

An anatomical dissection of the piriformis muscle and its relationship to the sciatic nerve. The image shows the muscle (labeled 1) originating from the greater trochanter of the femur (labeled 2) and passing over the greater sciatic foramen (labeled 3) to insert into the greater trochanter of the tibia (labeled 4). The sciatic nerve (labeled 5) is shown passing under the muscle. Other structures labeled include the gluteus maximus (6), gluteus medius (7), and gluteus minimus (8). A dashed line indicates the plane of dissection.

**Le syndrome du piriforme :  
Exercice pour mieux raisonner**

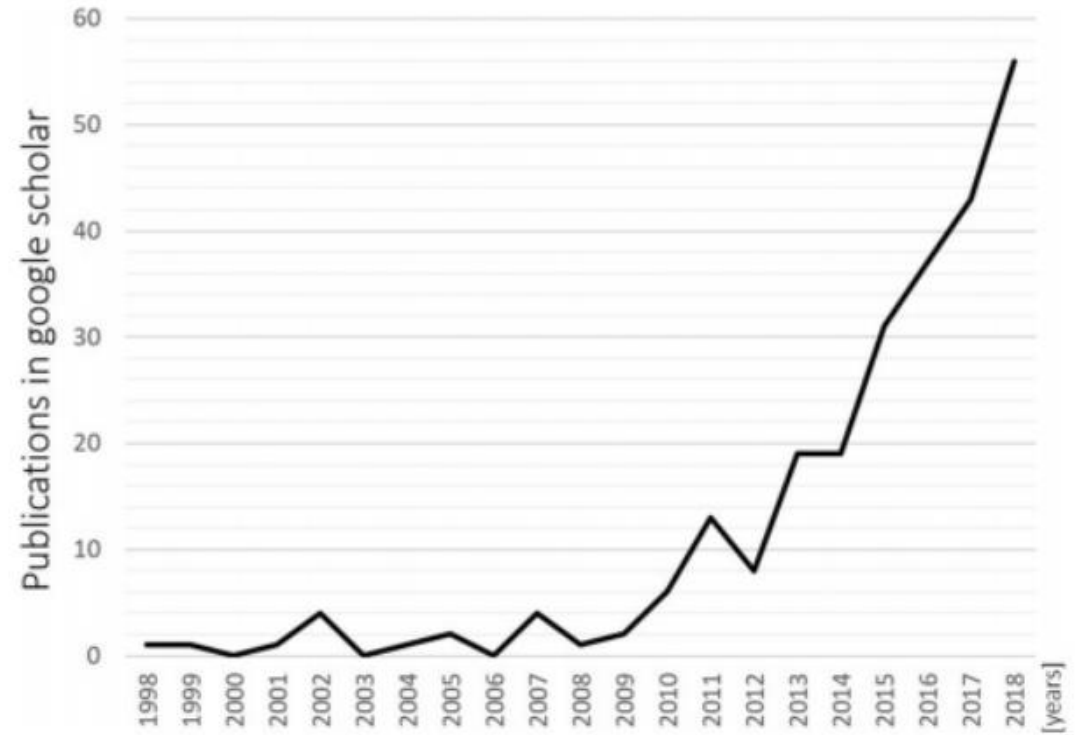
**BRYAN LITRE**



## Liens d'intérêts car Kiné et Formateur



Fig. 1 The number of publications mentioning DGS in Google Scholar. More than 280 articles included the term "deep gluteal syndrome" and more than half of the articles have been published in the last 5 years



Kizaki et al. 2020



Clinique

Théorie

Chirurgie injections

Plausibilité en 2022

Cohérence traitement kiné

Diagnostic différentiel

Conclusion



- **Douleur à la fesse pouvant irradier dans la jambe**

- **Sensibilité palpatoire,**

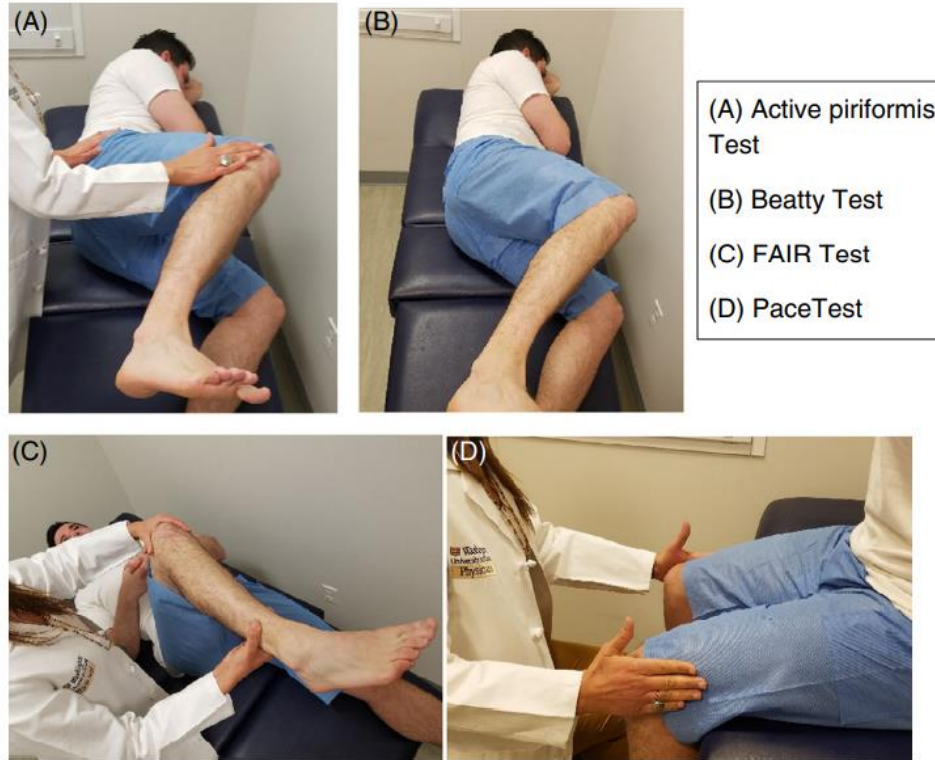
- **Aggravation de la douleur en position assise prolongée,**

- **Augmentation de la douleur avec des manœuvres qui « augmentent la tension du muscle piriforme ».**

HOPAYIAN, Kevork et DANIELYAN, Armine. Four symptoms define the piriformis syndrome: an updated systematic review of its clinical features. *European Journal of Orthopaedic Surgery & Traumatology*, 2018, vol. 28, no 2, p. 155-164.

D. Probst et al. / PM R 11 (2019) S54 S63

S59



- (A) Active piriformis Test
- (B) Beatty Test
- (C) FAIR Test
- (D) Pace Test

Figure 4. Physical examination special tests for piriformis syndrome. (A) Active piriformis test. (B) Beatty test. (C) FAIR test. (D) Pace test.

## + Test Neurodynamique



Fig. 7 Typical aspect of antalgic position in patients with DGS, bearing weight on the healthy ischium

## Variations anatomiques

Muscle « trop contracté »

Muscle « trop court »

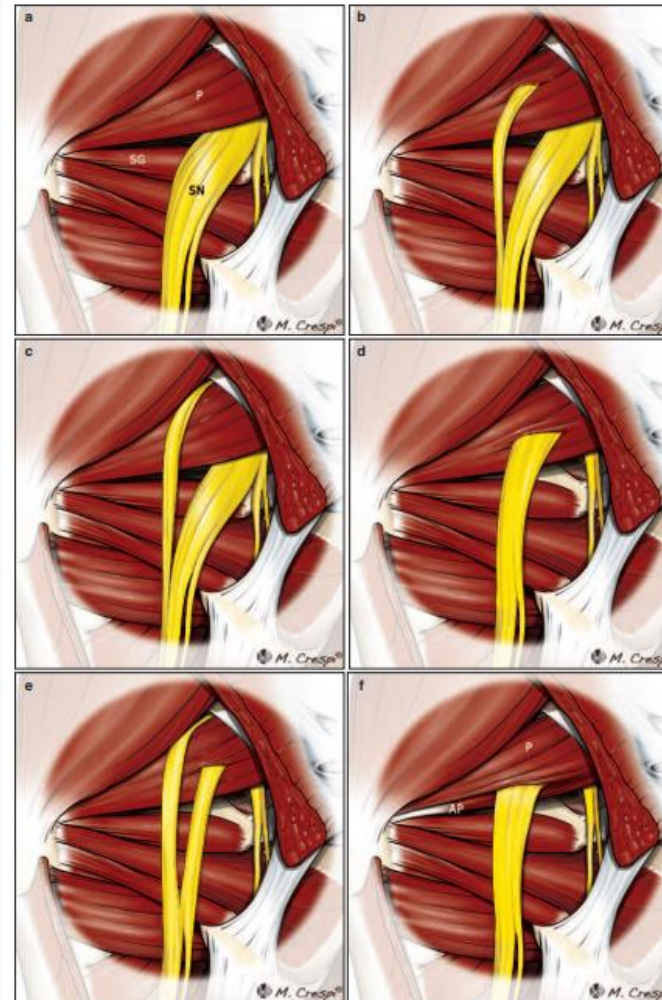


Figure 2 a-f. Anatomic variations of the relationship between the piriformis muscle and sciatic nerve. Diagrams illustrate the six variants, originally described by Beaton and Anson. (a) An undivided nerve comes out below the piriformis muscle (normal course). (b) A divided sciatic nerve passing through and below the piriformis muscle. (c) A divided nerve passing above and below an undivided muscle. (d) An undivided sciatic nerve passing through the piriformis muscle. (e) A divided nerve passing through and above the muscle heads. (f) Diagram showing an unreported additional B-type variation consisting of a smaller accessory piriformis (AP) with its own separate tendon. SN sciatic nerve, P piriformis muscle, SG superior gemellus muscle (Reprint with permission from<sup>19</sup>).

