

SPONDYLOLISTHESIS

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Bones and Spine

OUTLINE

- Definition
- Classification
- Clinical presentation
- Imaging-measurement
- Natural history
- Treatment-
- Non Surg Vs. Surg
 - Decomp with fusion Vs. without fusion
 - Fusion with instrumentation Vs. without
 - Reduction Vs. In-situ fusion
- High grade

SPONDYLOLYSIS VS. SPONDYLOLISTHESIS

- Greek roots:
 - Spondylo = spine or vertebra
 - Lysis = to dissolve
 - Listhesis = to slide or slip

CLASSIFICATION

WILTSE, NEWMAN, MCNAB 1976



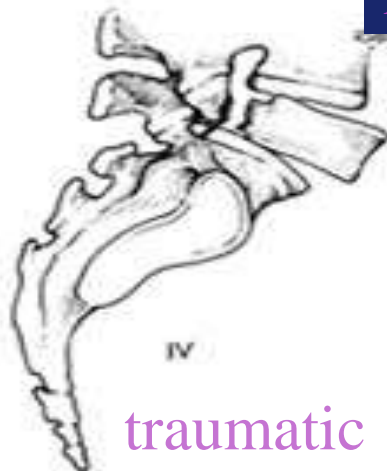
20% listhesis
2F : 1 M
Cause
L5-S1



Most common
2M : 1F
Cause
L5-S1



6F : 1M
Age >40
10% F >60
cause



CLINICAL PRESENTATION

- Mostly asymptomatic
- Back pain
- L5 root
- Claudication
- Vespers curse
- Tight Hamstrings(80%)
- High slip:
 - L/S kyphosis
 - flattening of buttocks
 - forward thrust of Abd.
 - Absence of waistline



ASSOCIATED CONDITIONS

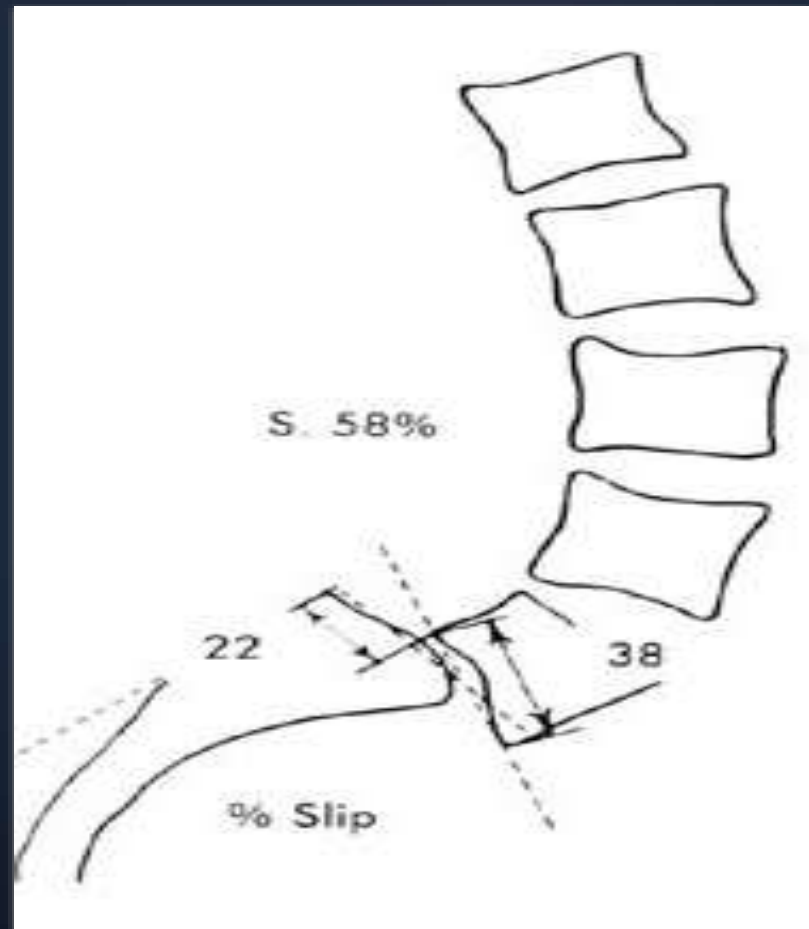
- Spinal bifida occulta (24-70%)
- Scoliosis (5-7%)
- Disk Degeneration (50%)
- Lumbarization/sacralization(7-9%)
- Osteoarthritis (11-17%)

