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# L5 Nerve Root



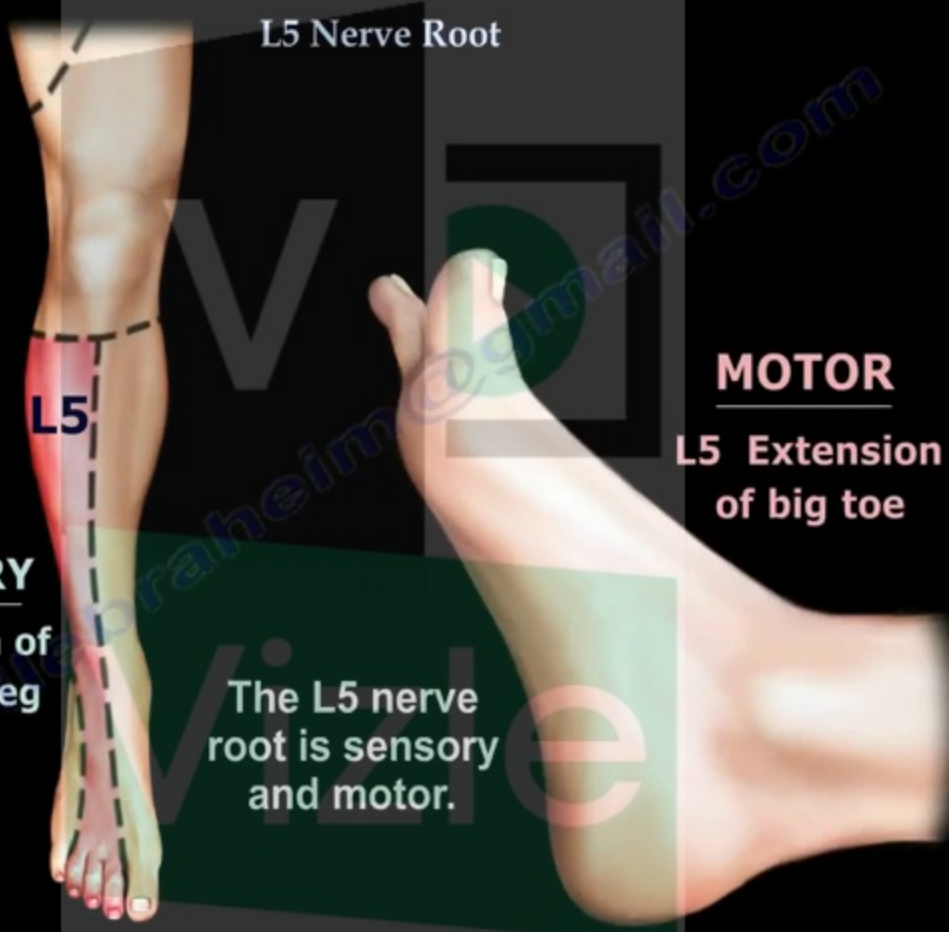


# L5 Nerve Root

**SENSORY**  
L5 dorsum of foot and leg

**MOTOR**  
L5 Extension of big toe

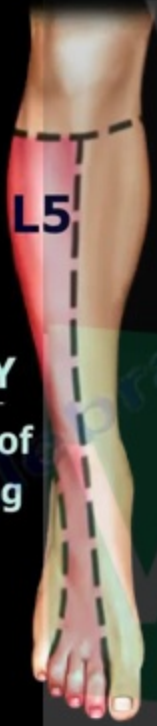
The L5 nerve root is sensory and motor.





# L5 Nerve Root

When the **L5 nerve root** gets involved, you will have sciatica with positive straight leg raising.



