Mr Imaging Of The Lumbar Spine A Teaching Atlas

A concise, case-based clinical resource on the topic of imaging in spinal trauma, highly illustrated throughout.

Musculoskeletal Imaging: The Requisites, 4th Edition delivers the conceptual, factual, and interpretive information you need for effective clinical practice in musculoskeletal imaging, as well as for certification and recertification review. Master core knowledge the easy and affordable way with clear, concise text enhanced by at-a-glance illustrations, boxes, and tables - all completely rewritten to bring you up to date. Find key information easily with numerous outlines, tables, "pearls," and boxed material for easy reading and reference. Access the fully searchable text and downloadable images online at www.expertconsult.com. Get the best results from today's most technologically advanced approaches, including new uses of MR and ultrasound for early diagnosis and monitoring of inflammatory arthritis. Prepare for the written board exam and for clinical practice with critical information on femoroacetabular impingement, arthrography, hip replacement, cartilage tumors, bone marrow imaging (including focal and diffuse replacement), and sports medicine (including athletic pubalgia/sports hernia). Stay up to date on soft tissue tumors with significantly expanded content, illustrated tumor-specific findings, and new AJCC staging and diagnostic information. Clearly visualize the findings you're likely to see in practice and on exams with 300 new MRI, CT, ultrasound, and x-ray images throughout.

MRI in Practice continues to be the number one reference book and study guide for the registry review examination for MRI offered by the American Registry for Radiologic
Technologists (ARRT). This latest edition offers in-depth chapters covering all core areas, including: basic principles, image weighting and contrast, spin and gradient echo pulse sequences, spatial encoding, k-space, protocol optimization, artefacts, instrumentation, and MRI safety. The leading MRI reference book and study guide. Now with a greater focus on the physics behind MRI. Offers, for the first time, equations and their explanations and scan tips. Brand new chapters on MRI equipment, vascular imaging and safety. Presented in full color, with additional illustrations and high-quality MRI images to aid understanding. Includes refined, updated and expanded content throughout, along with more learning tips and practical applications. Features a new glossary. MRI in Practice is an important text for radiographers, technologists, radiology residents, radiologists, and other students and professionals working within imaging, including medical physicists and nurses.

Percutaneous lumbar discectomy is a new surgical method for treating lumbar disc diseases. The goal of the procedure is decompression of the spinal nerve root by percutaneous removal of the nucleus pulposus under local anesthesia. Probably 20% of all patients requiring lumbar disc surgery can be successfully treated by this method. During the past two years, percutaneous discectomy has spread rapidly, and it is now performed in most clinical departments engaged in spinal surgery. The first International Symposium on Percutaneous Lumbar Discectomy, held in Berlin in August 1988, covered all current procedures known as "percutaneous discectomy" and the entire range of percutaneous techniques, both clinical and experimental. Its publication is important because of the recency of this new surgical procedure, the outstanding experience of the speakers - including the Japanese, American, and European "pioneers" of the technique - and last but not least the gaps in the knowledge of
physicians concerning this topic. This procedure opens up new perspectives in the surgical treatment of degenerative diseases of the lumbar spine.

This issue of MRI Clinics of North America focuses on MR Imaging of the Spine, and is edited by Dr. Mario Muto. Articles will include: Diagnostic Approach to Pediatric Spin Pathology; Neuroimaging of Scoliosis and Sagittal Balance; Neuroimaging of the Degenerative Spine; Neuroimaging of Spinal Instability; Neuroimaging of the Traumatic Spine; Neuroimaging of Spine Infections; Neuroimaging of the Post Operative Spine; Neuroimaging of Spinal Canal Stenosis; Neuroimaging of Spinal Tumors, and more!

