

The Demetrious Chiropractic MRI Assessment of the Spine

Read the radiologist's report. Review images for objective elements of the chiropractic subluxation.

1. Indications:

- a. Refer to American College of Radiology Appropriateness Criteria:
 - i. <http://www.acr.org/quality-safety/appropriateness-criteria>

2. Basic Sequences:

- a. Water, CSF, edema – T1 Dark, T2 Bright, Fat Suppressed Bright
- b. Fat – T1 Bright, T2 Intermediate
- c. Cortical Bone – T1/T2 Dark
- d. Medullary Bone/Spinal Cord – T1/T2 Intermediate

3. IVD:

- a. Annular/Ligament Tears –Describe location/size
- b. Dessication - List levels
- c. Herniations:
 - i. Protrusion, Extrusion, Intravertebral
 - ii. Containment/Continuity/Relation to PLL
 - iii. Volume/Location

4. Vertebral Body:

- a. Describe Morphology/ Signal/Osteophytes/ Canal/Foraminal intrusion

5. Endplate Modic Δ 's:

- a. Modic 1 – Endplate – T1 Dark, T2 Bright
- b. Modic 2 – Endplate – T1 Bright, T2 Intermediate-Bright (can be mixed Modic 1/2)
- c. Modic 3 – Endplate – T1 Dark, T2 Dark

6. Posterior Joint Complex:

- a. Describe Morphology/Intrusion into Canal, Foramen
- b. Ligaments – Describe Tears/Thickening
- c. Capsules - Describe Morphology/Shape/Intrusion into Canal/Foramen/Presence of Synovial Cysts

7. Paraspinal mm.:

- a. Describe Atrophy/Fatty Degeneration/Decreased Volume

8. Canal and Foramina:

- a. Describe Morphology/Intrusions/ Volume/Patency/AP Canal Diameter

9. Spinal Cord/Cauda Equina:

- a. Describe Signal Intensity/Deformation

10. Paraspinal/Extra-Vertebral Findings

11. Measurements/Alignment/Instability