RADIOGRAPHIC STUDY

- **Standing** AP/Lateral
 - Inc. slip 17%
 - Inc slip angle 5 degree
- Oblique views
 - Scottie dog's neck
- Bone scan-cold/hot
- SPECT bone scan (single photon emission CT)
- MRI/CT myelogram

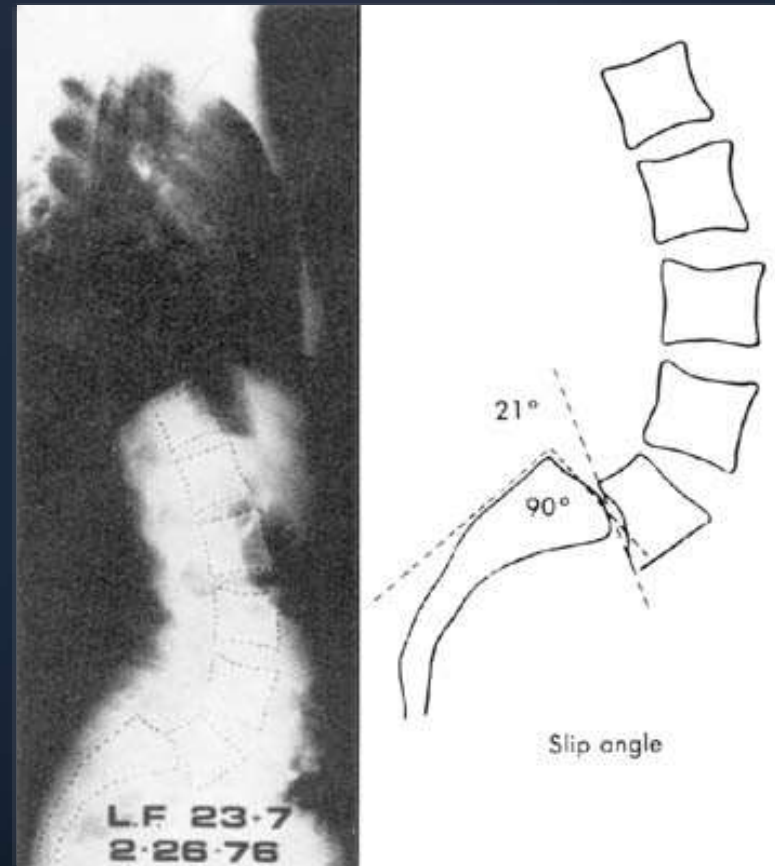
RADIOGRAPHIC MEASUREMENTS

- Percentage slip
- Meyerding
 - I 0-25%
 - II 26-50%
 - III 51-75%
 - IV 76-100%
 - V > 100%