Kinematic MRI refers to imaging a joint through a range of motion to examine the interactions between the soft tissue and osseous anatomy that comprise the joint. Kinematic MRI techniques were developed because various pathologic conditions are dependent on the specific position of the joint or in response to loading or stress. Importantly, static-view MRI examinations often miss abnormal findings because the joint is not assessed through a range of motion. Accordingly, the functional information obtained using kinematic MRI frequently serves to identify the underlying abnormality or to supplement the information acquired with standard MR imaging techniques. Kinematic MRI of the Joints is the first textbook on this important, emerging clinical MRI application. For each joint, it presents pertinent functional anatomy, kinesiology, and clinical information; describes the kinematic MRI protocol and technique; explains the normal kinematics; and provides a thorough presentation of the pathokinematics. Multiple case examples illustrate the usefulness of kinematic MRI of the joints for diagnosis or elucidation of pathologic conditions. Each section of this book is co-authored by an leading musculoskeletal radiologist orthopedic surgeon as well as by an academic-based
A general consensus exists, that lumbosacral nerve root compression is the primary cause of sciatica and neurogenic claudication, although humoral and vascular factors certainly play a role as well. This book focuses on imaging the various ways in which nerve root compression can come about, and determining which anatomic features are reliably associated with the production of radicular pain. After a discussion of the nature of radicular pain and related symptoms, spinal imaging techniques and options are reviewed, with emphasis on the role of MR myelography in assessing the intradural nerve roots. A chapter on normal topographic, sectional, and functional radiologic anatomy is followed by presentations on pathologic anatomy, addressing mechanisms of nerve root compression, and on pre- and postoperative imaging. Features relevant to prediction of the natural history are discussed, and a section is devoted to the performance and reporting of a spinal imaging study.

Professor Ramsey undertook a massive project and brought it to a magnificent conclusion. The MR images are of high quality and [the] well-written commentary is easy to understand. Well worth the investment...-Radiologic Technology I strongly recommend this book to individuals
who are required to interpret MRIs of the vertebral column and the spinal cord... great practical use to clinicians... very absorbing; it was easy to read an entire section in one sitting.-The Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery The author has met her purpose in producing a user-friendly spinal imaging atlas that will aid clinicians caring for patients with spine disease.-Radiology Containing nearly 1,000 illustrations and a broad array of case studies, this comprehensive, practical reference simulates an actual clinical setting in which readers view images of a spinal abnormality and then see the correct differential diagnosis. The book contains hundreds of instructive cases, and is ideal for teaching and self-assessment. Practical and complete, the book offers a broad array of classic and unusual cases for residents and practicing surgeons. This easy-to-use resource is the perfect tool for qualifying and CAQ exam preparation. Utilizing plentiful radiological images to illustrate each topic, this text is a comprehensive and descriptive review of magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) interpretation for the spine, emphasizing standardized nomenclature and grading schemes. The book begins with current MR imaging protocols, including indication, sequencing and advanced imaging techniques, and a review of the relevant anatomy of the spine and its anomalies. Subsequent chapters encompass topics of trauma, degenerative disease, infection, inflammatory disease, as well as neoplastic and metabolic disease. Spinal cord and dural lesions will also be presented, with additional chapters dedicated to MRI evaluation of the post-operative patient. The format is reader-friendly, utilizing an efficient presentation of the essential principles and important findings on MR images of the spine, with a wealth of high-quality figures, graphics and tables for differential diagnosis as well as tips and tricks from experts in the field. Presenting the most up-to-date protocols and suggested interpretations, MRI of the Spine will be a solid reference.
for orthopedic surgeons, sports medicine specialists, neurosurgeons, radiologists and all clinicians and support staff caring for the spine. This book, the result of close collaboration between two very specialized centers, one in spinal surgery, the other in oncology, was written to take stock of the current data on vertebral metastases. It is intended as both a practical guide for all those involved in this field of care and a didactic reference for those who are less familiar with either of these specialties. All aspects of current knowledge of metastases are considered. Regarding diagnostics, MRI is at present indispensable and necessitates a broad iconography. In the therapeutics section, so as to restitute vertebral metastasis in its proper general context, a chapter is devoted to the particularities of the treatment in terms of the primary cancer. This is fundamental since the sensitivity of tumors to systemic treatment is clearly not the same from one case to another. The role of surgery in vertebral metastases has changed completely over the last ten years with the increasing use osteosynthesis combined with decompressive procedures. The explanation of these techniques and their indications is largely based upon providing a suitable response to the mechanical problems posed at each location in the spinal column. Vertebroplasty and biphosphonates, two recent additions to the therapeutic armamentarium are detailed, along with conventional treatments such as radiation therapy and the comprehensive approach to pain management. In the present context of technological advances against vertebral metastases, physicians must not lose sight of the patient as an individual. This imperative prompted us to include a chapter on nursing and psychological cared. Another chapter addresses the continuity of care, placing responsibility for the patient's management at present solely in the hands of a multidisciplinary team. A methodological
review of the literature concludes that there still remains much work to be done for better assessment of the responsibility for the welfare of these patients. Two leading US spinal surgeons have accepted to endorse this manuscript: J.P. Farcy and N. Sundaresan. The question of their contributing to the book was naturally raised. However, it seemed preferable to preserve the homogenous spirit driving the original group of collaborators.