## ORIGINAL ARTICLE

### Sciatic Nerve Variants in Patients Diagnosed With Sciatica: Is There a Correlation?

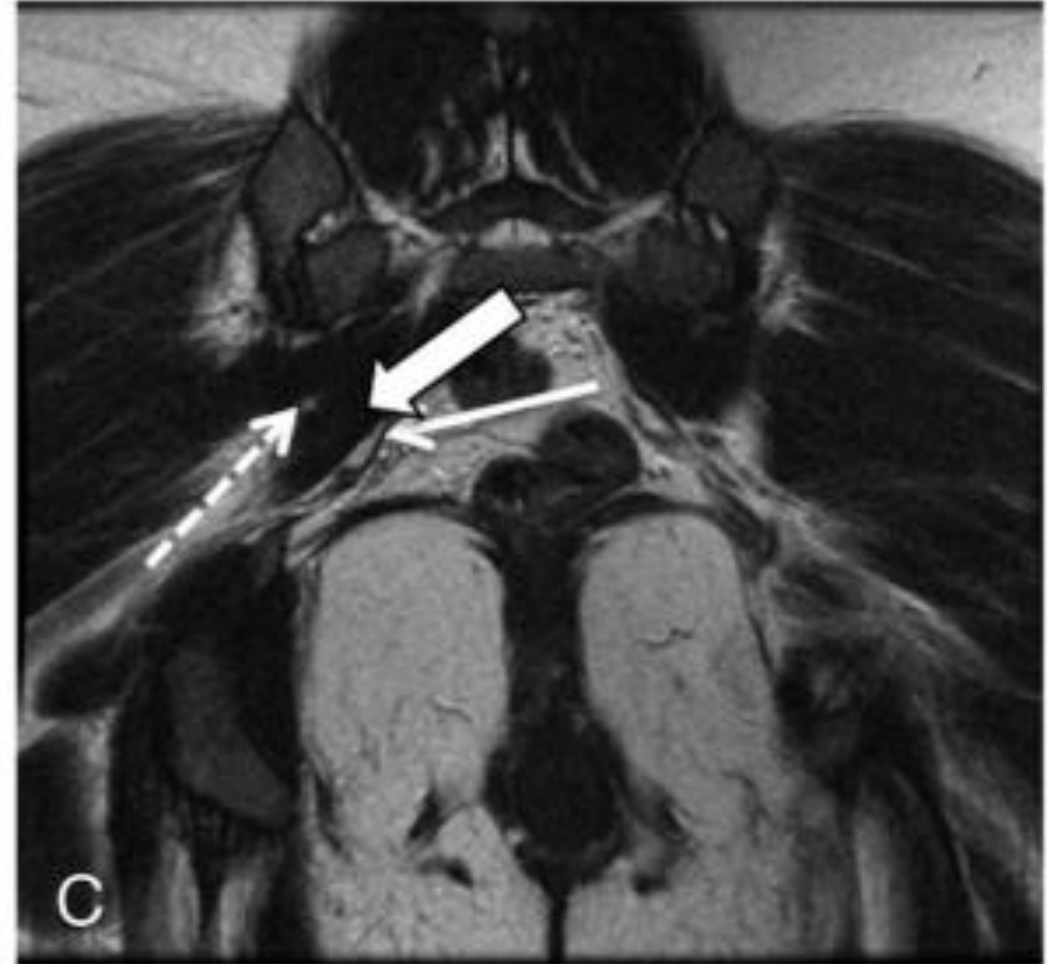
Hayat Khan, MD, Stephen Ling, MD, Sayed Ali, MD, Padmaja Jonnalagadda, MD, Frederick Ramsey, PhD, Mark Weiner, MD, and Omer Awan, MD, MPH, CIIP

**TABLE 1.** Groups by Type of Sciatic Nerve Variation and Fisher Exact Analysis

	Type 1	Type 2	Type 3	Type 4	Type 5	Type 6
Expected, %	84.15	13.85	1.30	0.53	0.08	0.08
Observed, %	55.9	41.94	2.15	0	0	0

Fisher exact test.

Pr  $\leq P < 0.0001$ .





Clinique

**Théorie**

Chirurgie  
injections

Plausibilité en  
2022

Cohérence  
traitement kiné

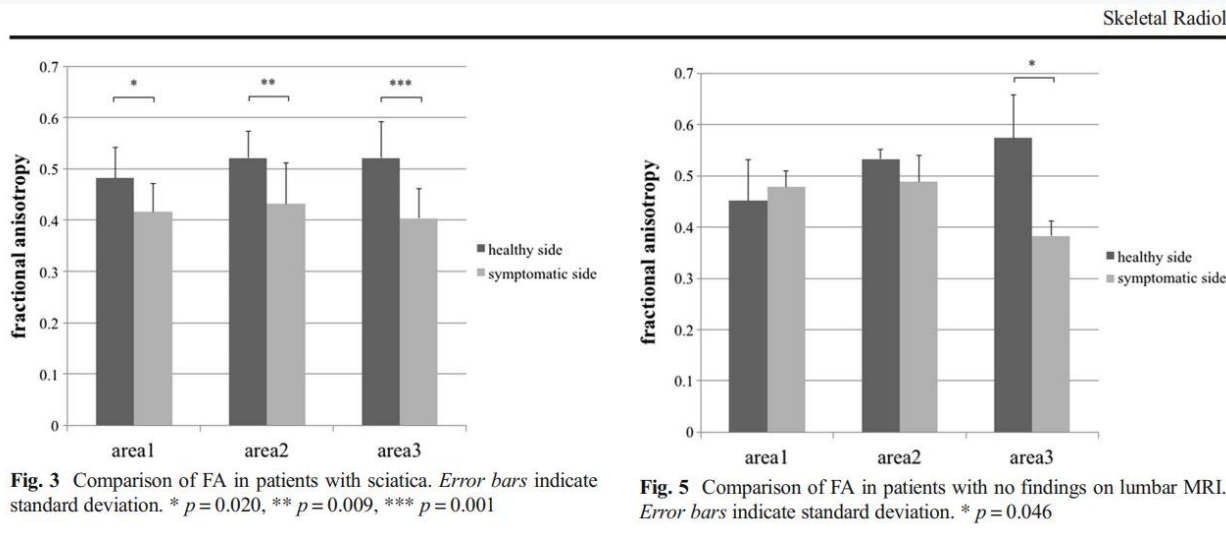
Diagnostic  
différentiel

Conclusion



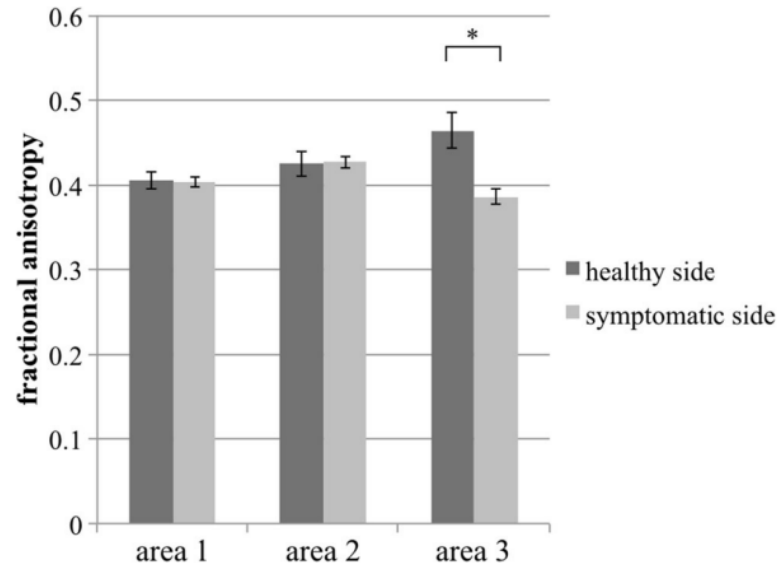
**On retient que :**

**Ce sont des indicateurs de changements de flux dans le nerf**

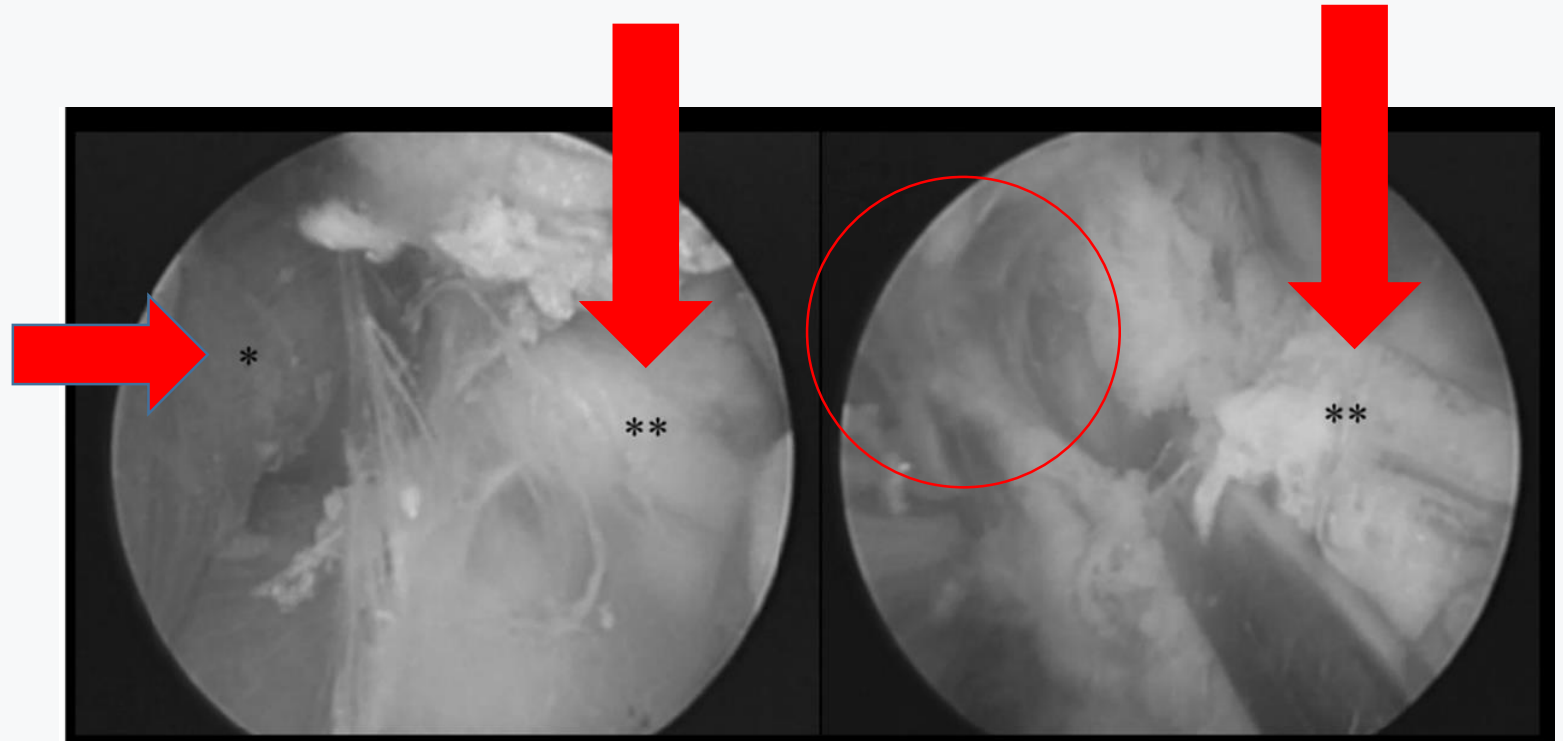


LE BIHAN, Denis. Apparent diffusion coefficient and beyond: what diffusion MR imaging can tell us about tissue structure. *Radiology*, 2013, vol. 268, no 2, p. 318-322.

WADA, Keizo, HASHIMOTO, Takuya, MIYAGI, Ryo, *et al.* Diffusion tensor imaging and tractography of the sciatic nerve: assessment of fractional anisotropy and apparent diffusion coefficient values relative to the piriformis muscle, a preliminary study. *Skeletal radiology*, 2017, vol. 46, no 3, p. 309-314.



