



University of California
San Francisco

How a Spine Provider Differentiates and Treats Spine vs. Hip Pathology

UCSF Arthroplasty for the Modern Surgeon:
Hip, Knee and Health Innovation Technology Course

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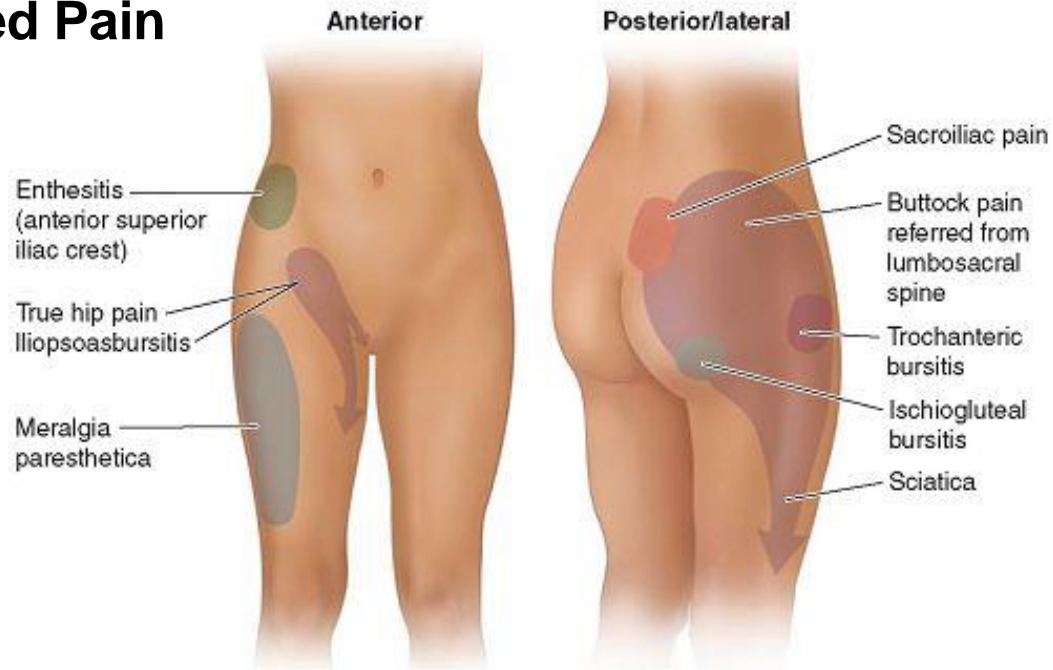
Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation | Pain Medicine

Non-Operative Spine | Department of Orthopaedic Surgery

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Pain Characteristics

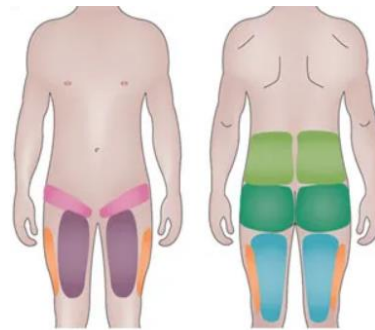
- **Hip-Related Pain**



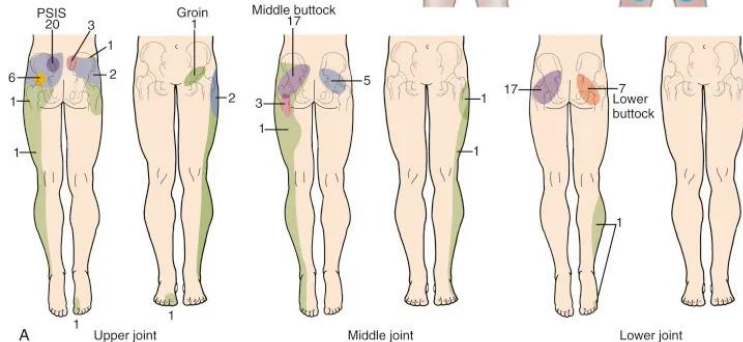
Pain Characteristics

Spine-Related Pain

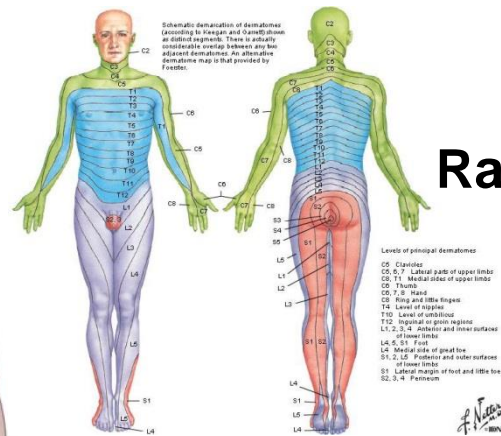
- low back, sacrum
- buttocks, hips, groin, thigh
- below the knee



