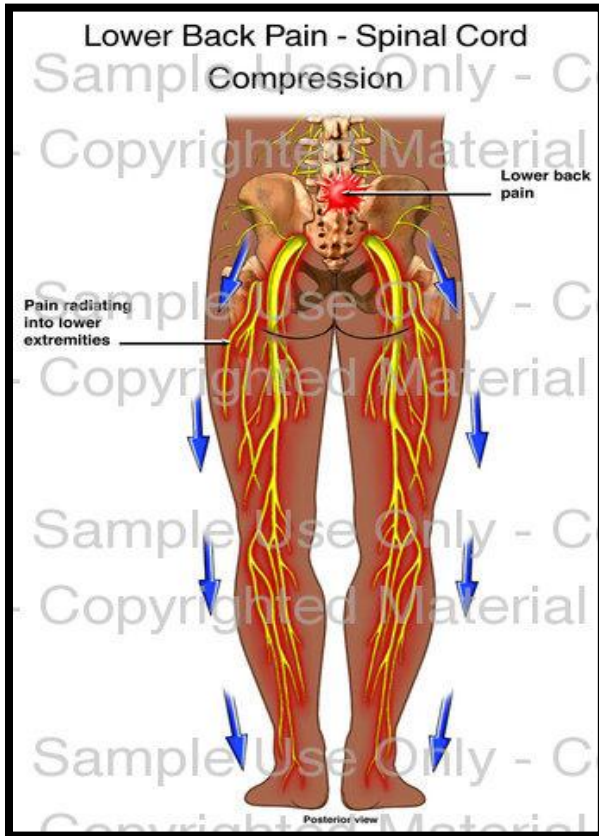


# MEDICAL-LEGAL FLIER BI-MONTHLY

## Trauma Series #91

### Low Speed Collisions and Lower Back Pain



Following a traumatic event, properly correlating bodily injury is critical in order to establish a proper diagnosis, prognosis and treatment plan. In a recent study published in 2010 by Beattie and Lovell, the authors stated that the study, "...aims to explore the perception that at low energy a supported back should not be injured and a back injury without a neck injury should be unlikely" (p. 144).

The authors reported, "We found that a claimed back injury following a WAD [whiplash associated disorder] was independent of both accident severity and accident vectors, approximately 40% claiming injury in low, medium and high violence groups and with rear, frontal and side impact" (Beattie & Lovell, 2010, p. 144). They further said, "Occupant bracing was not protective" (Beattie & Lovell, 2010, p. 144).

This research paper shows once again that human beings are not machines and each injury has to be handled on its own merits. Trauma victims must be evaluated by a clinician that is familiar with the clinical research and understands how causality and body injury correlate.

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