**Fig. 2** Comparison of fractional anisotropy on the affected side and the unaffected side before surgery. Error bars indicate the standard deviation. \* $p = 0.008$



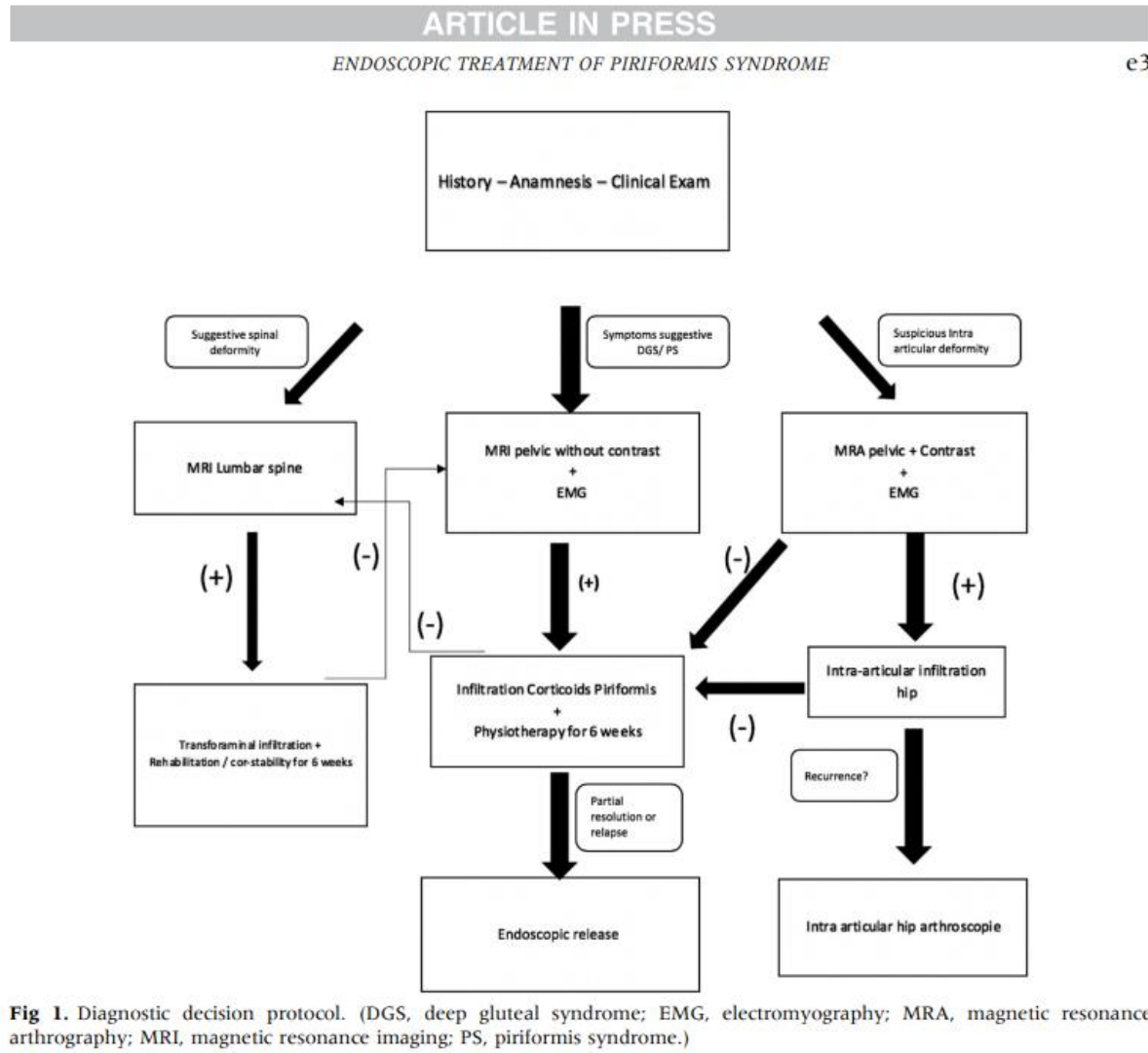
VANERMEN, Frédérique et VAN MELKEBEEK, Jan. Endoscopic Treatment of Piriformis Syndrome Results in a Significant Improvement in Pain Visual Analog Scale Scores. *Arthroscopy, Sports Medicine, and Rehabilitation*, 2022.

WADA, Keizo, GOTO, Tomohiro, TAKASAGO, Tomoya, et al. Piriformis muscle syndrome with assessment of sciatic nerve using diffusion tensor imaging and tractography: a case report. *Skeletal Radiology*, 2017, vol. 46, no 10, p. 1399-1404.

Clinique

**Théorie**Chirurgie  
injectionsPlausibilité en  
2022Cohérence  
traitement kinéDiagnostic  
différentiel

Conclusion



**Douleur neuropathiques**

**Intolérance position assise**

**Tests cliniques**

**Echec traitement conservateur**

**Muscle « trop contracté »**

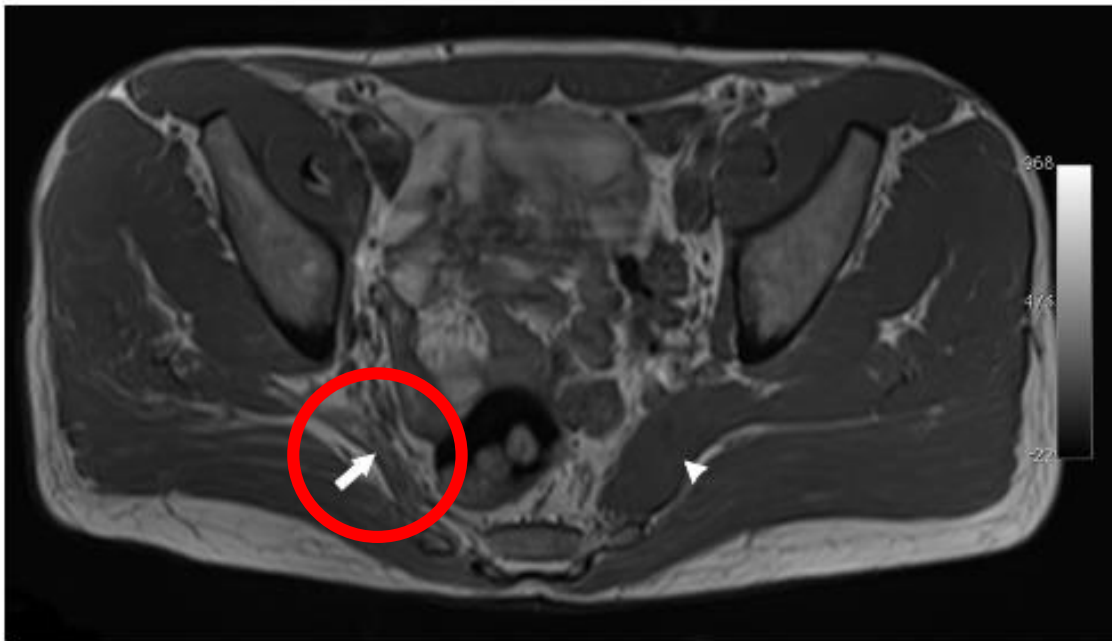
**Muscle « trop court »**

**Masse, Appui, Etire**



## Effet de la Toxine Botulique

M. Al-Al-Shaikh et al.



**Figure 6.** Grade 3 Goutallier's classification of fatty infiltration of the right piriformis muscle in a 42-year old patient treated with BT in the right piriformis muscle.

## Si échec du traitement conservateur

- **Injection corticoïdes**
- **Injection anesthésiques**
- **Injection toxine Botulique**

## Section du tendon du piriforme +/- Neurolyse

KNUDSEN, Joshua S., MEI-DAN, Omer, et BRICK, Mathew J. Piriformis syndrome and endoscopic sciatic neurolysis. *Sports Medicine and Arthroscopy Review*, 2016, vol. 24, no 1, p. e1-e7.

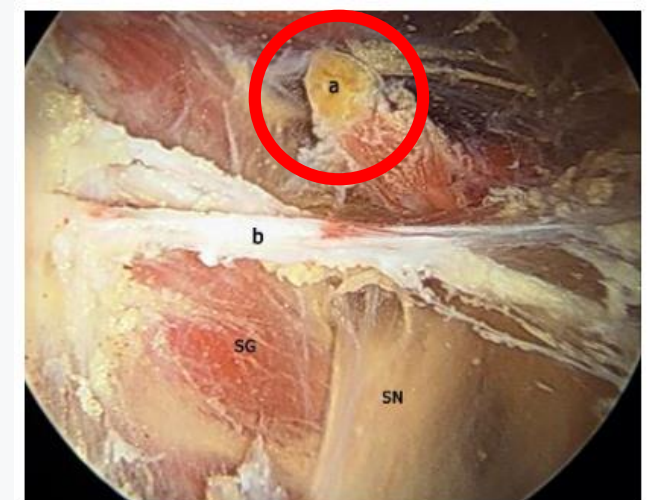
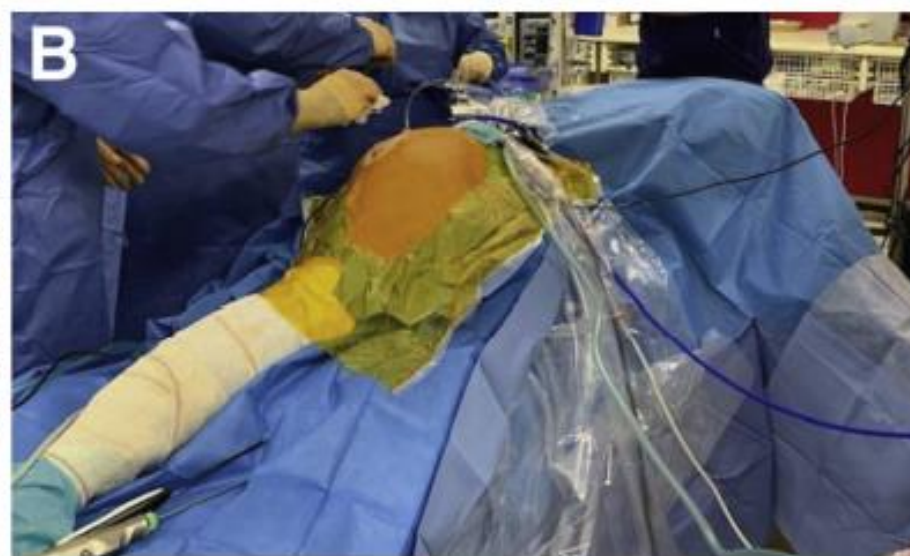


Figure 12. Left hip. Sciatic nerve at the sciatic notch. a) Piriformis tendon after release; b) fibrovascular band, SG Superior gemellus muscle, SN Sciatic nerve.

### Original Article

Endoscopic Treatment of Piriformis Syndrome Results in a Significant Improvement in Pain Visual Analog Scale Scores

Frédérique Vanermen, M.D., and Jan Van Melkebeek, M.D.