- Written by internationally renowned experts - Chapters encompass all the relevant imaging modalities including X-ray technology, nuclear medicine, ultrasound and magnetic resonance, as well as image-guided interventional techniques. -Appeals to a wide audience, including general radiologists, neuroradiologists, neurologists, neurosurgeons, rheumatologists, ophthalmologists, and otolaryngologists - Text is comprehensive, few titles include brain, head and neck, and spine in one volume

Magnetic resonance imaging has become an increasingly beneficial tool for the radiologic evaluation of complex spine diseases. However, due to the many variables implicit in MR imaging technique, considerable experience and expertise are necessary to diagnose with confidence. This book provides a comprehensive and practical overview of the field, and gives you the information to competently utilize MRI for the diagnosis of diseases of the spine and spinal cord. - More than 1,300 high-quality images help you recognize and distinguish normal findings from pathologic spinal disorders and common MR artifacts - Systematic tables of indications and differential diagnoses summarize each disorder and help you in planning treatment strategies - Problem-solving tips and tricks provide details on various imaging techniques, as well as the advantages and disadvantages of different MRI sequences - Concise chapter summaries provide quick and easy access to the most current MR imaging
information

Of great interest to radiologists, neuroradiologists, trauma surgeons, orthopedic surgeons, and neurosurgeons, this extensively illustrated work is an essential diagnostic reference for evaluating spinal disorders.

The diagnosis of trauma to the spine -- where the slightest oversight may have catastrophic results -- requires a thorough grasp of the spectrum of resultant pathology as well as the imaging modalities used in making an accurate diagnosis. In Spinal Trauma, the internationally renowned team of experts provides a comprehensive, cutting-edge exposition of the current vital role of imaging in the diagnosis and treatment of injuries to the axial skeleton. Beginning with a valuable clinical perspective of spinal trauma, the book offers the reader a unique overview of the biomechanics underlying the beautifully illustrated pathology of cervical trauma. Acute trauma topics include: Optimization of imaging modalities Malalignment -- signs and significance Vertebral fractures -- detection and implications Classification of thoracolumbar fractures -- rationale and relevance Neurovascular injury Distilling decades of clinical and teaching expertise, the contributors further discuss the current role of imaging in special focus topics, which include: The pediatric spine Sports injuries The rigid spine Trauma in the elderly Vertebral collapse, benign and malignant Spinal trauma therapy Vertebral fractures and osteoporosis Neuropathic spine All throughout the book, the focus is on understanding the injury, and its implications and complications, through "an imaging approach." Complete with hundreds of superb MR images and CT scans, and clear full-color drawings, the authors conclude with a look into the future, defining clinical trends and research directions. Spinal Trauma -- with its broad scope, practical imaging approach, and current focus -- is designed to enhance confidence and accuracy, making it essential reading for clinicians and radiologists at
A panel of world-renowned experts presents a complete course on evaluating and treating patients with back pain, including interventional spinal procedures, spinal imaging, and the clinical evaluation of the spine patient. The authors focus on all the critical spinal procedures, ranging from such traditional methods as selective nerve root blocks, epidural injections, facet injections, sacroiliac joint injections, to such state-of-the-art techniques as spinal biopsy, percutaneous vertebroplasty, spinal imaging, nucleoplasty, discography, intradiscal electrothermal therapy, and transcatheter therapy for tumors of the spine. Additional material is provided on basic spinal anatomy, CT, MRI, the nuclear medicine of the spine, and the pharmacology of the medications used in injection procedures.

