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Sagittal balance parameters influence indications for lumbar disc arthroplasty or ALIF

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Abstract Chronic lower back pain is a potentially incapacitating condition associated with disc degeneration. Although therapy is primarily pharmaceutical, surgery comprising arthrodesis constitutes an alternative. Anterior intersomatic lumbar arthrodesis (ALIF, anterior interbody lumbar fusion) is the reference approach, although total disc arthroplasty may also be undertaken. Analysis of pelvic and spinal parameters provides the best indication of sagittal balance.

Materials and methods This was a prospective study in a continuous series of 99 patients presenting chronic lower back pain due to disc disease. Pelvic incidence, sacral slope, pelvic tilt, spino-sacral angle (SSA) and the four back types in the Roussouly classification were studied in radiographs of the whole spine under load using an EOS imaging system.

Results The pre-operative SSA value for the study population was $126.09^\circ \pm 8.45^\circ$ and the mean spine tilt angle was 90° compared with 95° in healthy subjects. Following surgery, the SSA was considerably increased in the discal arthroplasty, resulting in a significantly more balanced spinal position. In the group of patients undergoing arthrodesis using the ALIF technique, no such significant improvement was found despite the use of a lordosis cage. We showed that in cases of low pelvic incidence, it was necessary to maintain a Roussouly type 1 or 2 back without increasing lordosis. The results demonstrated the value of

L4–L5 disc prostheses in these subjects. L5–S1 arthrodesis seemed a more suitable approach for treating patients with elevated sacral slope (back type 3 or 4). This new type of analysis of sagittal parameters should be performed prior to all surgical procedures involving lumbar prostheses.

Keywords Lumbar disc degeneration · ALIF · Total disc prosthesis · Sagittal balance · Spino-pelvic organisation · Spino-sacral angle

Introduction

One of the essential roles of the spine is to support mechanical loads in the upright position. While in this position, humans are never completely immobile but are in fact continually adjusting their balance by means of micro-movements, thereby ensuring that the body's centre of gravity remains harmoniously within a base of support in a fashion requiring minimal muscular effort. This is the definition of economic sagittal balance [1].

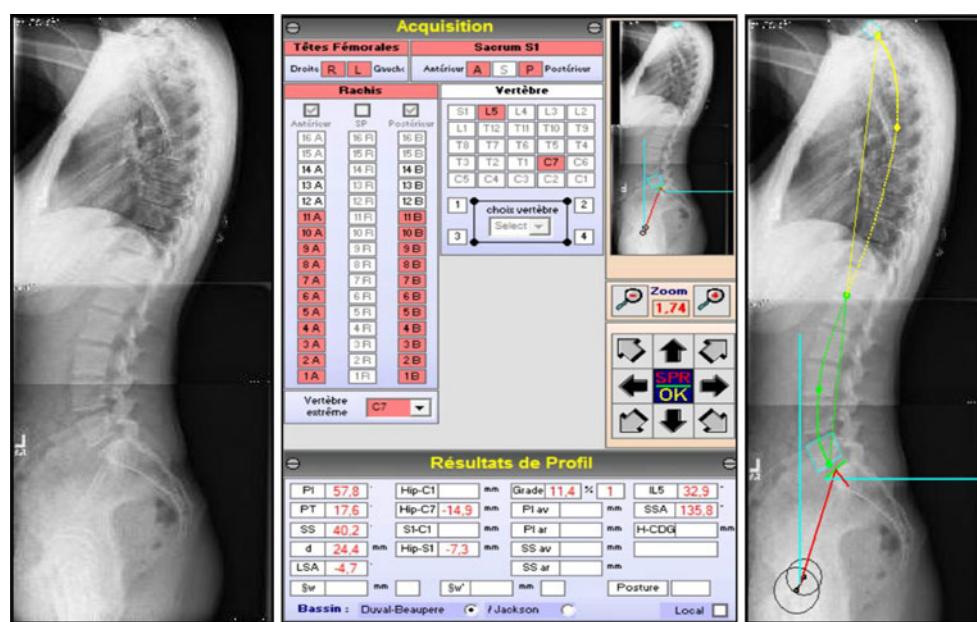
According to Barrey [1], patients with chronic lower back pain presented a minor balance defect. In order to verify this hypothesis, we conducted a comparative study of pelvic–spinal sagittal parameters in a group of patients with lower back pain of disc origin before and after surgical disc treatment alone.