AGUILERA-BOHORQUEZ, B., CARDOZO, O., BRUGIATTI, M., et al. Endoscopic treatment of sciatic nerve entrapment in deep gluteal syndrome: clinical results. *Revista Española de Cirugía Ortopédica y Traumatología (English Edition)*, 2018, vol. 62, no 5, p. 322-327.

Journal of the Portuguese Society of Hip & Knee Surgery, Vol. 1, No. 3, pp. 201-206  
doi:10.1007/s12018-018-0001-0  
© 2018 Sociedade Portuguesa de Ortopedia e Traumatologia  
Endoscopic release of the piriformis tendon and sciatic nerve exploration  
Victor M. Izalumni <sup>1</sup>, Rubén Arriaga <sup>1</sup>, Félix E. Villalobos <sup>1</sup> and Carlos Suarez-Aldean <sup>1,2\*</sup>

Clinique

Théorie

Chirurgie  
injections

Plausibilité en  
2022

Cohérence  
Externe

Corrélation et  
causalité

Conclusion

**Du cou**

**existe ?**



Clinique

Théorie

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causalité

Conclusion

# Êtes-vous sûrs d'être sûrs

16



Clinique

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injections

**Plausibilité en  
2022**

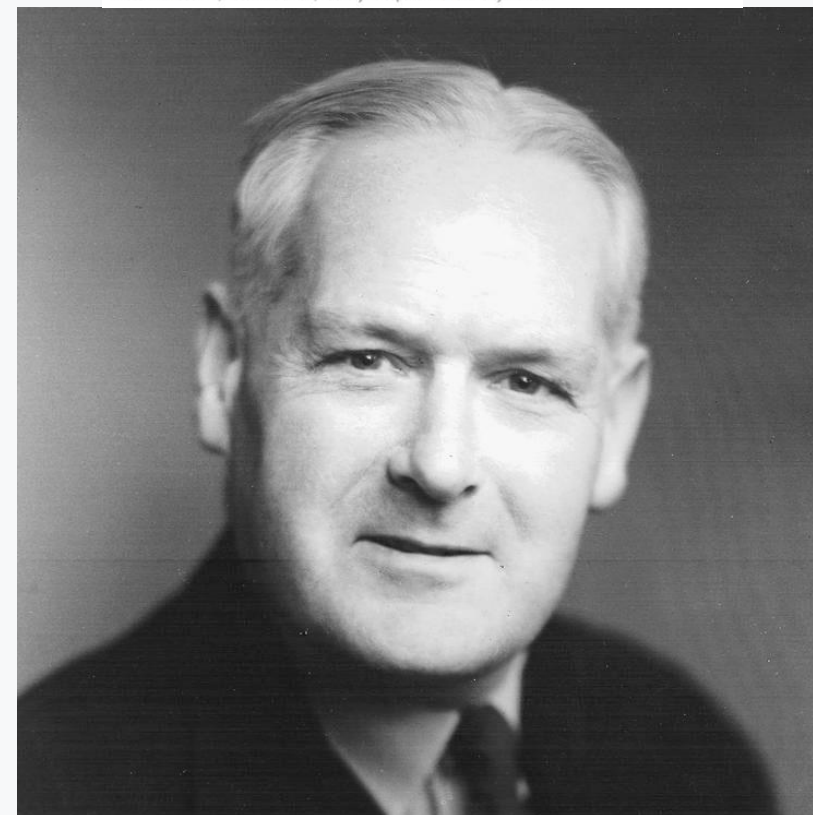
Cohérence  
Externe

Corrélation et  
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- **Plausibilité biologique**
- **Cohérence biologique**
- **Présence de données expérimentales**
- **Analogie**
- **Force de l'association**
- **Relation dose-effet**
- **Temporalité d'association**
- **Spécificité de l'association**
- **Reproductibilité des résultats**



Clinique

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ExterneCorrélation et  
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Conclusion

Corresponding scapular pain with the nerve root involved in cervical radiculopathy

Masaya Mizutamari<sup>1</sup>, Akira Sei, Akinari Tokiyoshi, Toru Fujimoto, Takuya Taniwaki, Wakana Togami, Hiroshi Mizuta

Is There an Association Between Lumbosacral Radiculopathy and Painful Gluteal Trigger Points?: A Cross-sectional Study

Specificity of diagnostic nerve blocks: a prospective, randomized study of sciatica due to lumbosacral spine disease

North, Richard B.<sup>\*,a</sup>; Kidd, David H.<sup>a</sup>; Zahurak, Marianna<sup>b</sup>; Piantadosi, Steven<sup>b</sup>

« **C'est local dans la fesse** »

« **Je ressens un nœud à la palpation** »

« **les injections de toxine botulique ou corticoïdes aident** »

**La majorité des douleurs de la région de la fesses sont liées à des radiculopathies lombaires**

Clinique

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ORIGINAL ARTICLE

## Sciatic Nerve Variants in Patients Diagnosed With Sciatica: Is There a Correlation?

Hayat Khan, MD, Stephen Ling, MD, Sayed Ali, MD, Padmaja Jonnalagadda, MD, Frederick Ramsey, PhD, Mark Weiner, MD, and Omer Awan, MD, MPH, CDEP

European Radiology  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s00330-018-5447-6>

MUSCULOSKELETAL



## Is it painful to be different? Sciatic nerve anatomical variants on MRI and their relationship to piriformis syndrome

Adam L. Bartret<sup>1</sup> · Christopher F. Beaulieu<sup>1</sup> · Amelie M. Lutz<sup>1</sup>

Received: 19 February 2018 / Revised: 21 March 2018 / Accepted: 23 March 2018  
© European Society of Radiology 2018

## Variations anatomiques

**Sur 783 patients 19,2% des personnes ont une variations anatomique**

**Pas d'association avec syndrome piriforme, sciatalgie, douleur dans la région fessière**

Clinique

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- **Syndrome canalaire**
- **Contenant-Contenu**
- **Canal Ostéo-fibreux**
- **Exception syndrome des loges**
- **Muscles permettent meilleure vascularisation par pompage**
- **Muscles protègent les nerfs**

**Selon la littérature actuelle : plausibilité biologique proche de zéro mais vérifions**

Clinique

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injections

Plausibilité En  
2022

**Cohérence  
traitement**

Diagnostic  
différentiel

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**Appuyer dessus ?**

**Attention à l'ischémie nerveuse et l'irritabilité et la perte de fonction**

Clinique

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2022

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**Tirer dessus ?**

**Attention à l'ischémie nerveuse et l'irritabilité et la perte de fonction**

Clinique

Théorie

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2022

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Spine

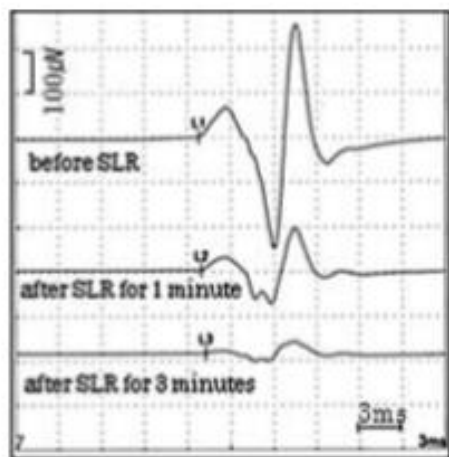
SPINE Volume 36, Number 1, pp 57-62  
©2010, Lippincott Williams & Wilkins

DIAGNOSTICS

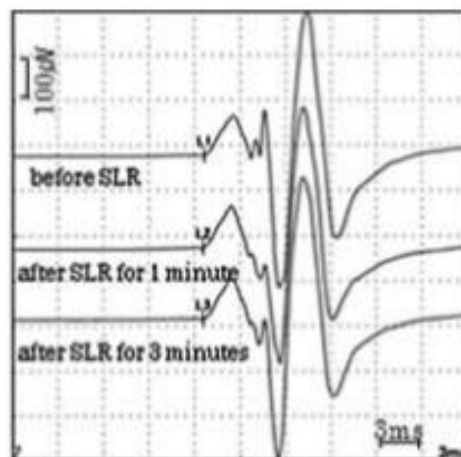
## Combined Measurement of Nerve Root Blood Flow and Electrophysiological Values

*Intraoperative Straight-Leg-Raising Test for Lumbar Disc Herniation*

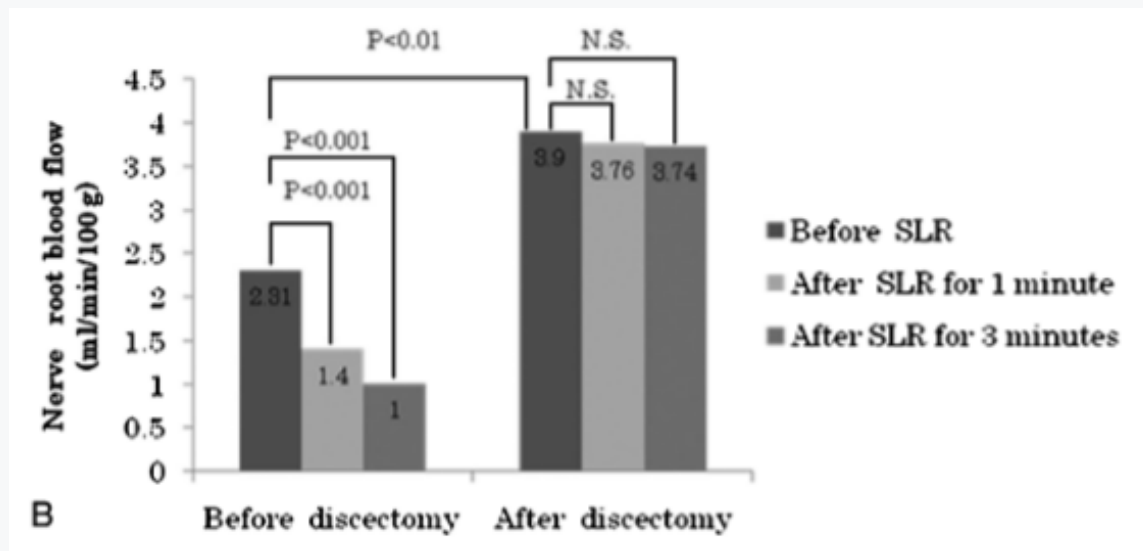
Yoshihiro Takamori, MD, Jun Arimizu, MD, PhD, Teruaki Izaki, MD, PhD, Masatoshi Naito, MD, PhD, and Tatsuki Kobayashi, MD