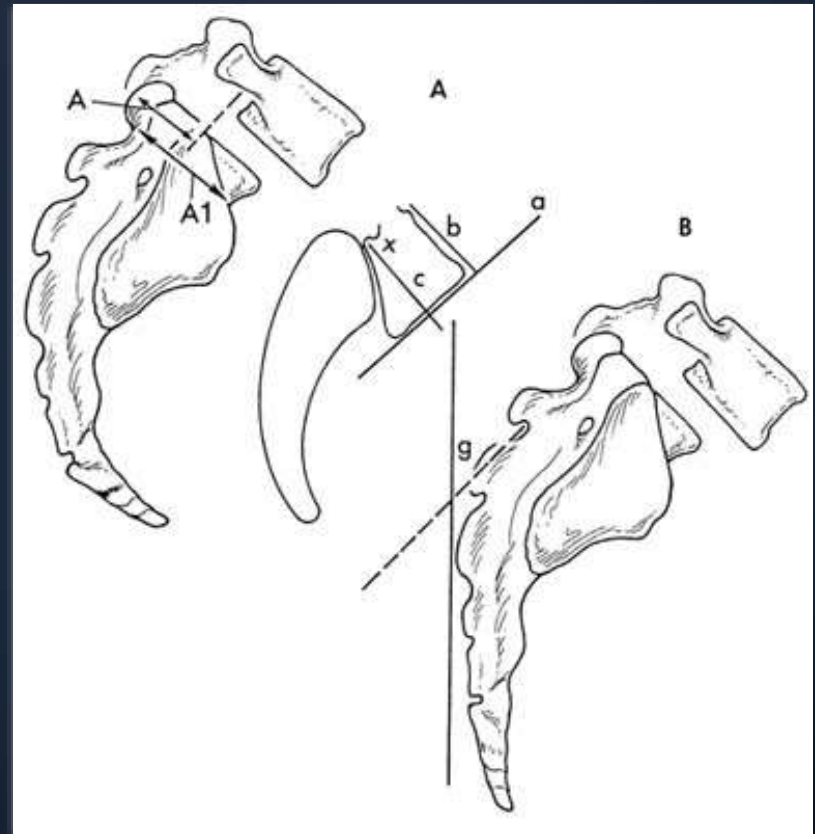
RADIOGRAPHIC MEASUREMENTS

- Slip Angle:
 - Angle between L5 inf. Endplate to line perpendicular to post surface of S1.



