

# Review of: "Identification of Epidural Space: A Comparison Study Between Contrast Spread and Loss of Resistance Techniques"

Tony F

**Potential competing interests:** The author(s) declared that a potential competing interest exist.

This study appears to have some promising aspects. Given this is a small study performed by one physician, it has some potential issues, however the usage of image guidance with contrast to evaluate for epidural identification even with small gauge needles is potentially promising. Smaller gauge needles may have advantages over larger gauge needles but the usual drawback is the change in tactile feedback during LOR. If LOR is not being used as a primary technique and instead fluoroscopy guided advancement (with contrast verification), then one of the biggest drawbacks may be less of an issue (or not one). Given possible false losses, an only image based technique, though not usual, may still be safe. The epidrum may have been used to give a standardized judgement of lack of resistance versus the physician, since it was a one physician study. If going forward, will need more appropriate standardization /randomization of groups.