Before discectomy



After discectomy





**Croire qu'un muscle est assez puissant pour générer une neuropathie sur le long terme**

**Tous les bodybuilders auraient des neuropathies si cela aurait été le cas**

**Ce serait comme croire que cet individu n'est pas dopé**



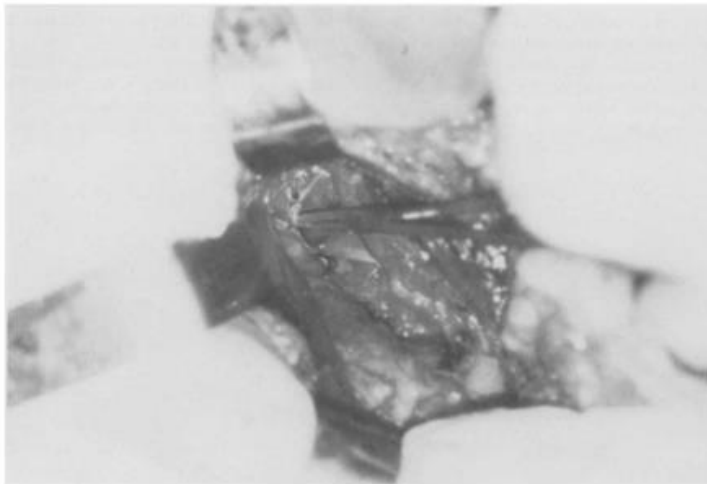
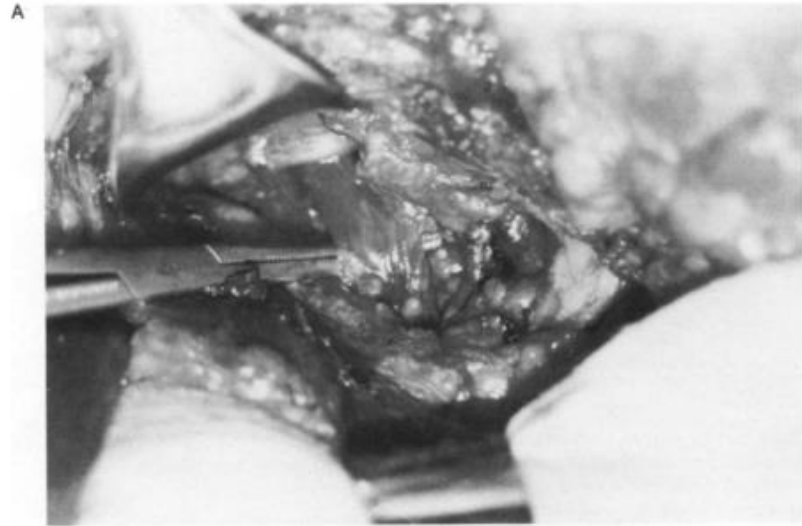
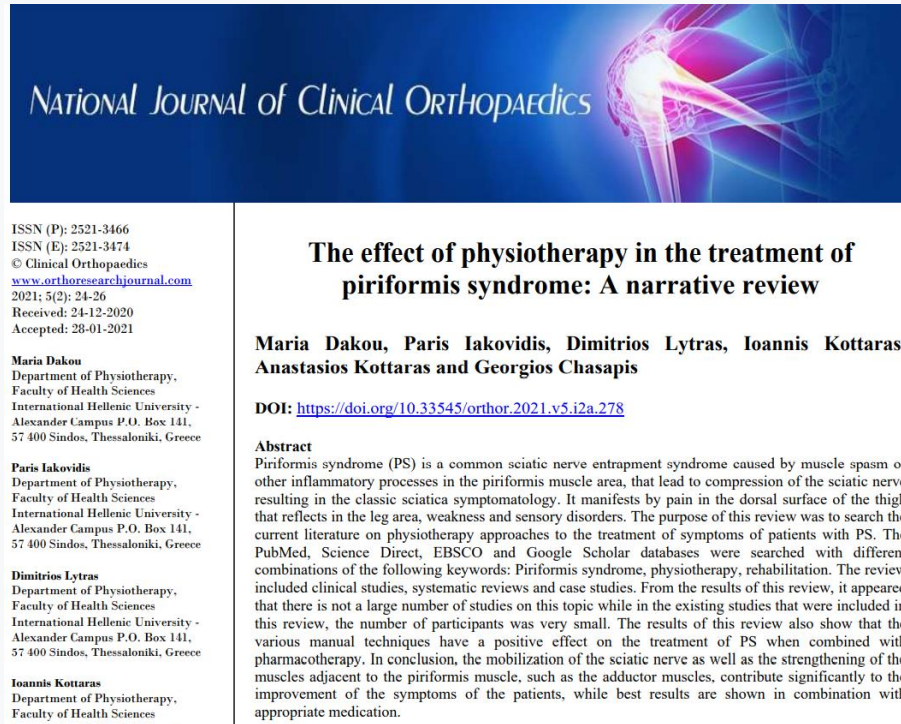


Fig. 3. Intra-operative photograph showing fascial band (shown here being elevated by forceps). Structure lying parallel and deep to forceps is the sciatic nerve.  
..... here is the piriformis muscle being elevated by forceps; sciatic nerve can be seen in part at the retractor edge.

press the sciatic nerve. Additionally, Pecina (1979) studied the relationship between the piriformis muscle and the sciatic nerve in cadavers. He discovered that nerve compression could only be produced if the nerve was passing through the tendinous portion of a stretched piriformis muscle. A common requirement in

inferiorly where the sciatic nerve was fixed by the fascial band. Admittedly, the presence of the fascial band alone could account for the entrapment neuropathy, as described previously by Banerjee and Hall (1976). Nonetheless, the unusual anatomic findings in this patient resulted in myofascial pain and neuropathy



**Tout d'abord faire un bilan de neuropathie et de névralgie**

**Exclure et trier**

- **Exposition graduelle aux contraintes**
- **Travail de tout le bassin et du tronc**
  - **Neurodynamique**

› Skeletal Radiol. 2021 Dec 18. doi: 10.1007/s00256-021-03970-x. Online ahead of print.

## Piriformis syndrome: muscle thickness or volume does not correlate with response to CT-guided injection

Rocco Hlis <sup>1</sup>, Kevin Yan <sup>1</sup>, Yin Xi <sup>1</sup>, Avneesh Chhabra <sup>2</sup> <sup>3</sup>

Affiliations + expand

PMID: 34921609 DOI: 10.1007/s00256-021-03970-x

**On ne parle pas ici d'Hypertrophie VRAIE, mais plusieurs interprétations possibles**

Clinique

Théorie

Chirurgie  
injections

Plausibilité En  
2022

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traitement**

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**Table 3** Summary of patients in whom cross-sectional imaging diagnosis of an unknown underlying medical condition, manifested as PMs, has changed treatment planning. Final diagnosis, treatment decisions and outcome are presented

No.	Aetiology	Treatment decision	Outcome
<b>Primary PMs</b> ←			
1	PM abscess ( <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> )	Antibiotic treatment ←	CR
2	Fall from 2.5 m and PM haematoma	Conservative	CR
<b>Secondary PMs</b> ←			
1	Pelvic metastasis-breast carcinoma	Chemotherapy	NR
2	Pelvic histiocytic saroma	Chemotherapy	NR
3	Pelvic osseous metastasis of unknown origin-pelvic lymphadenopathy	Chemotherapy	NR
4	Pelvic haemangiopericytoma	Radiotherapy	PR
5	Pelvic metastasis of unknown origin	Radiotherapy	PR
6	Pelvic osseous metastasis of unknown origin	Radiotherapy	NR
7	Pelvic chondrosarcoma	Chemotherapy/Radiotherapy	NR
8	PM oedema from sacroiliitis due to ankylosing spondylitis	Anti-TNF	CR
9	Pelvic varicose veins	Conservative	NR
10	Pelvic varicose veins	Conservative ←	NR
11	Pelvic varicose veins	Conservative	NR
12	Aseptic pelvic systemic abscess-Crohn's disease	Corticosteroids	CR
13	Obturator internus bursitis	Corticosteroids injection-US guidance	CR
14	Internal iliac vein dilatation	Intravascular treatment	CR
15	Neural mesothelioma	Surgery	PR
16	Quadratus femoris tear and haematoma extending to the PM	Surgery	PR
17	Sacral chordoma	Surgery	NR
18	Sacral aneurysmal bone cyst	Surgery	PR
19	SN neurogenic tumour	Surgery	CR
20	Pelvic chondrosarcoma	Surgery	NR
21	Sacral chordoma	Surgery	NR
22	Tarlov cysts	Surgery	CR
23	Internal iliac vein dilation	Surgery	PR
24	Ovarian cystic teratoma	Surgery ←	CR
25	SN benign neurogenic tumour	Surgery	CR
26	Pelvic hydatid disease	Surgery	CR
27	Lipoma between gluteal muscles	Surgery	CR
28	SN neurogenic tumour	Surgery	CR
29	SN neurofibrosarcoma	Surgery	NR
30	Pelvic hibernoma	Surgery	PR
31	Presacral abscess (tuberculosis)	Surgery	PR
32	Endometrioma	Surgery	CR

PMs piriformis muscle syndrome PM piriformis muscle, SN sciatic nerve, NR no response, PR partial response, CR complete resolution, US ultrasound, Anti-TNF anti-tumour necrosis factor