- Lumbar (L1-L5)
- Lower lumbar/gluteal (L2-S1)
- Posterior thigh (L3-S1)
- Lateral thigh (L2-S1)
- Anterior thigh (L3-S1)
- Groin (L3-S1)



Sacroiliac Joint



Radicular

History

- **Key points for Differential Diagnosis**
 - Affected areas
 - Axial spine: discogenic, facetogenic, sacroiliac joint, paraspinal myofascial
 - Referred: facet joints, sacroiliac joint, myofascial pain
 - Radiating: radicular, plexopathy, peripheral neuropathy/neuralgia

History

- **Key points for Differential Diagnosis**
 - Pain History:
 - Onset and Mechanism of Injury: inciting factors, trauma, activities
 - Trauma History: motor vehicle accidents, prior/current sports activities, falls
 - Medical History: fractures, inflammatory conditions, cancer
 - Injection/Surgical History: prior spine or hip injections or surgeries

History

- **Key points for Differential Diagnosis**

- Pain Quality:

- **Neuropathic**: burning, electric, shooting, buzzing, etc.

- **Nerve root compression** caused by an acute intervertebral disc herniation may produce **low back pain initially**, followed by radiating pain in the lower extremity

- **Nociceptive**: achy, deep, throbbing, sharp, stabbing, stiffness, etc.

- Lumbar facetogenic pain produces axial low back pain and stiffness

History

- **Key points for Differential Diagnosis**
 - Exacerbating factors
 - Movements:
 - Lumbar: spinal flexion, extension, twisting, tilting
 - Hip: hip flexion, rotation
 - Activities:
 - Lumbar:
 - discogenic or radicular pain: sitting, standing, walking
 - facetogenic pain: extension, rotation, flexion
 - sacroiliac joint pain: getting in/out of car, sit-to-stand transfers, stairs
 - Hip:
 - weight bearing, standing, walking

History

- **Key points for Differential Diagnosis**
 - Red Flags and Surgical Indications
 - Motor weakness of the extremities
 - Altered sensation
 - Discoordination
 - Gait impairment or fall
 - Bladder and bowel dysfunction
 - Upper motor neuron signs
 - Fever, chills, sweats; night pain

Physical Examination

- **Key points for Differential Diagnosis**

- Range of Motion

- Lumbar – restricted lumbar range of motion
 - Hip joint – restricted internal range of motion

- Palpation

- Lumbar – tenderness to palpation at spinous processes, interspinous spaces, paraspinal areas, lumbar and gluteal muscles, sacroiliac joints
 - Hip – tenderness to palpation at hip flexor, greater trochanter, gluteal tendons

Physical Examination

Hip Pain	Test	Sensitivity	Specificity
Arthritis	Internal rotation < 15°	0.66	0.72
	Pain w/ IR	0.82	0.39
	Limited hip adduction	0.80	0.81
Impingement/ Labral Pathology	FADIR	0.94	0.08
	Scour	0.50 – 1.00	0.29
	FABER	0.41 – 0.97	0.18 – 1.00
Gluteal Tendinopathy	Resisted external derotation	0.88	0.97
Hip Flexor	Stinchfield	0.06 – 0.75	0.38 – 1.00
	Thomas	0.89	0.92

Physical Examination

Spine Pain	Test	Sensitivity	Specificity
Lumbar Radiculopathy	Straight Leg Raise (SLR)	0.52 (0.42-0.58)	0.89 (0.79-0.95)
	Crossed SLR	0.28 (0.22-0.35)	0.90 (0.85-0.94)
	Seated Slump	0.84 (0.74-0.90)	0.83 (0.73-0.90)
	Femoral Nerve Stretch	1.00 (0.40-1.00)	0.83 (0.52-0.98)
	Motor	0.33 (0.06-0.97)	0.68 (0.59-0.76)
	Sensory	0.33 (0.06-0.79)	0.88 (0.81-0.93)

