

Effect of Posture on Lumbopelvic Muscle Morphometry and Geometry in Adult Spinal Deformity Patients from Upright MRI

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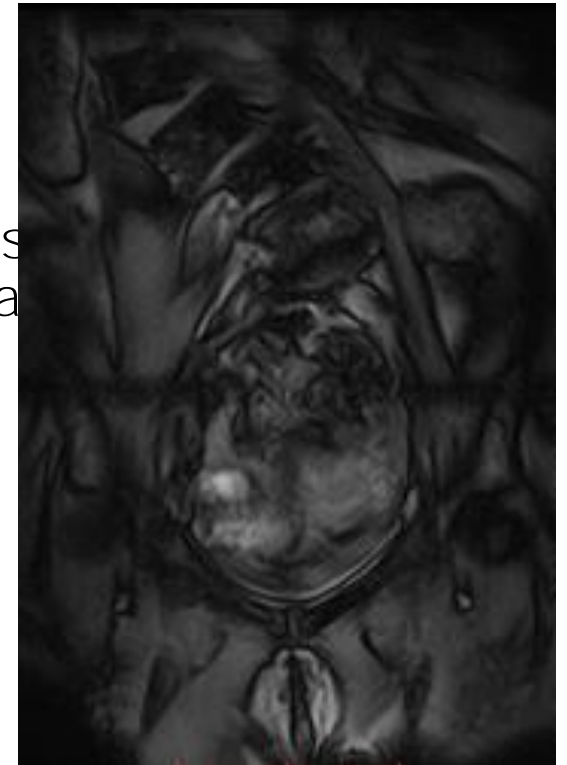
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Adult Spinal Deformity (ASD)

- “ Previously thought primary causes were degenerative changes in intervertebral discs or facet joints leading to asymmetric collapse and deformity [1]
- “ Recent work highlights importance of lumbopelvic musculature [2]- however all supine imaging



Example ASD patient coronal scout

Goal:

To assess the effect of upright posture on lumbopelvic musculature geometry in pre-operative ASD patients using upright magnetic resonance imaging (MRI)

Methodology – Imaging & Postures

- 0.5T upright MRI (Open Paramed)

- T1-weighted Spin Echo sequences

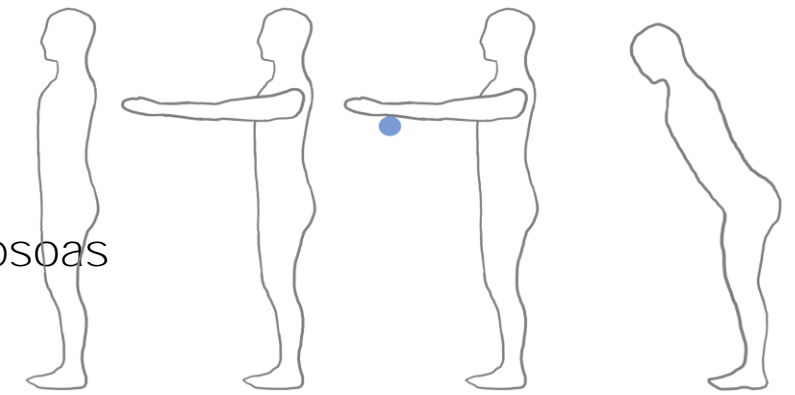
- 5 postures (Fig. 1)

- Measures:

- Muscles: multifidus/ erector spinae, psoas major, gluteus, iliopsoas (Fig. 2)

- Muscle parameters: muscle cross-sectional area (CSA), position (radius & angle) (Fig. 2)

- Bony geometry parameters: pelvic tilt (PT), pelvic incidence (PI), sacral slope (SS), L3-L4 lumbar lordosis (LL)



Standing Standing arm unsupported Standing arm supported Standing 30° Flexion

Fig 1. Four of five postures, supine not shown.

