

Additional file 1 - The final set of decision rules used to extract pathoanatomic findings from MRI narrative reports

Pathology	Expressions used in the narrative reports
Modic changes type 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Modic changes type 1 - Vertebral endplate signal change type 1 - Endplate changes type 1 - Increased signal intensity in the endplate
Modic changes type 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Modic changes type 2 - Vertebral endplate signal change type 2 - Endplate changes type 2 - Fatty degeneration in the endplate
Disc degeneration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Light/moderate/severe degeneration - Slight/moderate reduced disc height - Collapsed disc space - Reduced disc signal intensity - Spondylosis - Collapsed intervertebral space - Age related degeneration
Disc herniation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Herniation - Extrusion - Sequestration - Prolapse
Disc bulge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - General/broad-based/focal bulge - Protrusion - Prolapse-like protrusion
Nerve root compromise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dislocation of nerve root - Entrapment - Impression - Reduced space - Compression - Compromise - Affected nerve root ➤ (NO nerve root compromise is registered if the following expressions are used: 'touching', 'contact', 'enhancement')
Foraminal stenosis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mild/moderate/severe/pronounced/absolute foraminal stenosis - Reduced perineural fat signal - No visible perineural fat - Reduced foraminal area - Formation of osteophytes in foramen
Central stenosis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mild/moderate/severe/pronounced/absolute central stenosis - Reduced fluid around nerve roots or medulla - No visible fluid around nerve roots or medulla

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Reduced space in central canal – Canal stenosis – Spinal stenosis – Myelopathy
Facet joint arthrosis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Mild/moderate/severe arthrosis – Osteophytes in relation to facet joint – Narrowing of joint space – Cysts in relation to facet joint – Degenerative changes – Age related facet joint changes – Ankylosis – Spondylarthrosis
Uncovertebral arthrosis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Mild/moderate/severe arthrosis – Osteophytes in relation to uncovertebral joint
Exclusion criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Subluxation – Cancer – Infection – Inflammatory arthritis – Fracture – Previously surgery in cervical spine – Other serious pathology

*The original document is in Danish and has been translated for this publication