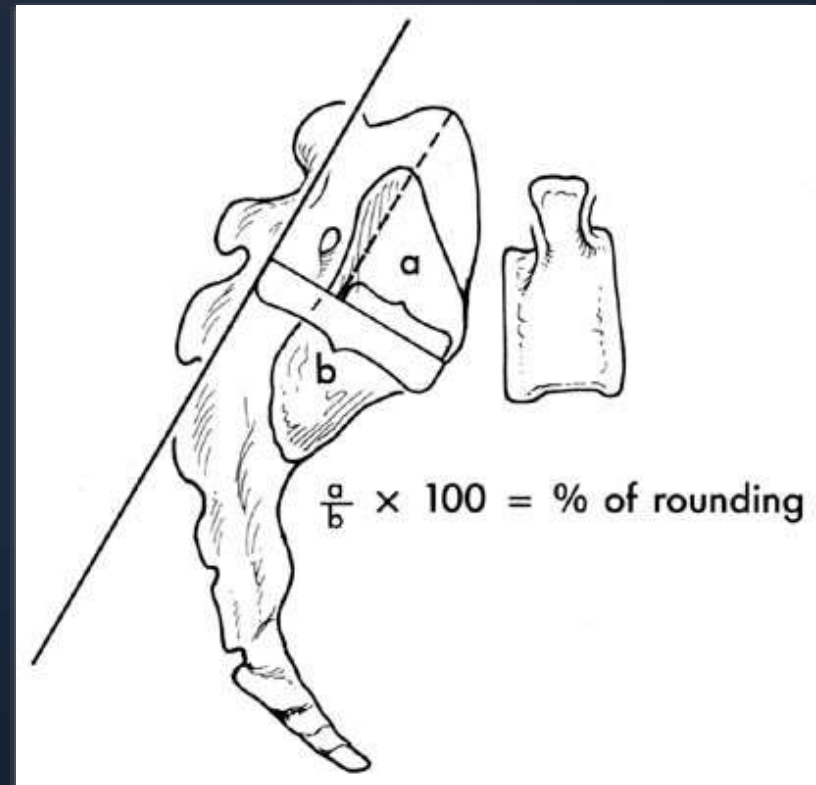
RADIOGRAPHIC MEASUREMENTS

- Sacral Inclination:
 - Angle between vertical line and back of S12



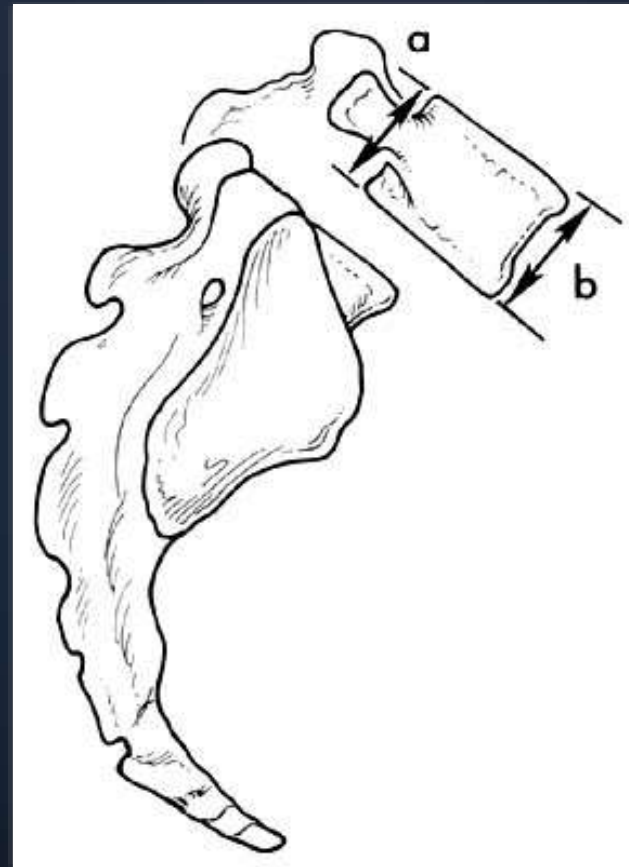
RADIOGRAPHIC MEASUREMENTS

- Rounding ratio:
 - % of round shape of sacrum

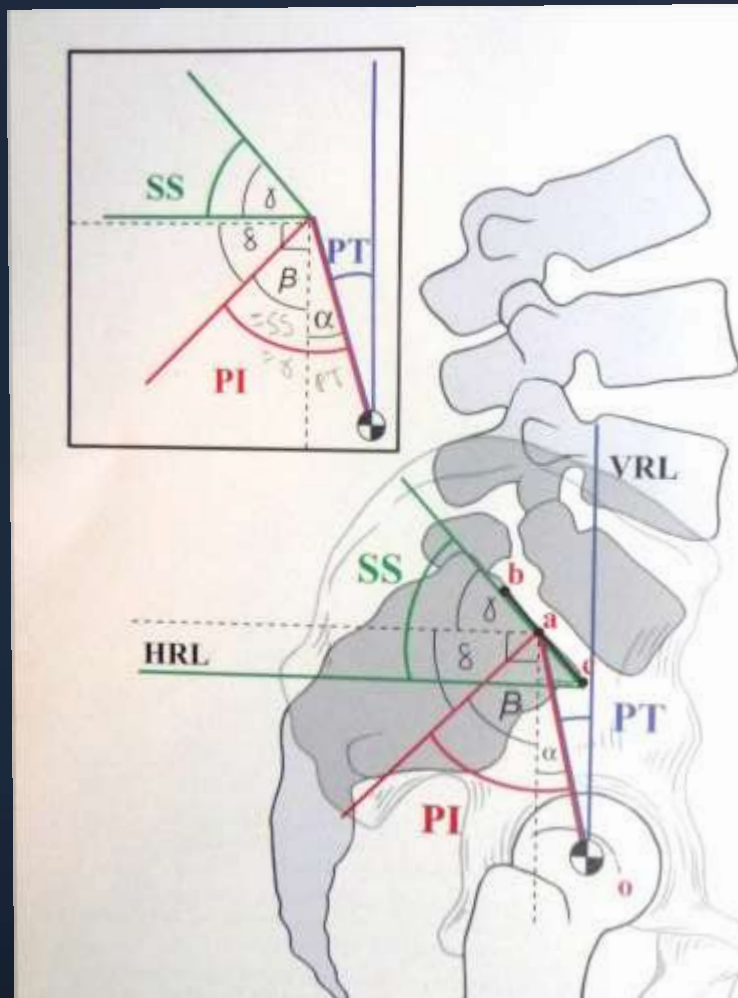


RADIOGRAPHIC MEASUREMENTS

Lumbar Index =
posterior height
anterior height



PELVIC INCIDENCE



NATURAL HISTORY

Isthmic

- Spondylolisthesis does not exist at birth
- Spondylolysis 4.4% at age 6, 6% in adult
- Development of pars defect does not cause pain in most patients
- Progression is unusual.

Fredrickson, JBJS, 1984

Degenerative

- Less understood
- Progression of slip 30%
- Clinical deterioration 10%
- No correlation between slip progression and deterioration of Sx.
- 15% patients require surgery

Fitzgerald, JBJS, 1976
Frymoyer, JAAOS, 1994

NON SURGICAL TREATMENT

Children

- Asymptomatic:
no activity restriction
- Frequency of x-ray
<10 YO q4month
11-15YO q6month
>15 YO q1-2years
- Stop aggravating activities
- Period of brace
- Trunk strengthening

Adult

- Mild analgesics/NSAID
- Weight control
- Aerobic exercise
- Bracing
- Epidural steroids