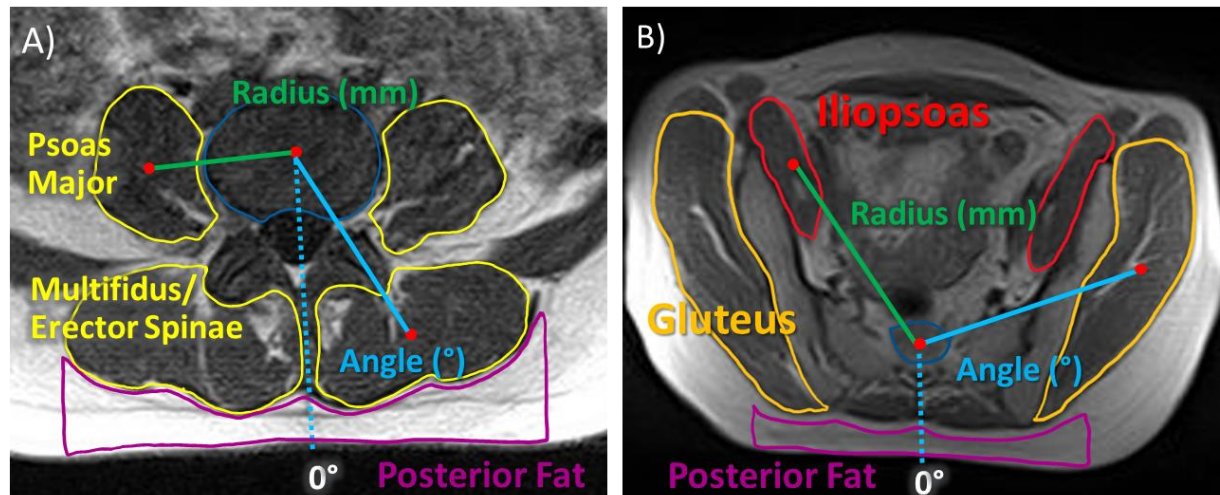


Fig 2. Lumbar and pelvic parameters, muscle CSA (yellow, red outlines), radius (mm) (dark green), angle (degrees) (blue). A) Lumbar measures. B) Pelvic measures.

Study Design

Entire image set
(440 scans)

8 Preoperative
ASD Patients
×
5 Posture
Scans
×
2 Regions: Lumbar
& Pelvic

Subset resegmented
(275 scans)

1) Aim

Effect of posture on
pelvic muscle &
geometry parameters

Repeated Measures

ANOVA

2) Aim

Interactions between muscle
morphometry & geometry
changes with posture

Coefficient of Determination

R²

3) Aim

Intra- rater
repeatability

Intraclass correlation
coefficient

ICC(3,1)

Results – Muscle

Posture had significant effects & interactions on lumbopelvic muscle parameters

Multifidus/erector spinae: flexion to other postures
 " Increase CSA up to 11%, radius up (Fig. 4)

Gluteus: level dependent effects
 " Ex: Standing to supine CSA (S4/S5) increased 17%

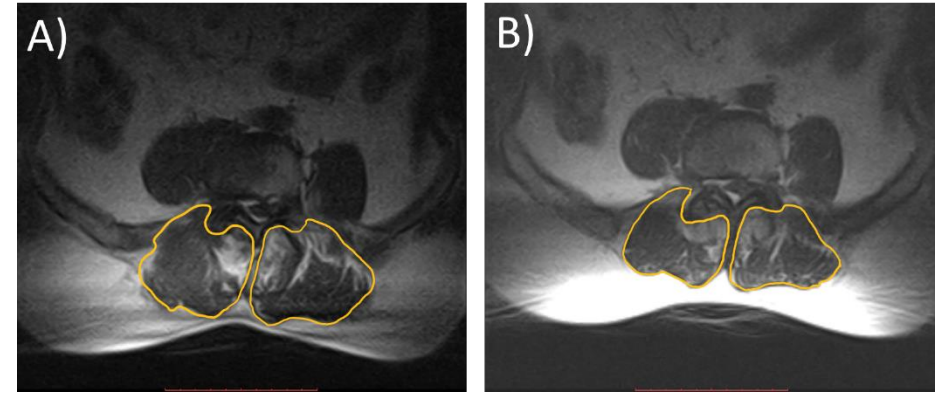


Fig 1. Decrease in multifidus/erector spinae CSA at L4/L5, decreased 11% from standing (A) to flexion (B).

