

Foreword

This study represents a compilation of work conducted over a period of four years. It is based on three papers published in scientific journals (23, 25, 26), but draws together these papers and augments them with raw data from each individual which are presented in the appendices.

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The literature referenced in the text is not meant as a complete survey of all existing publications on the measurement of lumbar movements. However, it does give a review of the most relevant research that has been undertaken and the methods used, and would enable any further references to be followed up from the sources cited.

Although this study is concerned with normal movements of the lumbar spine, the technique has been used to investigate patients with back pain and spinal pathologies (24, 27–29, 38, 40, 45).

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