

Lumbar Sacral Nerve Chart Program Transcript

Nerves to the lower limb arise from the lumbar plexus and sacral plexus. In this chart, the nerves of the lumbar plexus and a brief description of their sensory and motor components are at the top of the chart, and the sacral plexus is at the bottom. The nerves to the lower extremity can be affected at several levels, and one of these is at the spinal nerve.

In this chart, we see the spinal nerve distributions for the different nerves of the lumbar and sacral plexuses. Notice that the spinal nerve contributes to multiple nerves in the lumbar and sacral plexus. For example, L2 goes to the lateral femoral cutaneous, which is lateral sensation to the thigh, as well as to the femoral and obturator nerves.

L4 goes to the femoral and obturator nerves of the lumbar plexus, as well as the superior gluteal and the sciatic nerve and the nerves of the quadratus lumborum of the sacral plexus. And, L5 goes to the sciatic, superior gluteal, inferior gluteal, and nerves of the quadratus lumborum and obturator internus. So, you can see that a spinal nerve lesion can have effects in multiple areas of the lower limb.