Ideal for residents, practicing radiologists, and fellows alike, this updated reference offers easy-to-understand guidance on how to approach musculoskeletal MRI and recognize abnormalities. Concise, to-the-point text covers MRI for the entire musculoskeletal system, presented in a highly templated format. Thoroughly revised and enhanced with full-color artwork throughout, this resource provides just the information you need to perform and interpret quality musculoskeletal MRI. Includes the latest protocols, practical advice, tips, and pearls for diagnosing conditions impacting the temporomandibular joint, shoulder, elbow, wrist/hand, spine, hips and pelvis, knee, and foot and ankle. Follows a quick-reference format throughout, beginning with basic technical information on how to obtain a quality examination, followed by a discussion of the normal appearance and the abnormal appearance for each small unit that
composes a joint. Depicts both normal and abnormal anatomy, as well as disease progression, through more than 600 detailed, high-quality images, most of which are new to this edition. Features key information boxes throughout for a quick review of pertinent material.

This book offers practical guidelines for performing efficient and cost-effective MRI examinations. By adopting a practical protocol-based approach the work-flow in a MRI unit can be streamlined and optimized. All chapters have been thoroughly reviewed, and new techniques and figures are included. There is a new chapter on MRI of the chest. This book will help beginners to implement the protocols and will update the knowledge of more experienced users.

This open access book offers an essential overview of brain, head and neck, and spine imaging. Over the last few years, there have been considerable advances in this area, driven by both clinical and technological developments. Written by leading international experts and teachers, the chapters are disease-oriented and cover all relevant imaging modalities, with a focus on magnetic resonance imaging and computed tomography. The book also includes a synopsis of pediatric imaging. IDKD books are rewritten (not merely updated) every four years, which means they offer a comprehensive review of the state-of-the-art in imaging. The book is clearly structured and features learning objectives, abstracts, subheadings, tables and take-home points, supported by design elements to help readers navigate the text. It will particularly appeal to general
radiologists, radiology residents, and interventional radiologists who want to update their diagnostic expertise, as well as clinicians from other specialties who are interested in imaging for their patient care.

On account of its unrivalled imaging capabilities and sensitivity, magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) is considered the modality of choice for the investigation of physiologic and pathologic processes affecting the bone marrow. This book describes the MRI appearances of both the normal bone marrow, including variants, and the full range of bone marrow disorders. Detailed discussion is devoted to malignancies, including multiple myeloma, lymphoma, chronic myeloproliferative disorders, leukemia, and bone metastases. Among the other conditions covered are benign and malignant compression fractures, osteonecrosis, hemolytic anemia, Gaucher’s disease, bone marrow edema syndrome, trauma, and infective and non-infective inflammatory disease. Further chapters address the role of MRI in assessing treatment response, the use of contrast media, and advanced MRI techniques. Magnetic Resonance Imaging of the Bone Marrow represents an ideal reference for both novice and experienced practitioners.