SURGICAL INDICATIONS

- Persistence or recurrence of major symptoms for at least one year despite conservative treatment (incapacitating radicular **pain** or claudication)
 - Quality of life
- Progressive **neurologic deficit** (cauda equina, motor weakness)
- Progressive slipping **beyond 50%** or high slip angle above 50 degree in a growing child (even if child is asymptomatic)
- Gait or postural **deformity** unrelieved by therapy

SURGERY

- Decompression alone without fusion.
- Fusion
 - With decompression, without decompression.
 - Levels
 - Anterior vs. posterior vs. front&back
 - In situ vs. Reduction
 - Instrumentation Vs. no instrumentation

DECOMPRESSION WITH FUSION VS. WITHOUT FUSION (DEG. SPONDYLOLISTHESIS+STENOSIS)

- **Herkowitz, JBJS, 1991**
- Prospective/random.
- 50 pts
- 3 year f/u
- Post op listhesis:
 - 96% non fused group
 - 28% fused group
- Op results:
 - 96% good or excelnt. (fused group)
 - 44% good or excelnt (nonfused group)
- **Epstein, J.spinal disord, 1998**
- Retrospective
- 290 pts with decomp. Only
 - (<4mm, 10 degree)
- 10 year f/u
- 69%excellent, 13% good.
- Only 2.7% required secondary fusion

INSTRUMENTED VS. NON-INSTRUMENTED FUSION

- Zdeblick, Spine, 1993
 - Prospective, randomized.
 - 124 pts.
 - F/u 16 month
 - Fusion rate 95% for rigid instrumt group vs. 65% for non instrumt group
 - 95% good/excell. Result with Vs. 71% good/excell result without.
- Herkowitz, Spine, 1997
 - Prospective, randomized
 - 76 pts
 - F/u 24 month
 - Fusion rate 82% with instrumentation, 45% without.
 - 76% good/excell. With instrumentation Vs. 85% without.

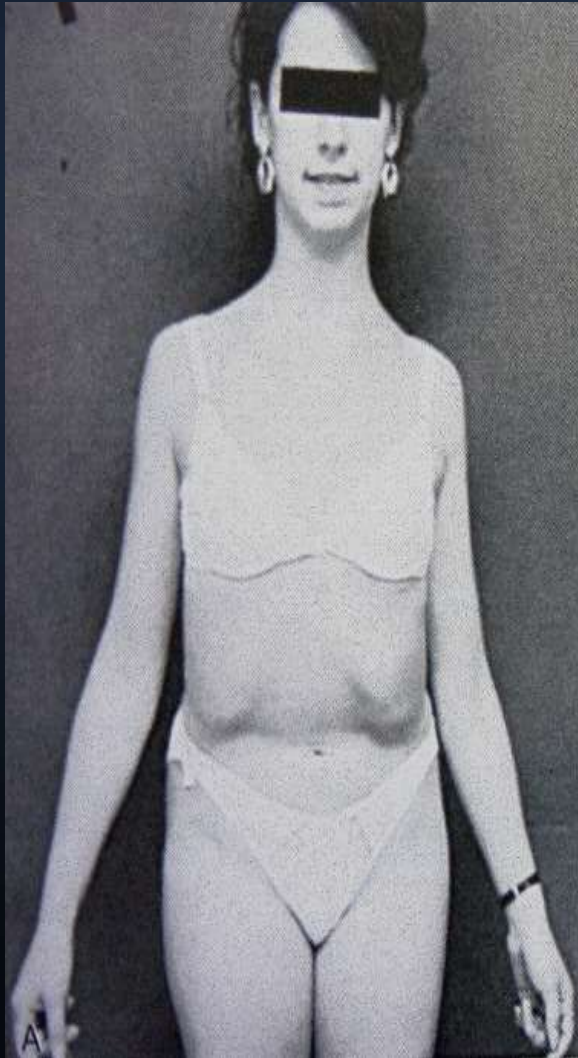
IN SITU FUSION VS. REDUCTION/FIXATION FOR HIGH GRADE SLIP

- Wiltse, JBJS, 1989
 - 8 young adults with grade III or IV with marked pre-op sciatica undergone In Situ fusion without decompression
 - F/u 5.5 years
 - All healed. Excellent results with resolution of marked pre-op sciatica
 - No neurologic complication
- Edward & Spinal fixation Study group
 - (Rothman-Simeone)
 - 25 young adults with grade II to V undergone one stage post. Reduction /fixation.
 - F/U 2 years
 - 91% slip correction, 88% kyphosis correction
 - One nonunion. No long term neurologic complication

