

Assessing spinal degeneration using ultrasound

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The purpose of this study is to compare diagnostic ultrasound and x-ray images in the assessment of zygapophysial (Z) joint degeneration. Two radiologists will use a previously developed degeneration scale to score Z joint degeneration for each type of imaging. Intra-observer as well as inter-observer reliability will be compared using Kappa coefficients with a reliability cut off of $Kw \geq 0.61$. Acceptable reliability will indicate that ultrasound can be used in future studies. (H-1303)

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