Two-thirds of degenerative diseases of the vertebral column involve the lumbar spine. Magnetic resonance imaging plays a pivotal role in diagnosis and treatment. With more than 450 illustrations and 78 case studies illustrating various constellations of findings, this book provides a wealth of illustrations that guide the reader through the MR
imaging of lumbar disk herniations and spinal stenosis: Impressive series of MR images illustrate both common and unusual findings, helping to enhance conceptual understanding and sharpen diagnostic perception. Clinical findings and progression are covered in addition to MRI findings, helping the reader to appreciate the correlations between clinical and imaging findings. The role of diagnostic imaging is addressed for specific disorders, helping to foster the more discriminating use of imaging procedures in the lumbar spine. The book concludes with a chapter on the current technique of performing CT-guided injections at the lumbar level.

This text provides a comprehensive overview of the normal variations of the neck, spine, temporal bone and face that may simulate disease. Comprised of seven chapters, this atlas focuses on specific topical variations, among them head-neck variants, orbital variants, sinus, and temporal bone variants, and cervical, thoracic, and lumbar variations of the spine. It also includes comparison cases of diseases that should not be confused with normal variants. Atlas of Head/Neck and Spine Normal Imaging Variants is a much needed resource for a diverse audience, including neuroradiologists, neurosurgeons, neurologists, orthopedists, emergency room physicians, family practitioners, and ENT surgeons, as well as their trainees worldwide.

Spinal cord imaging has significantly benefited from a variety of new MR imaging methods. Recent decades have also witnessed fundamental progress in understanding of the pathophysiology of spinal cord diseases, treatment options, neurosurgical
procedures, and endovascular treatments. This textbook provides an interdisciplinary overview of the new imaging modalities, identifies clues for MR imaging diagnosis and differential diagnosis and describes the anatomical background required to understand spinal cord diseases. Important neurological symptoms are highlighted, and modern treatment options for different diseases are fully explained and discussed. High-quality illustrations, including numerous images, are provided for all important spinal cord diseases, documenting relevant anatomical details, special MR imaging methods, differential diagnoses and possible treatment procedures.

Combining the rich visual guidance of an atlas with the comprehensive, in-depth coverage of a definitive reference, this significant new work in the Expert Radiology series covers every aspect of brain imaging, equipping you to make optimal use of the latest diagnostic modalities. Compare your clinical findings to more than 2,800 digital-quality images of both radiographic images and cutting edge modalities such as MR, multislice CT, ultrasonography, and nuclear medicine, including PET and PET/CT. Visualize relevant anatomy more easily thanks to full-color anatomic views throughout. Choose the most effective diagnostic options, with an emphasis on cost-effective imaging. Apply the expertise of a diverse group of world authorities from around the globe on imaging of the brain. Use this reference alongside Dr. Naidich's Imaging of the Spine for complementary coverage of all aspects of neuroimaging.

This book, first of its kind, combination of concise explanations and focused clinical information
satisfies the needs of practicing radiologists, neurologists, neurosurgeons, plastic and other peripheral nerve surgeons in need of a handy reference and technologists performing MRN studies. Written by two experts of magnetic resonance neurography (MRN) practitioners and educators, this thoroughly illustrated resource delivers how the information you need to perform and interpret peripheral nerve MR imaging studies with confidence. Concise descriptions and high quality illustrations combined wit.

MR Imaging of the Lumbar Spine: A Teaching Atlas

This easy-to-consult guide describes new minimally invasive procedures for the treatment of vertebral lesions that are accompanied by fewer complications and side-effects, reduce the risks of anesthesia, and lower costs. Clear accounts are provided of CT and X-ray guided techniques for vertebral augmentation in different regions of the spine and for the treatment of vertebral tumors by means of cryoablation, radiofrequency ablation, and embolization. Helpful information is also provided on imaging, biomechanics, biopsy, and biomaterials. Like other books in the Springer series New Procedures in Spinal Interventional Neuroradiology, this practice-oriented volume will fill a significant gap in the literature and meet the need expressed by a large number of specialists (interventional neuroradiologists and radiologists, neurosurgeons, and orthopedists) for a topical and handy guide that specifically illustrates the presently available materials and methods.

