

MRI Lumbar Spine Routine Guideline (40)

CPT Code: 72148

Indications: low back pain, radiculopathy, HNP, spinal stenosis

Contrast: No

Sequence	Plane	Slice Thickness	Gap	FOV	Notes
T1	Sagittal	3mm	1.5mm	250	
T2	Sagittal	2mm	1.0mm	250	
T1	Axial Lower	4mm	0.8mm	170	L3-S1
T2	Axial Lower	4mm	0.8mm	170	L3-S1
T2	Axial MSMA	3mm	1.5mm	170	
STIR	Sagittal	3mm	1.5mm	250	

Optional:

Sequence	Plane	Slice Thickness	Gap	FOV	Notes
T2	Axial Upper	4mm	0.8mm	170	T12 –L3, if pathology seen