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Title: Relationship of the lumbar plexus branches to the lumbar spine: anatomical study with application to lateral approaches

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ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

1	Relationship of the Lumbar Plexus Branches to the Lumbar Spine: Anatomical
2	Study with Application to Lateral Approaches
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12	Abstract
13	Background Context: Injuries to the lumbar plexus during lateral approaches to the
14	spine are not uncommon and may result in permanent deficits. However, the literature
15	contains few studies that provide landmarks for avoiding the branches of the lumbar
16	plexus.
17	Purpose: The present anatomical study was performed to elucidate the course of these
18	nerves in relation to lateral approaches to the lumbar spine.
19	Study Design: This is a quantitative anatomical cadaveric study.
20	Methods: The lumbar plexus and its branches were dissected on 12 cadaveric sides.
21	Metal wires were laid on the nerves along their paths on the posterior abdominal wall.
22	Fluoroscopy was performed in the anteroposterior and lateral positions. The relationships
23	between regional bony landmarks and the branches of the lumbar plexus were observed.

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