and MRI can be used for diagnosis in lumbar root syndrome.

Differentiation between hip pain and lumbar root syndrome is important to approach the affected patients appropriately during clinical practice.

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