Spine extremities joints: (a) Human anatomy has not changed but advances in imaging modalities have changed the insight to structural details. It is important to know and understand the human anatomy in view of multitude of cross-sectional imaging in multiple planes. (b) Loaded with meticulously labeled cross-sectional MR images of spine extremities.
and joints in different planes for easy and complete understanding of the anatomy, which is a pre-requisite for recognizing the pathology. (c) Useful and handy for systematic entry into the beautiful world of MR imaging. (d) As a companion to MR imaging and orthopedic department in their course of work. (e) Steal a look into MR anatomy in a simple easy and logical manner. (f) Extremely useful to undergraduates, residents in orthopedics and radiology, orthopedic surgeons, radiologists, general practitioners, other specialists, MRI technical staff and those who have interest in anatomy and imaging. It is meant for medical colleges, institutional and departmental libraries and for standalone MRI and orthopedic establishments. They will find the book extremely useful.

Substantially revised and thoroughly updated, the Third Edition of this acclaimed reference reflects the continuing evolution of magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) technology and clinical applications. This edition features an entire new section on magnetic resonance angiography (MRA), covering MRA principles and display; MRA of arch and extracranial arteries; MRA of the aorta, visceral and peripheral arteries; MR venography; and MRA of coronary arteries. The expanded coverage of MRI applications includes new chapters on the postoperative lumbar spine; pitfalls in MRI of the knee; MRI of bone marrow and muscles; the liver and biliary system; the pancreas and spleen; the gastrointestinal tract; nasopharynx, oropharynx, and hypopharynx tumors; breast implants; and ischemic heart disease and quantification of ventricular function. The updated section on technology includes new chapters on interventional MRI and proton chemical shift imaging of cancer. The text is illustrated throughout with over 3,200 scans obtained on state-of-the-art equipment.

An authoritative text in the field of the lumbar spine. Includes material on the etiology of pain,
diagnosis by use of modern contrast agents in MRIs, and information on actual surgical
technique. WHAT'S NEW: Provides the most up-to-date research and clinical expertise
available with 50% to 60% new material - including coverage of MRI, the etiology of pain and
current surgical techniques. Contributions from a multitude of new authors offer a fresh,
innovative perspective to this brand new edition and special area of orthopaedic medicine.
OUTSTANDING FEATURES: Makes reference easy by first presenting an overview of the
lumbar spine which includes epidemiology and anatomy. Offers guidance on proper diagnosis
as well as medical and surgical management of lumbar disorders. Expands the readers
perspective with contributions from leading specialists in orthopedics, neurosurgery, neurology,
rheumatology, and physical therapy.
This book examines all aspects of the imaging of spinal infection. The diagnosis of spinal
infection has been a challenge for many years. In addition to clinical and laboratory findings
and histopathological examination, imaging has a major role in aiding and expediting the
correct diagnosis. This book comprehensively addresses how imaging can help in localizing
the site and specifying the extent of a variety of spinal infections. After introductory chapters on
the epidemiology and pathophysiology of spinal infection, the different imaging techniques are
discussed in detail. The bulk of the book addresses different specific spinal infections caused
by various pathogens. These comprise chapters on hematogeneous pyogenic spondylodiscitis,
iatrogenic spinal infection, pyogenic epidural abscess, spinal brucellosis, salmonella
spondylodiscitis, spinal tuberculosis, spinal hydatidosis, and fungal spondylodiscitis. The last
chapter describes diagnostic algorithm of spinal infection. The book is written by Tunisian,
Asian and European experts and will be a valuable resource for all medical practitioners who
deal with spinal infection, including radiologists, rheumatologists and orthopedic surgeons. Orthopedic experts in their field have carefully chosen what they consider to be the key papers in their respective domains. Every paper is carefully described and evaluated by its strengths, weaknesses and its contribution to the field. Papers have been chosen by number of citations, academic importance, articles that have changed our whole way of thinking or that have simply stood the test of time.

