

Intervertebral disc

In 1742, a contemporary of [Domenico Felice Antonio Cotugno](#), the German Josias Weitbrecht (1702-1747) has to be credited for the first precise description of the intervertebral [disc](#).

Intervertebral [discs](#) (or intervertebral fibrocartilage) lie between adjacent [vertebrae](#) in the [spine](#). Each disc forms a cartilaginous joint to allow slight movement of the vertebrae, and acts as a ligament to hold the vertebrae together.

The intervertebral disc is composed of two materials: the outer hard fibrous ring called the [annulus fibrosus](#) and an inner soft gelatinous core called the [nucleus pulposus](#). The intervertebral disc functions to both absorb shock and allow flexibility of the [vertebral column](#). As the body ages, the integrity of the intervertebral disc declines and causes the inner core of the disc to protrude through the outer layer. The effects of these will be either compression of the [nerve roots](#) or the [spinal cord](#), giving rise to radicular or myelopathic symptoms ¹⁾.

see [Intervertebral disc degeneration](#)

see [Intervertebral disc calcification](#)

see [Intervertebral disc herniation](#)

Classification

[Cervical intervertebral disc](#)

[Thoracic disc](#)

[Lumbar disc](#)

If the [intervertebral disc](#) exerts pressure on the dural sleeve of the [spinal nerve root](#), [radicular pain](#) is experienced along the course of the nerve root.

see [Intervertebral disc tissue engineering](#).

Intervertebral disc space

[Intervertebral disc space](#).

Intervertebral disc lesion

[Intervertebral disc lesion](#).

1)

Fogwe DT, Mesfin FB. Pain, Thoracic, Discogenic Syndrome. 2017 Nov 8. StatPearls [Internet]. Treasure Island (FL): StatPearls Publishing; 2018 Jan-. Available from <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK470388/> PubMed PMID: 29262010.

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