**10 ans**

**Prospective**

**184 patients pour imagerie  
74 en lien avec le piriforme**

**Réponse au traitement**



**Table 1** Imaging findings and related aetiologies in patients with primary PMs

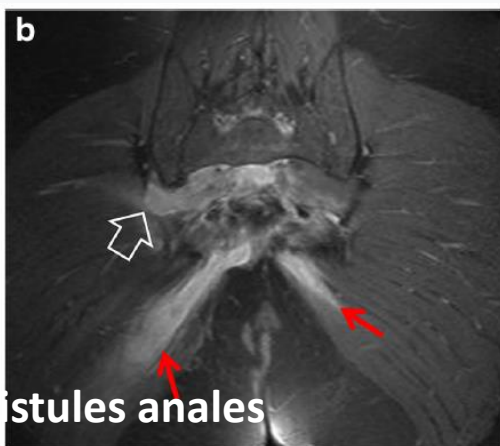
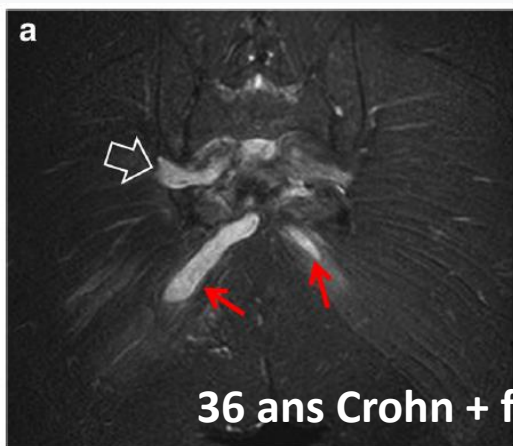
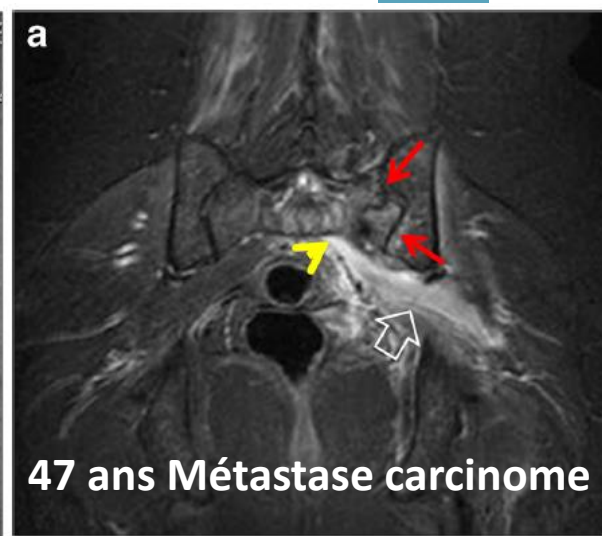
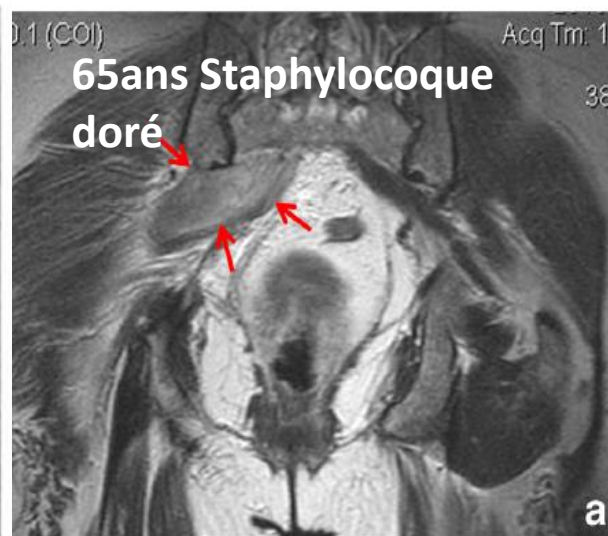
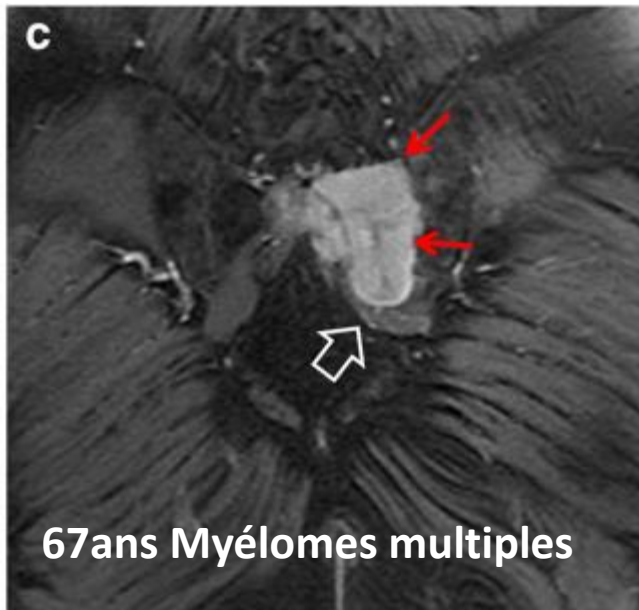
Primary PMS

No.	Sex	Age (years)	Final diagnosis	PM enlargement
1	M	5	PM myositis ossificans (postoperative)	✓
2	M	26	PM myositis ossificans (blunt injury following drug abuse)	✓
3	M	65	Fall from 2.5 m and PM haematoma	✓
4	F	40	Massive PM infarction	✓
5	F	20	PM enlargement (leg length discrepancy)	✓
6	M	20	PM enlargement	✓
7	M	25	PM enlargement (elite football player)	✓
8	M	52	PM post-radiation myositis	✓
9	F	65	PM abscess ( <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> )	✓
10	M	67	PM atrophy/fatty infiltration-PM enthesopathy	
11	F	50	PM enlargement (contralateral amputation)	✓
12	M	66	PM enlargement (contralateral total hip replacement)	✓

PMs piriformis muscle syndrome, PM piriformis muscle, M male, F female, SI signal intensity



# Qu'observe-t-on ?



Clinique

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Plausibilité En  
2022

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traitement kiné

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différentiel**

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Clinique

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différentiel**

Conclusion



Fig. 2

Piriformis syndrome (37-year-old male). Asymmetrically large right piriformis muscle (white asterisks) was shown on T1-weighted coronal and axial images of MRI.

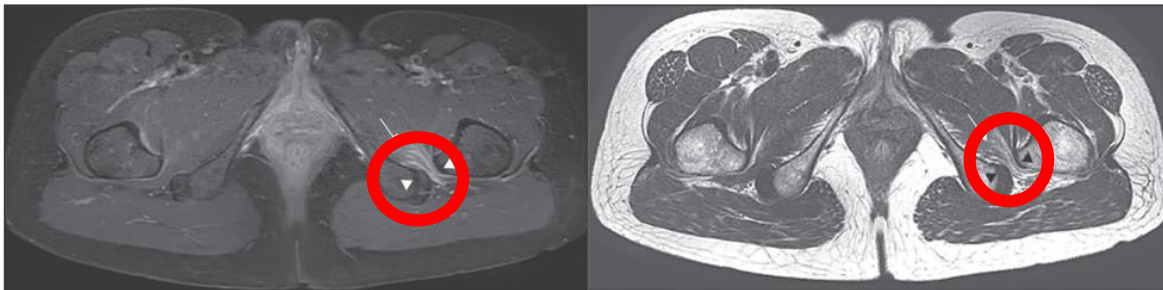
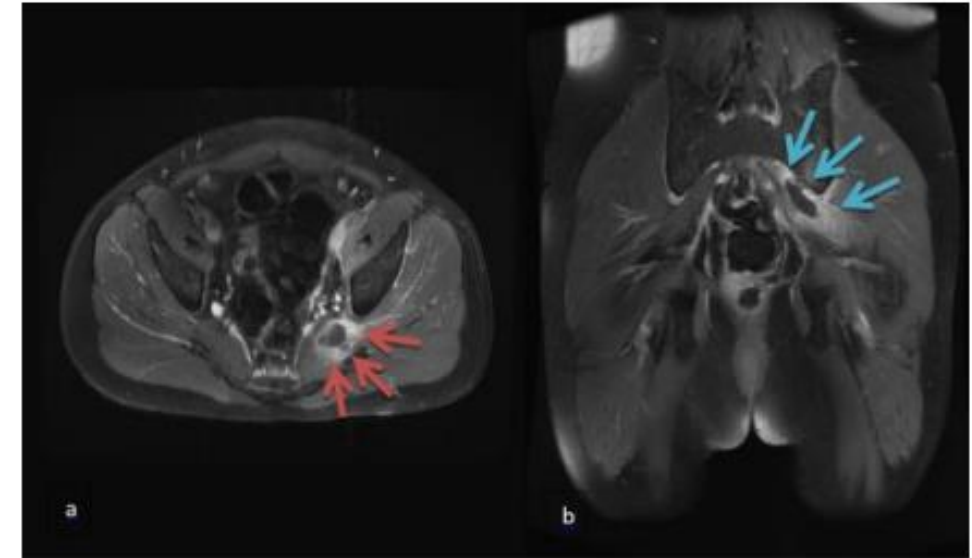


Fig. 3

Ischiofemoral impingement syndrome (46-year-old female). Increased signal intensity and contrast enhancement were noted in quadratus femoris at the left ischiofemoral interval (white arrows) on T2 and T1 weighted axial MRI images. White and black triangles indicate the ischium and lesser trochanter.

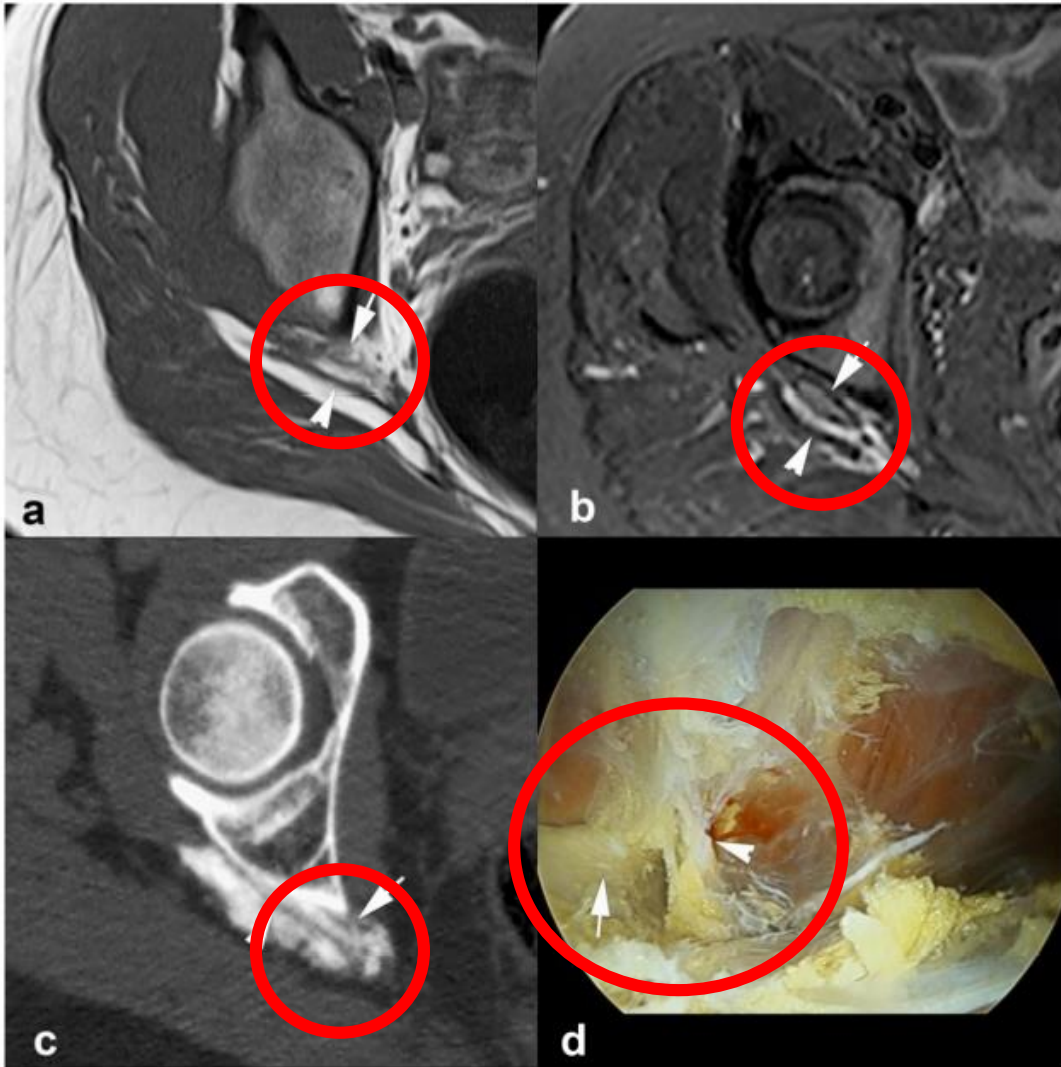
PARK, Jung Wee, LEE, Young-Kyun, LEE, Yun Jong, *et al.* Deep gluteal syndrome as a cause of posterior hip pain and sciatica-like pain. *The Bone & Joint Journal*, 2020, vol. 102, no 5, p. 556-567.