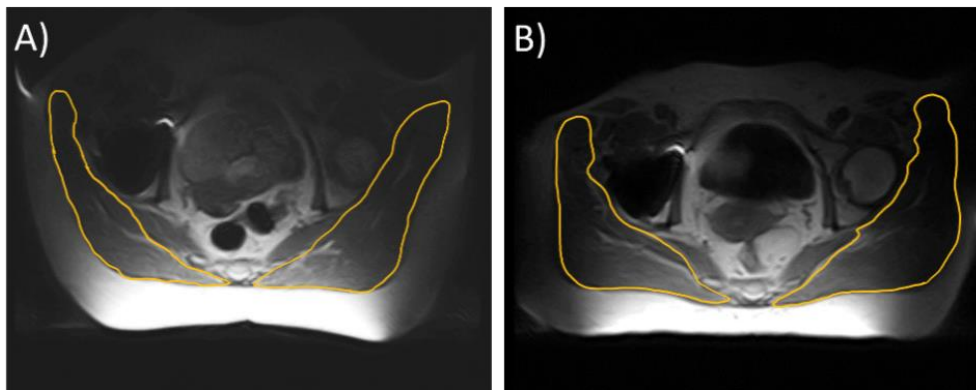


Fig. 3 Increase in gluteus CSA at S4/S5, increased 17% from standing (A) to supine (B)

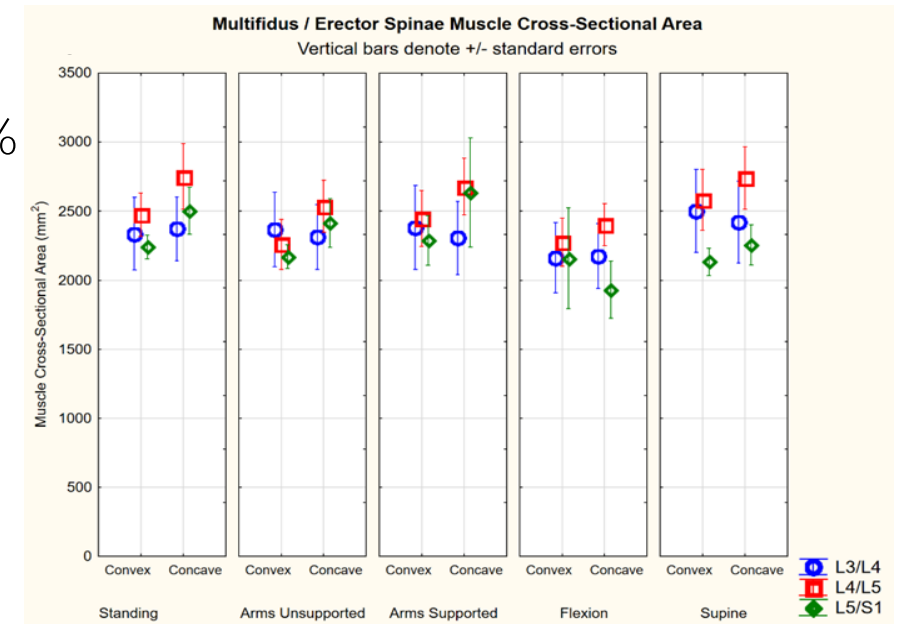


Fig 2. Multifidus/erector spinae CSA by side and level, shown by posture

Results – Muscle (con't)

Psoas major:

” Convex to concave, CSA (L3/L4) decreased 16% (Fig. 1)

