Соединения поясничного сплетения с симпатическим стволом

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Connection of the lumbar plexus with the sympathetic trunk

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The objective of this work was to study the anatomy of the lumbar sympathetic trunk and its connections with the lumbar plexus. Research was performed on 17 bilateral preparations from the collection of the Department of Human Anatomy of HNMU.

On the investigated material lumbar sympathetic trunk consisted of 1-5 sympathetic ganglia, connected to each other by interganglionic branches. Most often, we saw partial concentration of the ganglion mass, characterized by the presence of 2-4 ganglia (12 preparations from 17 total). Less common there was a complete concentration of the ganglion mass in the form of a uniform distribution of it throughout the lumbar spine in the form of strands (4 preparations). In one case we noticed 5 ganglia, which accords to the number of segments of the lumbar spinal cord. Interganglionic branches were usually single, more rarely - double.

Connections of the sympathetic trunk with four upper lumbar nerves were seen at all preparations. Connection of the lumbar sympathetic trunk with the fifth lumbar nerve was absent in about ¼ of cases (4 preparations).

The number of branches connecting each of the sympathetic ganglia with lumbar nerve varied from 1 to 4. The maximum number of branches between ganglion strands formed by the junction of individual nodes and spinal nerves was 8. The total number of connective branches between the branches of the lumbar plexus and sympathetic trunk varied from 5 to 13.

Often (12 preparations) we saw splitting of the connective branches either close to of the sympathetic trunk, or near the spinal nerves. The lumbar arteries and veins pierced through the loop which is formed by the splitting of the connective branches.

At 3 preparations from 17 total we noted the connection of the sympathetic trunk with Genitofemoral nerve.

The asymmetry of the lumbar region of vertebrae of the sympathetic trunk was shown in different number of ganglia, in the variability of their shape and location, length and number of interganglionic branches connecting branches between sympathetic trunk and lumbar plexus.