**SENSORY**  
L5 dorsum of foot and leg



**MOTOR**  
L5 Extension of big toe

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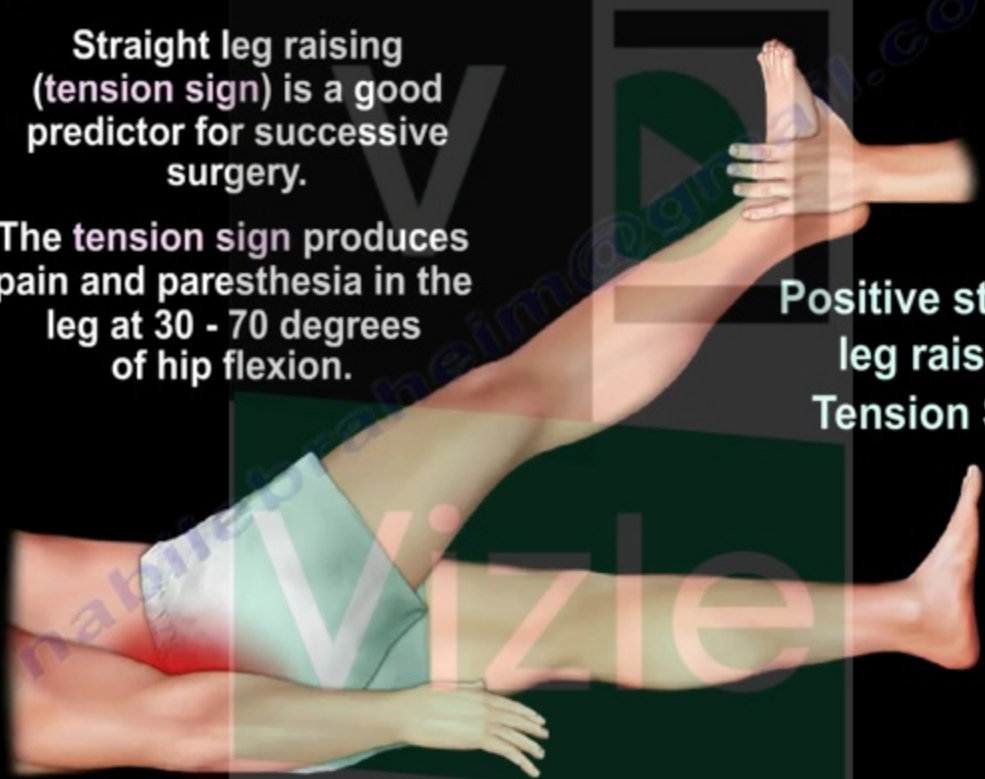


## L5 Nerve Root

**Straight leg raising (tension sign) is a good predictor for successive surgery.**

**The tension sign produces pain and paresthesia in the leg at 30 - 70 degrees of hip flexion.**

**Positive straight leg raise = Tension Sign**





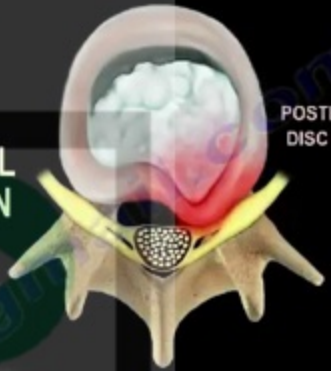
## L5 Nerve Root

**Injury to the L5 nerve root can cause a foot drop and weakness of big toe extension.**



# L5 Nerve Root

INTERVERTEBRAL  
DISC HERNIATION



POSTEROLATERAL  
DISC HERNIATION

SPONDYLOLISTHESIS



CAUSES OF  
L5 NERVE  
ROOT  
INJURY

SACRAL  
FRACTURES  
SACROILIAC  
JOINT INJURY



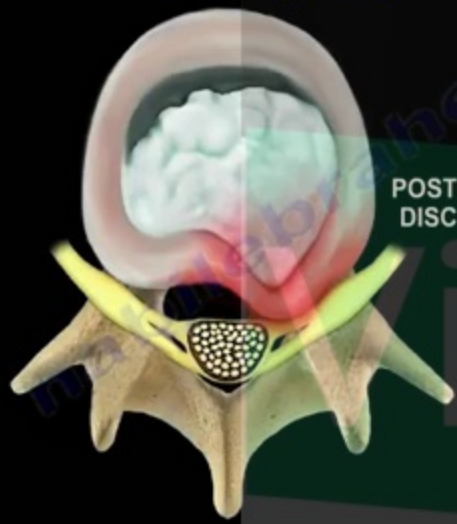




# L5 Nerve Root

## INTERVERTEBRAL DISC HERNIATION

L5 nerve root involvement can cause Trendelenburg Gait, due to posterolateral disc herniation, because it affects the gluteus medius and minimus muscles (posterolateral disc herniation at L4 - L5 level affecting the L5 nerve root).



POSTEROLATERAL DISC HERNIATION



**POSITIVE TRENDLENBURG GAIT**

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