RISK FACTORS FOR PROGRESSION

- Slip angle > 25 degree
- Lumbar index (wedging ratio) $< 75\%$
- Rounded sacral end plate
- Slip $> 50\%$
- Hyperlordosis (> 50 degree) L2-S1 or vertical sacral inclination
- Female adolescents
- Lumbosacral hypermobility ($> 4\text{mm}$, 10 degree deff. In flex. And ext. xray)
- Pelvic incidence > 68 degree (low grade); 79 degree (high grade)

ADVANTAGES OF REDUCTION



- Restore body posture and mechanics.
- Decreases 30% chance of progression despite good in situ fusion
- Permits full nerve decompression.
- Limits fusion length.

INDICATIONS FOR REDUCTION

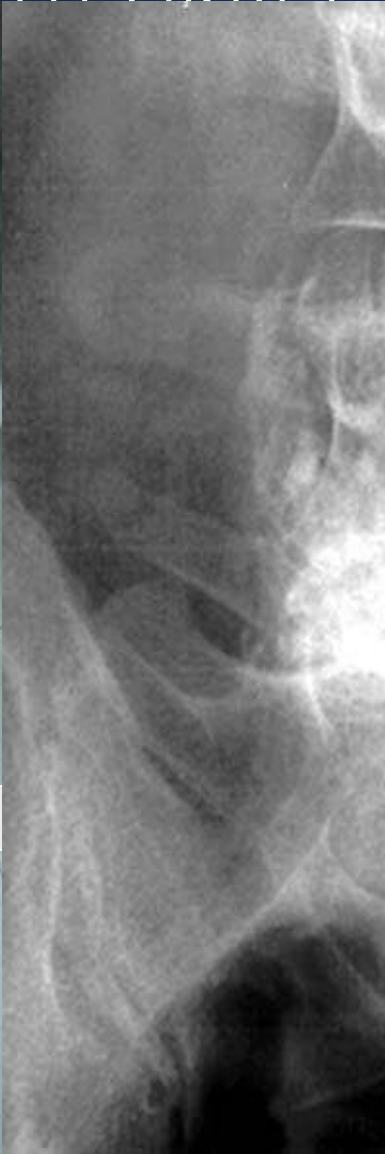
- Cauda Equina Syndrome
- Progressive Slip surpassing 50%
- Severe deformity causing decompensation or distress
- Major pain plus two or more risk factors

SPONDYLOPTOSIS

- Posterior gradual instrumented reduction/fixation
- Anterior resection + posterior fixation (Gaines procedure)
- Fibula Strut graft



