

Technologist Review System Lumbar Spine Radiography

Category	A	B	Comments
All Exams			
Complete exam	All projections and PIF included	Missing any of the projections or PIF	Patient information form should also be included for DCMC exams.
Overlying material removed	No overlying material or trivial overlying material which does not obscure anatomy	Overlying material which obscures anatomy	More than minimal overlying clothing or an inappropriately positioned marker may obscure or mimic fracture lines, retained foreign bodies, etc.
Motion artifact	None or trivial (questionable) motion artifact which does not obscure anatomy	Motion artifact which obscures anatomy	Motion artifact obscures fracture lines, joint space margins, airway margins, etc.
AP Exam			
Rotation, either obvious, or measured using the obturator foramina or symphysis (if seen) or using S1 spinous process distance to SI joint	Less than 4 mm rotation	5 mm or more rotation	Significant rotation makes evaluation of fracture lines, disc narrowing, facet joint disease, sacroiliac joint disease, and spinal alignment more difficult.
Lateral Exam			
Rotation measured along the posterior L4 or L5 vertebral body	Less than 4 mm offset	5 mm or more offset	Significant rotation makes evaluation of fracture lines, disc narrowing, facet joint disease, and spinal alignment more difficult.

Lumbar Spine All Images: Overlying Material Removed



A: Overlying material removed

B: Overlying material obscures anatomy (metallic zipper & fly button)

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Overlying material removed	No overlying material or trivial overlying material which does not obscure anatomy	Overlying material which obscures anatomy
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Lumbar Spine All Images: Motion Artifact



A: No motion artifact



B: Motion artifact which obscures anatomy

Category	A	B
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Motion artifact	None or trivial (questionable) motion artifact which does not obscure anatomy	Motion artifact which obscures anatomy
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Lumbar Spine AP: Rotation



A: Rotation 4 mm or less



B: 5 mm or more rotation side-to-side difference (two examples)



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Rotation, either obvious, or measured using the obturator foramina or symphysis (if seen) or using S1 spinous process distance to SI joint	Less than 4 mm rotation	5 mm or more rotation

Lumbar Spine Lateral: Rotation



A: < 4 mm offset



B: 5 mm or more offset

Category	A	B
Rotation measured along the posterior L4 or L5 vertebral body	Less than 4 mm offset	5 mm or more offset