

Lumbar MRIs after Surgery

The MRI scans are possibly equally as uneventful as the genetics. Due to problems walking after sitting cross-legged on the floor and sometimes unprovoked stress to the lumbar area, my GP requested a lumbar MRI scan. Just so happened, that the day after I saw her was my follow-up with my spinal consultant.

Being that it was only approaching three months after surgery at this point I was nervous as to how safe it would be with my new additions (uniplate, bracket, and screws). My GP couldn't reassure me on that, but my consultant did. He said that all the new additions are MRI friendly, thus should not come flying out my body in the scanner or move somewhere they shouldn't. Needless to say, that was a great relief. In many senses I was pleased that they could do an MRI despite my reservations.

The scan pleasingly bought no complications, though I was in pain after, I don't think it was related to the scan itself. Because I have the advantage of having x-rays since, I can also confirm that nothing had moved either.

As expected, the MRI report showed a disc prolapse at L4/5, but surprisingly it looked better than how it previously was in the lumbar MRI I had in 2014. I have taken considerable care since to try and avoid any activity which may upset the area, mostly because my ego will not let me contemplate rolling in to uni on wheels. So if I wiped out walking I wouldn't be going very far, hence the need to keep walking no matter how slow it has to be if something does decide to prolapse into the nerve roots.

At the time I was having the scan, it was very strange, the prolapse seemed to be moving, it had past the point where I could simply walk it back in, as in walk for ages until it moved back to where it should be. It kept alternating between which nerves it was pressing on, so one day my left leg and backside could have been in pain, sometimes both, and others part of the right. It was always worse on the left though. Quite an interesting situation in hindsight but certainly not at the time.

I am supposed to be seeing my consultant again this week, but due to life events, it may have to be postponed. I do however look forward to finding out what management he will suggest for the prolapse, I think we will both agree it most certainly will not be surgery thankfully.