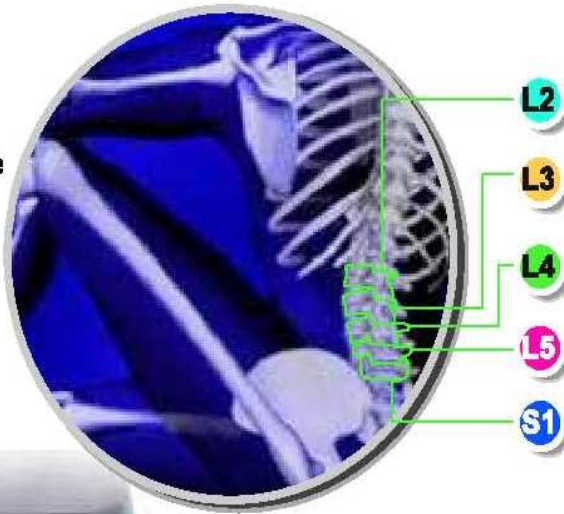


## Symptoms

The nerve roots leaving the back serve the legs. When a lumbar root is injured, pain, weakness, numbness or tingling may be felt in the buttocks, leg or foot. This pain is usually called sciatica.



### Damage at the L2 level of the lumbar

Pain in the thigh.  
Weakness in the hip.

### Damage at the L3 level of the lumbar

Pain in the thigh. Weakness in the knee and thigh.

### Damage at the L4 level of the lumbar

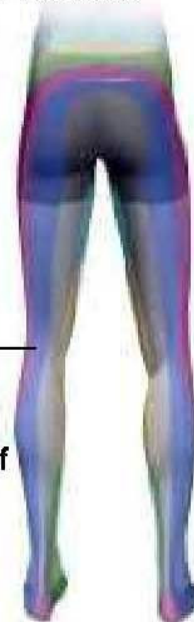
Pain in the lower back down to the knee and foot.  
Weakness in the foot.

### Damage at the L5 level of the lumbar

Pain on the outside of the leg to the top of the foot and big toe. Weakness in the foot.

### Damage at the S1 level of the spine

Pain in the back of the calf to the outside of the foot and little toe.  
Weakness in the foot.



# About Lumbar Radiculopathy

The spinal cord branches out to all parts of the body. The part of a nerve that connects to the spinal cord is called a nerve root. If one of these roots is injured or pinched, pain, weakness, numbness or tingling may be felt in the part of the body served by that nerve.

## MOST COMMON CAUSES OF NERVE ROOT INJURY

### Herniated Disc

When a spinal disc ruptures, it may press on a nerve root.



### Spinal Stenosis

The bones creating the spinal canal may grow inward, pinching a nerve root.



### Degenerative Disc Disease

If a spinal disc weakens, vertebral bones above and below may touch, pinching nearby nerve roots. Bony spurs also may press on the nerves.