**Fig. 1.** Contrast-enhanced T1 fat-saturated axial (a, red arrows) and coronal (b, blue arrows) pelvic MRI, illustrating an abscess in left Piriformis muscle; (a) Post contrast axial image, (b) Post contrast coronal image

SALEHI, Mohammadreza, GHIASVAND, Fereshteh, FEIZABADI, Mohammad Mehdi, *et al.* The piriformis abscess: a case-based review. *Iranian Journal of Microbiology*, 2021, vol. 13, no 2, p. 252.

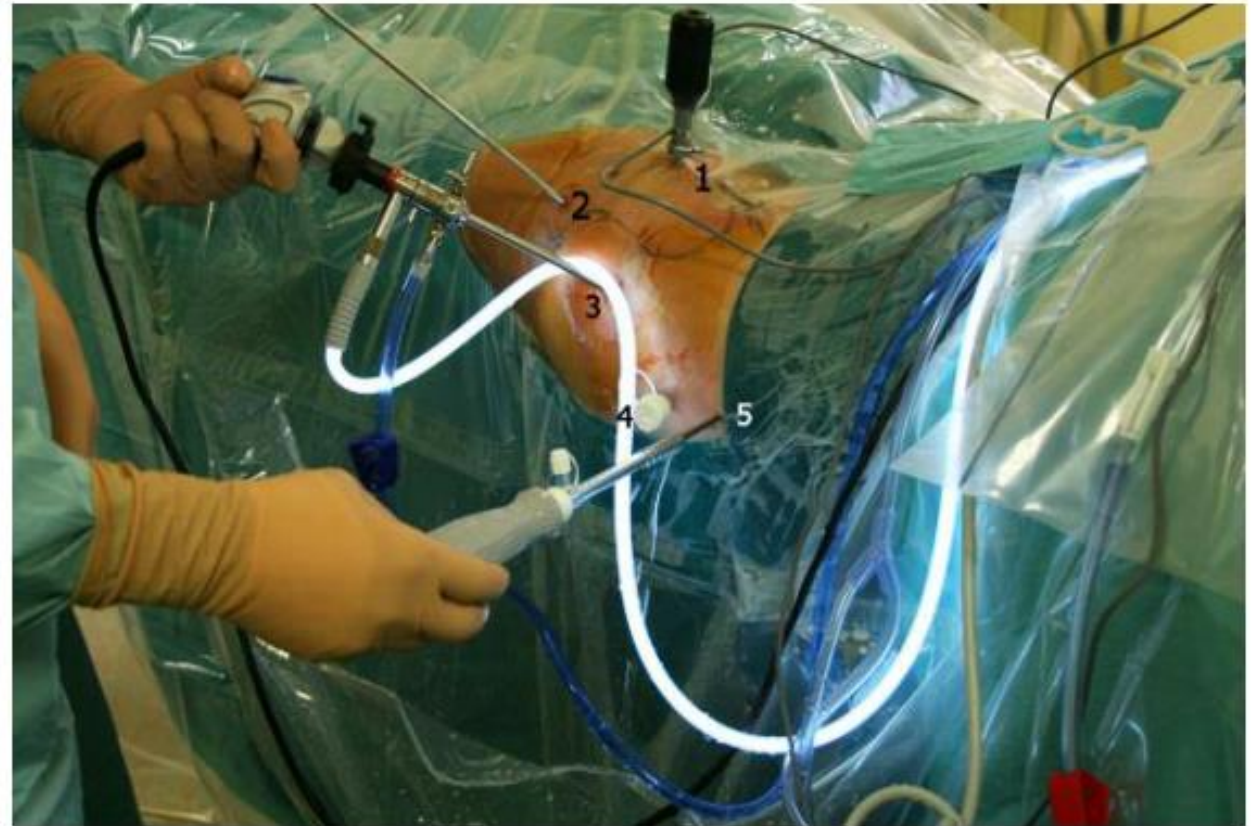
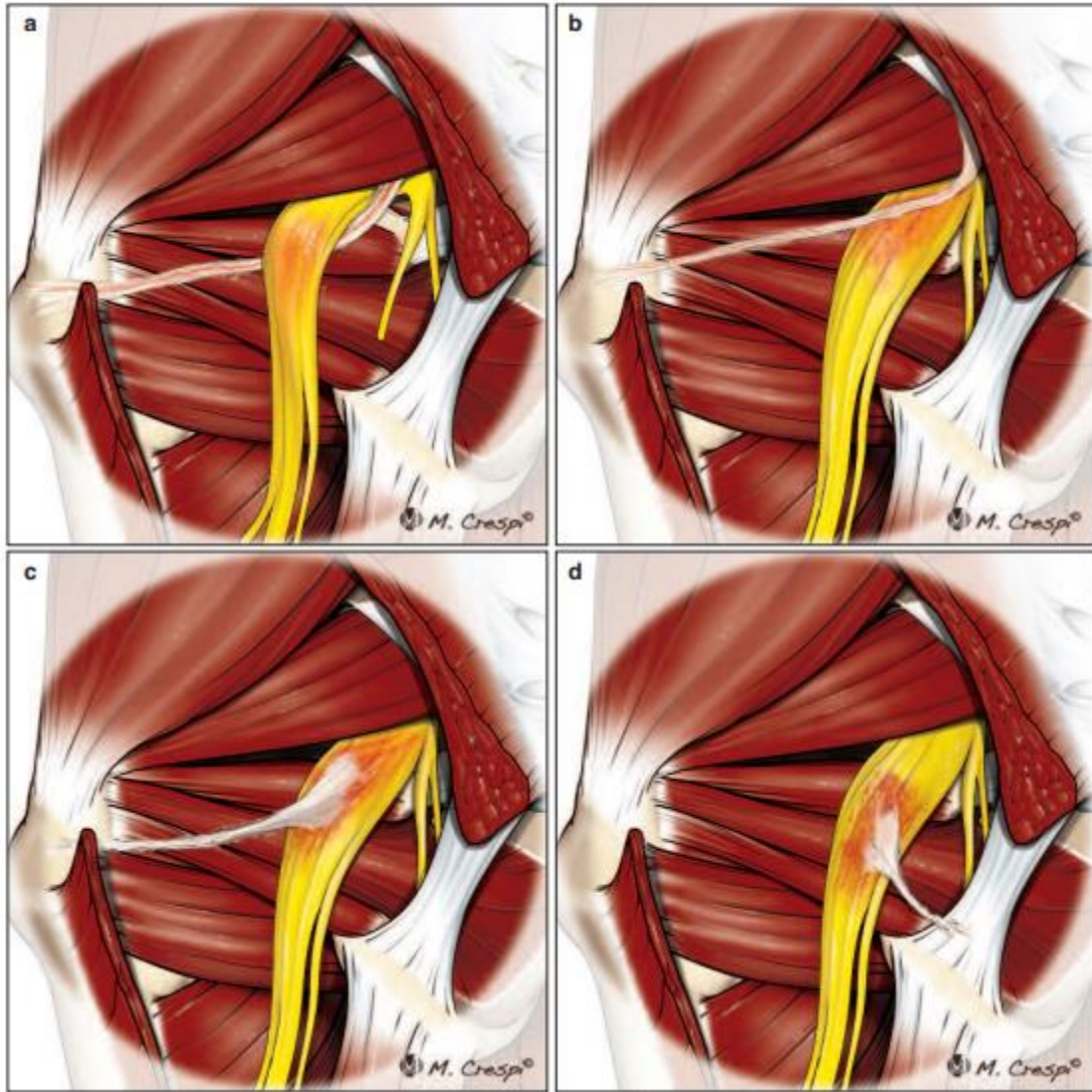




**De la fibrose vraie**

**On ne peut rien faire avec nos mains ou des exercices dessus**

# Qu'observe t-on sous endoscopie ?



CARRO, Luis Perez, HERNANDO, Moises Fernandez, CEREZAL, Luis, et al. Deep gluteal space problems: piriformis syndrome, ischiofemoral impingement and sciatic nerve release. *Muscles, ligaments and tendons journal*, 2016, vol. 6, no 3, p. 384.



Figure 11. Left hip. Normal sciatic nerve with noticeable epineural blood flow.

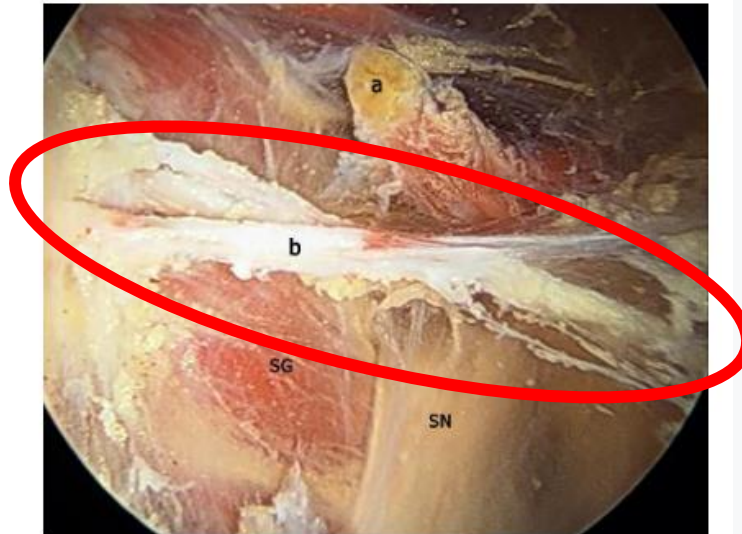
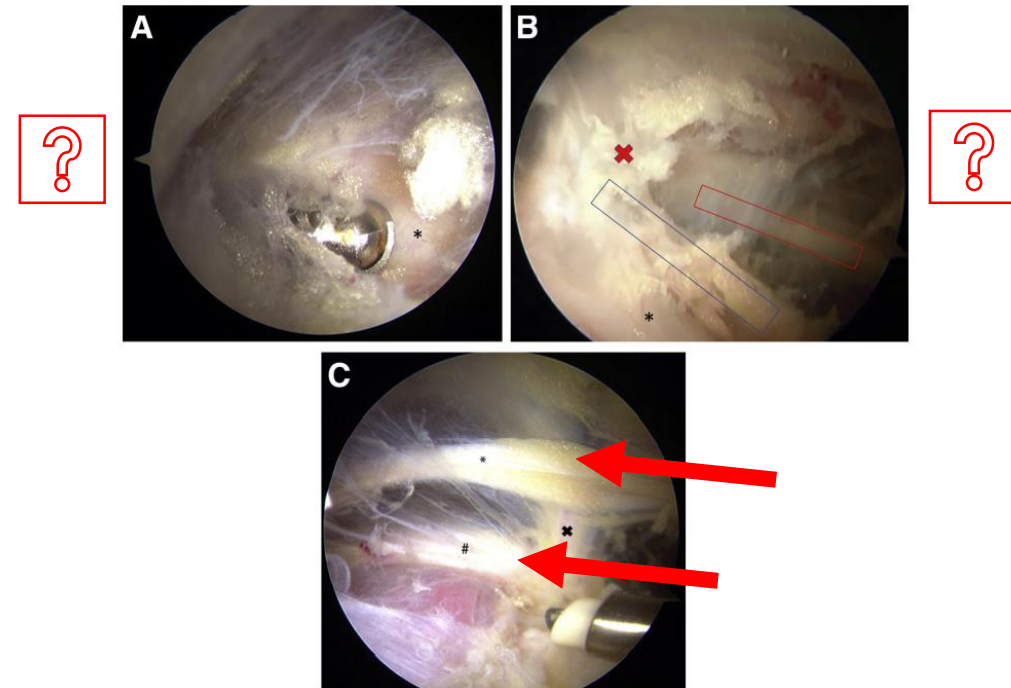


Figure 12. Left hip. Sciatic nerve at the sciatic notch. a) Piriformis tendon after release; b) fibrovascular band, SG Superior gemellus muscle, SN Sciatic nerve.

