Title: Intervertebral Disc Degeneration and Low Back Pain: Clinical and Preclinical Perspectives

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Chronic back pain affects an estimated 15% of the adult population and is the leading cause of disability in individuals age 45 and under. Current diagnostic and therapeutic approaches to chronic low back pain are limited by our narrow understanding of the underlying biological mechanisms. While degeneration of the intervertebral discs in the spine has been linked to chronic low back pain in humans, the relationship between disc pathology and chronic low back pain remains unclear.

This seminar will present recent studies incorporating both animal models and human participants that address the relationship between intervertebral disc degeneration, the peripheral and central nervous systems and chronic low back pain. The implications of this work for the management of chronic low back pain will be discussed.

Time & Place: Tuesday, January 15, 2013
11:30 a.m. in the Rogers Faculty Council Room (M/48)
3640 University St., Strathcona Anatomy & Dentistry Bldg.

Small lunch served. All are welcome. Host: Dr. Richard Hovey at (richard.hovey@mcgill.ca)