

# Prognostic indicators for patients with degenerative lumbar spinal stenosis

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# Propositions

regarding the dissertation

## Prognostic indicators for patients with degenerative lumbar spinal stenosis

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Maastricht, 2016

1. The relationship between abnormal magnetic resonance imaging findings and pain in patients with lumbar spinal stenosis is still unclear (*Chapter 2*)
2. Researchers and clinicians have to agree on definitions for important key concepts such as instability and reoperations (*Chapter 3*)
3. Obese patients can expect clinically meaningful improvement after decompression surgery for lumbar spinal stenosis (*Chapter 4*)
4. High catastrophizing at baseline was associated with more pain and disability in patients with low back pain (*Chapter 5*)
5. High preoperative fear avoidance beliefs were not a prognostic indicator for the outcome in patients undergoing decompression surgery for lumbar spinal stenosis (*Chapter 6*)
6. There is no single objective standard for identifying lumbar spinal stenosis (*Lurie J et al., BMJ 2016; 352:h6234*)
7. Lumbar spinal stenosis is the most common reason for spinal surgery in patients over 65 years (*Deyo RA, Spine J 2010; 10:625-7*)
8. Declare the past, diagnose the present, foretell the future (*Hippocrates*)
9. Bona diagnosis, bona curatio
10. The physician should not treat the disease but the patient who is suffering from it (*Maimonides*)