JACKSON, Timothy J. Endoscopic sciatic nerve decompression in the prone position—an ischial-based approach. *Arthroscopy Techniques*, 2016, vol. 5, no 3, p. e637-e642.



**Fig 3.** (A) Endoscopic view at the time of initial bursectomy with the hamstring tendon in the background (asterisk). The camera is in the lateral portal and the shaver in the medial portal. (B) Endoscopic view of the fibrous bands (red X), ischium (asterisk), and neural structures before decompression. The posterior femoral cutaneous nerve can be seen under some thin connective tissue (red rectangle). The blue box highlights the region where the sciatic nerve is located. At this early point in the dissection, the nerve is not visible. (C) Photo in the same view as in B. After release of the fibrous bands, the sciatic nerve (#) and the posterior femoral cutaneous nerve (\*) can be seen in their entirety. A leash of vessels is visible traversing the deep gluteal space (x).

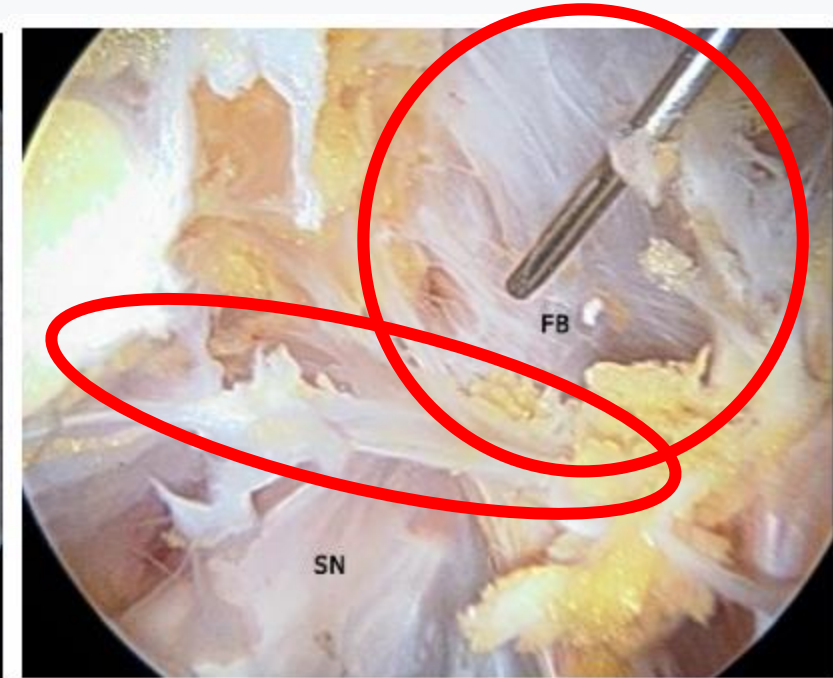
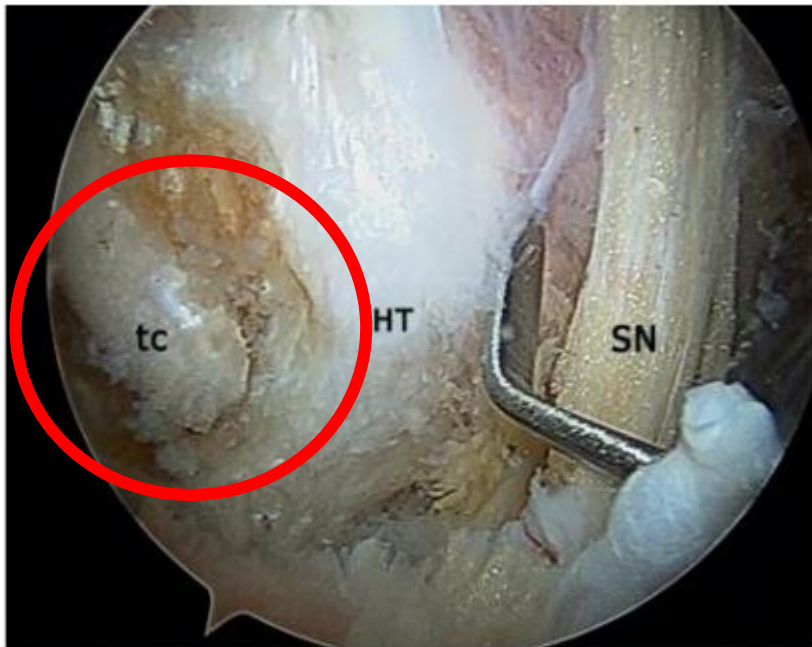
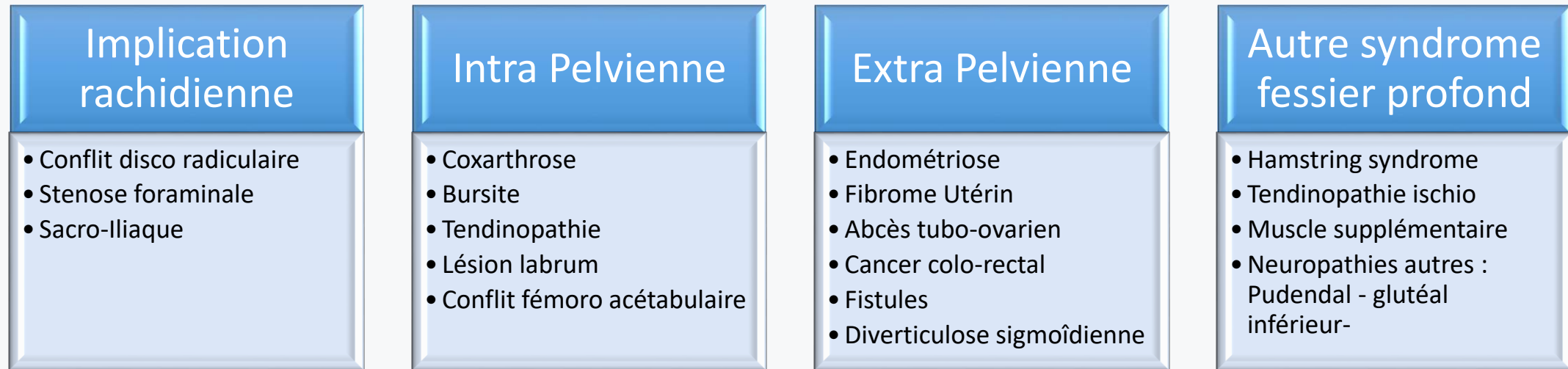


Figure 7. Right hip: Endoscopic image shows a severe degenerative calcifying tendinopathy of hamstring tendons with reactive sciatic neuritis. tc Calcifying tendinopathy, HT Hamstring tendons, SN Sciatic nerve.



**Tumeurs, kystes, conditions gynécologiques, pseudoanevrismes d'artères de nerfs, thrombose de l'artère iliaque, fracture pelvienne...**

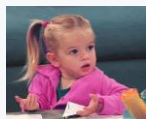
Clinique

Théorie

Chirurgie  
injectionsPlausibilité En  
2022Cohérence  
traitement kiné**Diagnostic  
différentiel**

Conclusion

- **Plausibilité biologique**
- **Cohérence biologique**
- **Données expérimentales**
- **Analogie**
- **Force de l'association**
- **Relation dose-effet**
- **Temporalité d'association**
- **Spécificité de l'association**
- **Reproductibilité des résultats**



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## **Deep Gluteal Syndrom :**

**regroupe tout et n'importe quoi qui fait mal dans la zone fessière**



**Muscles trop court ou contracté :  
NON**

**Hypertrophie primaire : rare mais  
possible mais très rare**

**Dans la majorité des cas : pas de  
piriforme problématique**

## Conclusions

DGS is an underrecognized condition. Its etiology is multifactorial. Two common and underdiagnosed causes are fibrovascular bands and entrapment related to the external rotator muscles.

Piriformis syndrome can be classified as a subgroup of DGS, meaning that not all DGSs are piriformis syndrome.

MR imaging is the diagnostic procedure of choice for assessing DGS and may substantially influence management of these patients.

Perineural injections of the sciatic nerve with corticosteroid and local anesthetic have both a diagnostic and therapeutic function.

Endoscopic decompression of the sciatic nerve appears useful in improving function and diminishing hip pain in sciatic nerve entrapments within the subgluteal space.

Radiologists must be aware of the imaging anatomy and pathologic conditions of the subgluteal space as well as factors that predispose to or cause nerve injury.

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**Conflict of interest** The authors declare they do not have any conflict of interest.

**Un piriforme problématique est un sous groupe RARE de douleurs de la région fessière qui sont un sous groupe RARE de présentation clinique de sciatalgie / radiculopathie**

**Syndrome : regroupe plusieurs conditions**

**Rien à voir avec la contractilité du Piriforme ou son raccourcissement.**

**Seule une hypertrophie vraie maladaptative peut obtenir ce terme**

HERNANDO, Moisés Fernández, CERZAL, Luis, PÉREZ-CARRO, Luis, *et al.* Deep gluteal syndrome: anatomy, imaging, and management of sciatic nerve entrapments in the subgluteal space. *Skeletal radiology*, 2015, vol. 44, no 7, p. 919-934.

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*I'm sorry but it's not simple.*

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**Ce n'est pas le piriforme qui prend les  
« tensions »**

**Cela n'invalide pas l'expérience des  
patients**

**Cela invalide le modèle théorique et  
optimise les traitements**

Ouvrir Pubmed, Scholar, CINHAL, ScienceDirect, Sci-Hub

Avant de vouloir s'exprimer



Comment étirer le piriforme ??

93382 vues · 3 oct. 2020

4.4 K JE N'AIME PAS PARTAGER ENREGISTRER ...



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# Que retenir :

**Pour une meilleure compréhension de nos pratiques, il faut savoir décrypter la littérature scientifique**

**Les examens complémentaires et la chirurgie sont utiles**

**Les critères diagnostics pour un DGS permettent d'identifier différentes affections qui nécessitent une vigilance +/- grande**

**Ces patients ont réellement quelque chose mais pas ce que l'on pouvait penser, les solutions peuvent donc être plus adaptées**

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**Merci à vous**



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