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Editorial

Vertebrogenic Pain: A Phenomenon Driving New Understanding of Chronic Axial Low Back Pain

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The concept of "anterior column" spinal pain is in the midst of change. Historically, the intervertebral disc annulus fibrosus has been the dominant focus of attention in patients with a presentation of chronic axial low back pain (LBP) that is clinically suspected to originate from the anterior spinal column [1]. However, mounting histopathological evidence has highlighted the role of the vertebral endplates and the importance of the "discovertebral complex" at each spinal motion segment [2, 3]. As such, "Vertebrogenic Pain" has been described. It follows that nociception via the basivertebral nerve (BVN) is likely an important phenomenon [4], and the BVN has become a treatment target with a body of supporting outcome literature that continues to grow [5].

This special supplement of *Pain Medicine* presents a collection of articles that delineate demographic, clinical, and imaging factors associated with treatment success following BVN radiofrequency ablation (RFA). Additionally, an updated systematic review with meta-analysis delivers a snapshot of the current clinical outcomes data. Finally, the concept of Vertebrogenic Pain is framed by an editorial that describes the relevant histopathology, clinical presentation, and imaging features based on the original research contained within this supplement. A new paradigm for diagnosis and treatment of chronic axial low back pain (LBP) emerges from this information.

We hope that you find this collection informative and valuable.

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