FIR II A STRUT GRAFT



16 YEAR OLD GIRL WITH BACK PAIN AND SOME L5 RAD.



INTRA-OP





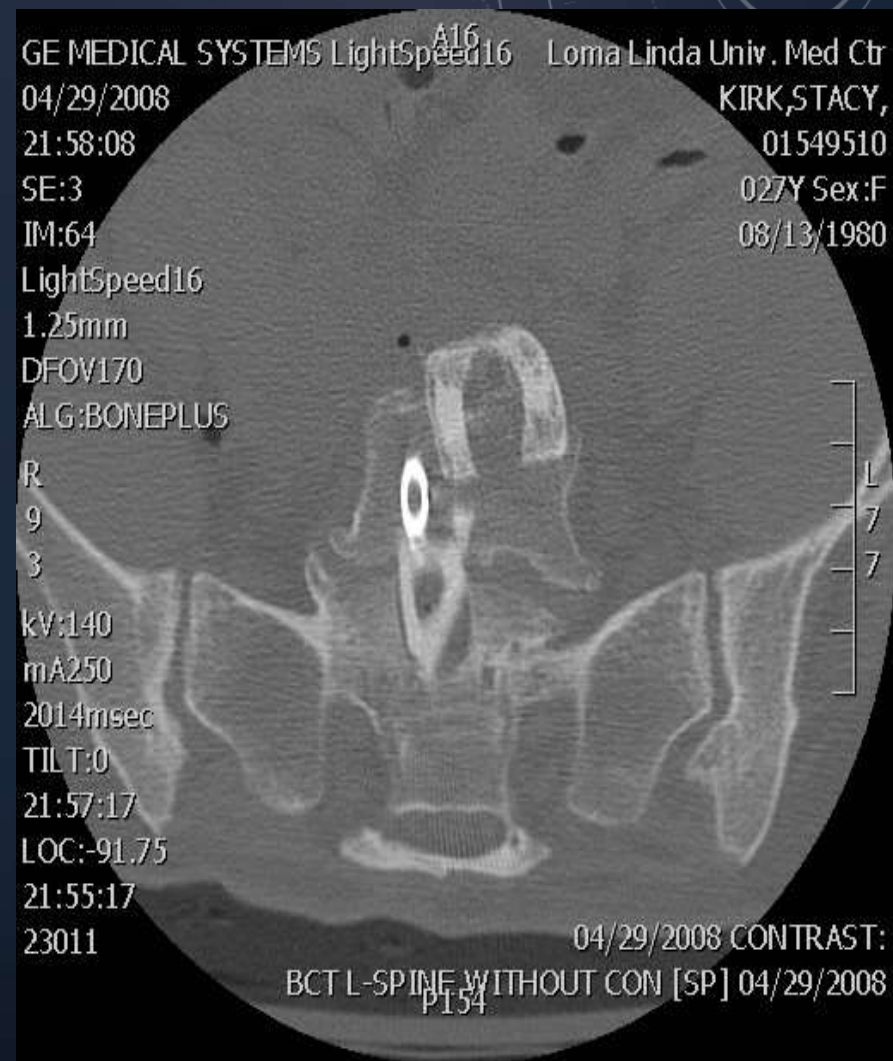
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SPONDYLOLISTHESIS



08/24/2007 CONTRAST:
BCT L-SPINE WITH CONTRAST [SP] 08/24/2007



CONCLUSION

PERSONAL PREFERENCE

- 80% of patients:
 - Good trial of conservative treatment.

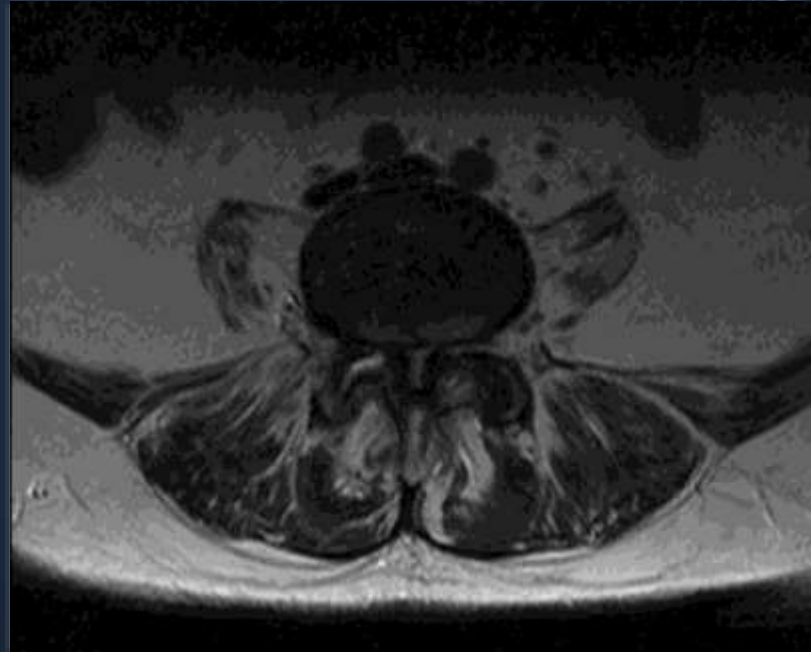
INDIVIDUALIZE TO EACH PT'S NEEDS

- 20% of patients:
 - Adolescent without neuro. Deficit
 - In situ fusion with or without instrumentation
 - Adults with unstable degenerative spondylolisthesis
 - Post. Decompression, in situ fusion \pm instrumentation
 - High Grade Slip

2006 OSAE

- A healthy 70 YO man has back and leg pain in an L5 distribution that is increased with standing and walking, relief by sitting. Neurological and pulse exam Normal. X-ray reveals spondylolisthesis, MRI with stenosis. Management should be:
 - A. Laminectomy
 - B. Hemilaminectomy
 - C. Laminectomy and fusion
 - D. Anterior interbody fusion
 - E. Posterior fusion

CASE DISCUSSION



CASE DISCUSSION



THANK YOU