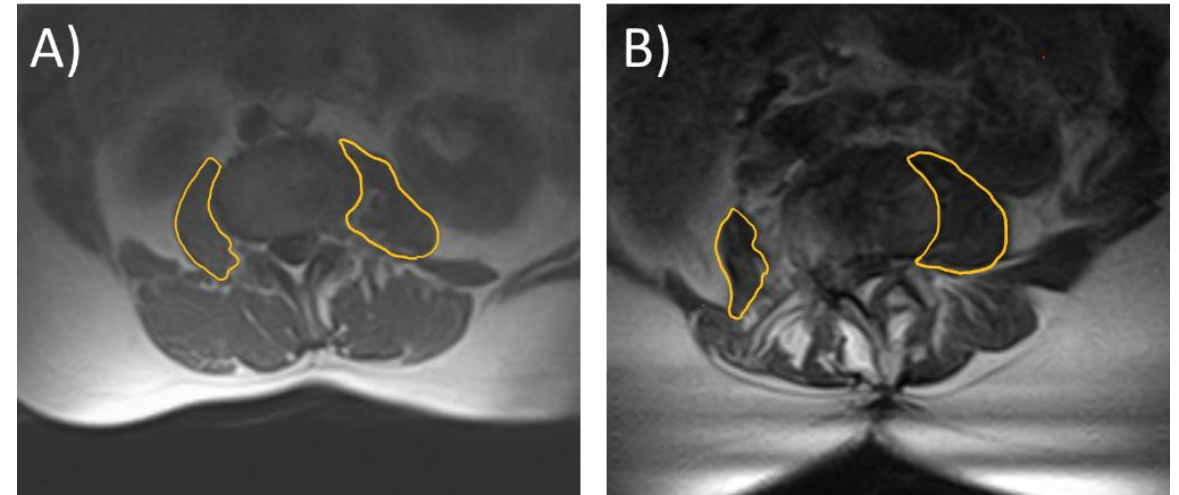


Fig. 1 Decrease in psoas major CSA at L3/L4 by 16% from convex to concave (in two different patients, A and B), (convex on patient left)

Results – Geometry

Posture affected PT (Fig. 2 A), SS, LL, but not PI (Fig. 2 B)

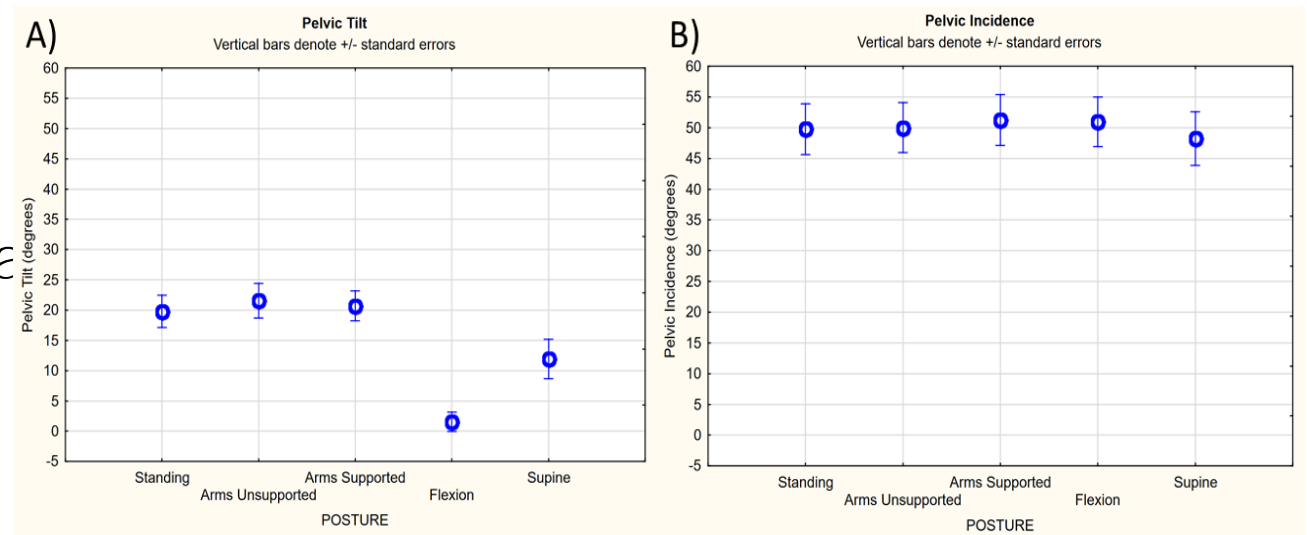


Fig 2. A) Pelvic tilt (PT) by posture, B) Pelvic incidence (PI) by posture

Results – Correlations

Positive correlation expected between muscle CSA and bony geometry

“ From passive muscle deformation with changing position

However, *lack of correlation in 75%* of measures

“ Between CSA and L3-S1 LL or CSA and PT (Fig. 1)