Magnetic Resonance Imaging of the Spine combines hard case material with practical techniques from the experts to bring you a comprehensive resource with the vast changes occurring in spinal MRI. From the first chapter to the last, this exceptional reference contains the most practical, most current information you need to enhance your diagnostic skills.

MRI Essentials for the Spine Specialist is a comprehensive textbook that details the complex MRI anatomy of the spine and the spectrum of pathological findings in patients with spinal disorders. Covering basic concepts such as the physics of MRI and normal MRI anatomy of the spine as well as advanced MRI techniques, this book will help clinicians develop a systematic approach to the accurate interpretation of spine MRI studies. Key Features: Region-specific and concept-specific chapters systematically covering what the spine specialist must master All chapters written by spine surgeons, interventional pain specialists, and
radiologists, specifically for clinicians. More than 450 MR images and 80 instructive illustrations to help readers visualize and clarify their understanding of the concepts presented. Practical and focused review of how other imaging modalities correlate with and complement MRI. Common Clinical Questions with answers and detailed explanations in each chapter. This text will be an important resource for spine surgeons, interventional and non-interventional pain specialists, interventional radiologists, neurologists, sports medicine specialists, and any other physicians or allied health professionals with an interest in the management of patients with spinal disorders. It is also an excellent reference for diagnostic radiologists who interpret spine MRI studies and would like to gain a better understanding of the associated clinical aspects.

Every 4 years, neuroradiologists from around the world meet at an international congress in order to discuss the state of their art.

Health systems should function in such a way that the amount of inappropriate care is minimized, while at the same time stinting as little as possible on appropriate and necessary care. The ability to determine and identify which care is overused and which is underused is essential to this functioning. To this end, the "RAND/UCLA Appropriateness Method" was developed in the 1980s. It has been further developed and refined in North America and, increasingly, in
Europe. The rationale behind the method is that randomized clinical trials--the "gold standard" for evidence-based medicine--are generally either not available or cannot provide evidence at a level of detail sufficient to apply to the wide range of patients seen in everyday clinical practice. Although robust scientific evidence about the benefits of many procedures is lacking, physicians must nonetheless make decisions every day about when to use them. Consequently, a method was developed that combined the best available scientific evidence with the collective judgment of experts to yield a statement regarding the appropriateness of performing a procedure at the level of patient-specific symptoms, medical history, and test results. This manual presents step-by-step guidelines for conceptualising, designing, and carrying out a study of the appropriateness of medical or surgical procedures (for either diagnosis or treatment) using the RAND/UCLA Appropriateness Method. The manual distills the experience of many researchers in North America and Europe and presents current (as of the year 2000) thinking on the subject. Although the manual is self-contained and complete, the authors do not recommend that those unfamiliar with the RAND/UCLA Appropriateness Method independently conduct an appropriateness study; instead, they suggest "seeing one" before "doing one." To this end, contact information is provided to assist potential users of the method.
This richly illustrated case-based atlas thoroughly depicts the role of MR imaging in the assessment of patients presenting with pain due to degenerative disease of the spine and will serve as an excellent guide to differential diagnosis. Importantly, generic radicular compression is the main reason for the painful symptomatology in only a limited number of cases, and this book illustrates and emphasizes how various anatomic elements of the spine can be responsible. The imaging features of a range of disorders involving both the anterior and posterior elements of the spine are described, including active inflammatory osteochondrosis, atypical herniated discs, facet joint disorders, spondylolysis, and degenerative-inflammatory changes of the spinal ligaments and posterior perispinal muscles. Each example is supported by clinical data, and a series of unusual cases are also presented. MR study protocols include T2-weighted sequences with fat saturation and contrast-enhanced T1-weighted sequences with fat saturation to allow better visualization or highlighting of various inflammatory changes in the spine. Radiologists, neuroradiologists, neurosurgeons, orthopedists, and rehabilitation physicians will all find this atlas a valuable asset in their practice.

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