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ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

- Severity of foraminal lumbar stenosis and the relation to clinical 1 symptoms and response to periradicular infiltration – Introduction 2 of the "melting sign" 3 Farshad M, MD, MPH¹; Sutter R, MD¹; Hoch A, MD¹. 4 5 6 ¹Division of Spine Surgery and Radiology, Balgrist University Hospital, University of Zürich, 7 Zürich, Switzerland 8 9 Corresponding Author: Mazda Farshad, MD, MPH 10 11 Division of Spine Surgery 12 **Balgrist University Hospital** 13 Forchstrasse 340 14 8008 Zurich 15 Switzerland 16 Email: mazda.farshad@balgrist.ch 17 18 Other Authors: 19 Reto Sutter, MD 20 21 Division of Radiology 22 Balgrist University Hospital 23 Forchstrasse 340 24 8008 Zurich 25 Switzerland 26 Email: reto.sutter@balgrist.ch 27 28 Armando Hoch, MD Division of Spine Surgery 29 30 **Balgrist University Hospital** 31 Forchstrasse 340 32 8008 Zurich 33 Switzerland 34 Email: armando.hoch@balgrist.ch 35 36 **Abstract**

Background Context

37

- 38 Nerve root compression causing symptomatic radiculopathy can occur within the
- intervertebral foramen. Sagittal MRI sequences are reliable in detection of nerve root contact

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