Physical Examination

Spine Pain	Test	Sensitivity	Specificity
Sacroiliac Joint Dysfunction	FABER/Patrick's	0.72	0.67
	Pelvic Distraction	0.60 (0.36-0.80)	0.81 (0.65-0.91)
	Compression	0.69 (0.44-0.86)	0.69
	Thigh Thrust	0.88 (0.64-0.97)	0.69
	Gaenslen's	0.53 (0.30-0.75)	0.71 (0.53-0.84)
	Sacral Thrust	0.63 (0.39-0.82)	0.75 (0.58-0.87)
	≥ 2 positive tests	0.93 (0.72-0.99)	0.66 (0.48-0.80)

Injections

- **Hip Arthritis**

- 2010 retrospective analysis
 - Response to intra-articular hip injection has 91.5% sensitivity, 100% specificity, 100% PPV, 84.6% NPV for response to THR
- 2014 meta-analysis of case series
 - Response to intra-articular hip injection has pooled sensitivity of 0.97, pooled specificity of 0.91 in diagnosing hip arthritis in patients with atypical pain

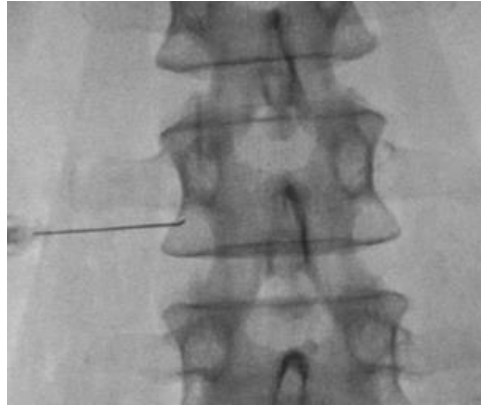
- **Femoroacetabular Impingement/ Labral Pathology**

- 2021 case series
 - Response to ultrasound-guided intra-articular hip injection was 91.7% accurate for detecting the presence of intra-articular pathology

Injections

- **Radicular Pain**

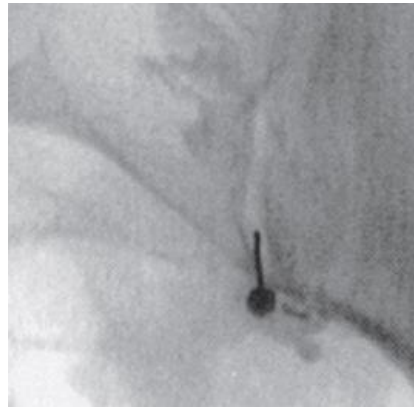
- 2013 Update of Comprehensive Evidence-Based Guidelines for Interventional Techniques in Chronic Spinal Pain
 - The evidence for accuracy of diagnostic selective nerve root blocks is limited



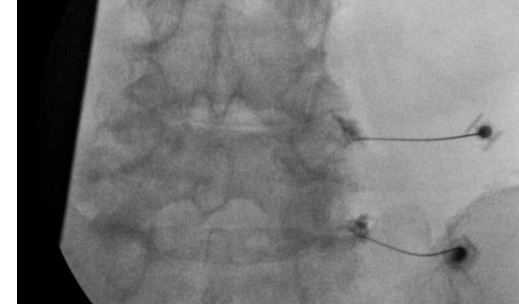
Injections

- **Sacroiliac Joint Pain**

- 2015 Systematic Review of the Diagnostic Accuracy and Therapeutic Effectiveness of Sacroiliac Joint Interventions
 - Level II for dual diagnostic blocks with at least 70% pain relief



Injections



- **Facet Arthropathy**

- 2020 Guidelines by the American Society of Interventional Pain Physicians (ASIPP) for Facet Joint Interventions in the Management of Chronic Spinal Pain
 - Level IV for accurate diagnosis of facet joint pain with physical examination, with weak strength of recommendation.
 - Level III for SPECT and Level V for scintigraphy, MRI, CT, with weak strength of recommendation
 - **Level I-II for diagnostic lumbar facet joint nerve blocks, with moderate to strong strength of recommendation**

Thank You

- Questions