

## THE CORRELATION BETWEEN SACROILIAC JOINT INDEXES OBTAINED BY TWO DIFFERENTLY DROWN REGIONS OF INTEREST

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Many presently available procedures such as clinical testing and various imaging techniques do not make the diagnosis of sacroiliac joint disease easier. Quantitative scintigraphy is one of the attempts in improving the diagnosis of the joint by calculating the index. It calculates the index as the ratio between impulses acquired over differently selected parts of human skeleton. Study comprised 38 patients, 28 males and 10 females, who were referred to skeletal scinigraphy for various reasons, between the April and October 2001. The smallest index value was 0.013 and the largest was 1.92.

Two methods were employed to acquire SI index, one using oval ROI, the other using rectangular ROI. Pearson's correlation quotient indicates no statistically significant correlation between indexes obtained by drawing ROIs over lumbar vertebra, os sacrum, os illium and between joint themselves if the numbers are calculated from total or average counts. The rest of ROI positions significantly correlate no matter the origin of the counts (maximal, average or total).

The results could be explained by the size of ROI. The correlation does not exist if total impulses of differently selected parts of skeleton are compared because it compares different area sizes.