

Review of: "L4-L5 Anatomy Classification System for Lateral Lumbar Interbody Fusion"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The authors have proposed a new classification system for lateral lumbar interbody fusion (LLIF) at the L4-L5 level which is based on identification of easily recognizable key structures i.e., the position of the psoas muscle, the lumbar plexus and the major vessels.

As per authors:-

- 70% of the L4-L5 anatomies in their study were type I, 18% were type II and 12% were type III.
- Type 1 and type 2 anatomies can be safely approached using the lateral technique, while type 3 anatomies should be approached using a different technique, such as the prone or anterior approach.

Suggested Improvements

- The study **sample size** is small, with only 50 patients. Authors are encouraged to increase the sample size in order to make the system more generalizable.
- The article does not include any **inter-observer or intra-observer reliability** analyses. Authors should conduct inter-observer and intra-observer reliability analyses to assess the consistency of the classification system.