

Response letter

1. Please provide incidence data on SNTDs and comparable figures for spinal tumours and lumbar disc herniation to give the reader a better perspective of the rarity of such cases.

The incidence rate on SNTDs and the figures relating to spinal tumors and lumbar disc herniation were added in the revised manuscript.

2. Please make more mention of the lack of back pain as a symptom and that this should then alert the clinician to look for alternative diagnosis for the sciatic symptoms.

The discussion section was revised according to the reviewer's suggestion.

3. Please increase the list of differential diagnoses for sciatic symptoms to include neurological causes and compressive pathology more distally

According to the reviewer's comment, the list of differential diagnosis of sciatic symptoms were added in the first paragraph of the discussion.