

TITLE 1: “Ask the Doctor”

TITLE 2:

DATE: Summer 2005

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KEYWORDS:

- Symptoms

ABSTRACT OVERVIEW: One reader asks about a link between RLS and nerve placement.

COPY OF ARTICLE:

Q: I was wondering if there were any studies to suggest that there could be a link between RLS and nerve placement from the spine to the legs, or in the abdomen cavity?



A: RLS may be associated with nerve compression or **radiculopathy*** of lumbar and sacral roots. This is considered a symptomatic RLS form and is not rare, especially in elderly and middle-aged people (ages greater than 50-55 years). A visit to a neurologist is advised to exclude other forms of neuropathies or RLS mimics, and if the suspect is confirmed, an EMG/ENG (electromyography and nerve conduction study) should be done. It should be noted that sometimes this form of RLS may be less responsive to dopaminergic treatment and anticonvulsants may be more effective.

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