“ Correlations present were muscle, level, and individual specific

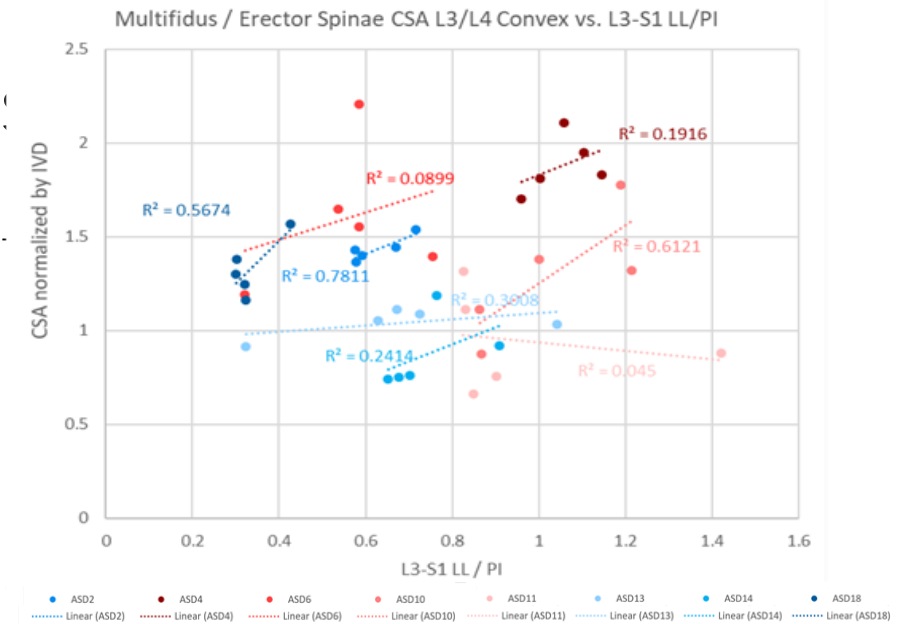


Fig 1. Example correlations for multifidus / erector spinae CSA vs. L3-S1 LL

Results – Repeatability

ICC(3,1) averages were 0.57 (muscle CSA) and 0.97 (geometry)

Discussion

- “ Study confirms previous supine findings
 - “ Scoliosis work showed increased convex psoas CSA [1, 2] at L3/L4 (Fig 1)
 - “ Trunk flexion reduced extensor CSA (lying on-side) [3] for MF/ES CSA
- “ Effects & trends of posture
 - “ Starts to emphasize importance of considering upright & postural changes lumbopelvic muscle morphometry in ASD
- “ Effect of posture on PT, SS, and LL but not PI
 - “ Aligns with clinical expectation, SS, and LL are functional (posture dependant), PI is morphometric (fixed)
- “ Correlation patient & level specific between muscle CSA & geometry
 - “ Influenced by muscle activation unique to compensatory mechanisms for upright postures?
- “ Promising repeatability
 - “ Feasibility of ASD upright imaging of lumbopelvic muscle & geometry in tandem

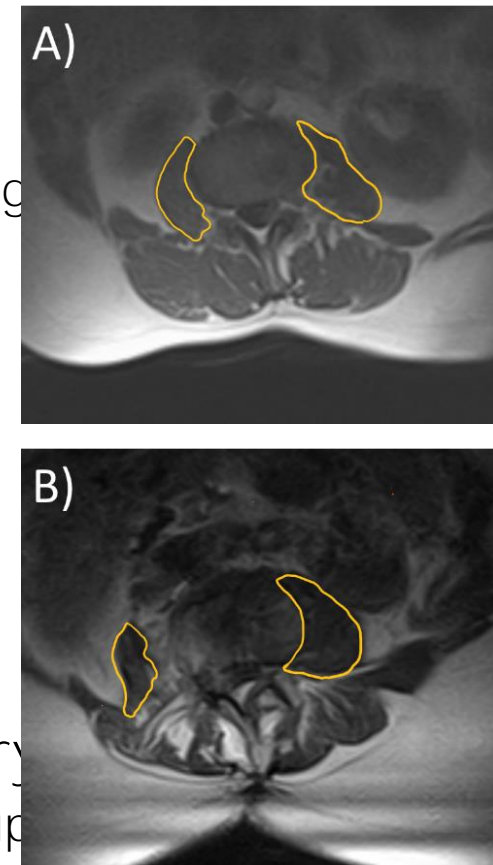


Fig. 1 Decrease in psoas major CSA at L3/L4 from convex to concave, by 16% (two different patients, A, B), (convex on patient L)

Conclusion

- “ Effects, trends, and correlations with posture
 - “ *Emphasize importance of considering upright & postural changes* lumbopelvic muscle morphometry in ASD patient
- “ *Promising repeatability*
 - “ Upright imaging of muscle morphometry & bony geometry, in tandem
- “ Work helps lay foundation for furthering understanding of upright muscle morphometry
 - “ *Could help inform future biomechanical modeling, mitigation, and treatment of ASD*

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