We investigated the effects of two surgical techniques (anterior lumber intersomatic arthrodesis, or ALIF, and total disc prosthesis) on spinal status with analysis of all pelvic and spinal parameters, in particular spino-sacral angle [1] (SSA), preoperatively and post-operatively. The aim of the study was to identify any difference in results in order to create a decision-making algorithm based on initial spinal–pelvic configuration.

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Fig. 1 Digitalized image of the analysis of a case analyzed with Optispine® software (SMAIO, Lyon, France), with the different curvatures of the spine shape based on Berthonnaud parameters



Materials and methods

All patients in the study were recruited following multidisciplinary meetings for spinal disease and underwent surgery at the Spinal Unit 2 of the Bordeaux University Hospital. This was a continuous, non-randomised, single-centre prospective cohort study of all patients undergoing surgery between June 2002 and October 2007 for disc-related anterior lumbar surgery. Every second patient was assigned to one of the following groups: ALIF or total disc prosthesis. No criteria clearly identified in the literature indicate the superiority of either of these two techniques, and the study was approved by the Ethics Committee of the University of Bordeaux 2 in 2002. One series of patients received Maverick® disc prostheses (Medtronic, Memphis, USA) while the other underwent anterior arthrodesis using the ALIF technique involving a Perimeter® 12° lordosis cage, a Union® 10° lordosis cage or a Pyramid® plate (Medtronic™, Memphis, USA) together with an autograft in the cage or bone morphogenic protein type Rh-BMP 2 (Inductos® Medtronic, Memphis, TN, USA). 300 patients were included in the study and we analysed patients with more than 2 years of follow-up (minimum follow-up 3 years, maximum 6 years). Thus, 99 patients were selected for this study.

Patients were operated by the same surgeon using an identical surgical procedure: a minimally invasive, video-assisted left retroperitoneal approach, in dorsal decubitus, placed in the so-called “French” position.

Inclusion criteria All patients had been presenting lower back pain for more than 6 months and pharmaceutical therapy had failed. No other pain was associated with degenerative lumbar disc disease at a single level, as

confirmed by MRI imaging. Discography was not performed routinely. The disc disease was either primary or secondary to a percutaneous disc procedure or discectomy. The lower back pain was either isolated or associated with minimal radicular pain. In all cases, radicular pain was inferior to lower back pain in terms of score on a pain visual analogue scale. Discectomy by the anterior route using the ALIF technique was considered effective in eliminating any minimal radicular compression.

General exclusion criteria Osteoporosis and bone diseases, local and systemic infection, morbid obesity ($BMI > 35$); spondylolisthesis, prior lumbar spinal surgery other than lumbar discectomy, absence of ongoing disease, confirmed serious psychiatric disorder, inability to complete a minimum period of 2-year follow-up.

Radiological evaluation criteria All patients underwent frontal and lateral standing lumbar spine radiography, and long-cassette whole-spine radiography, as well as lateral radiography in flexion and extension. MRI was performed in all cases with analysis of the free vertebral vessels (angioMRI). Analysis of pre- and post-operative radiological data was performed using Optispine® software (Optimage, Lyon, France), version 2007/10 (Fig. 1). Inter- and extra-observer validation for this software was performed for 4 observers by analysis of 60 cases. The inter-observer reproducibility test result was between 0.92 and 0.99, while the intra-observer reproducibility test result was between 0.93 and 0.99 [2]. The straightforward reading of directions and of a number of radiologically identifiable points ensured swift and reproducible automatic geometric construction of the sagittal curves of the spine. The reproducibility of these parameters was validated by this clinical study. Regardless of the parameter analysed, using this

computerised approach, inter- and intra-observer variability was better than measurements made manually. This optimisation was associated with the use of digital images allowing image processing (e.g. better analysis of vertebral contours) by varying luminosity, contrast or magnification.

Pelvic parameters

The following pelvic parameters were measured pre-operatively and post-operatively: sacral slope (SS), pelvic tilt (PT) and pelvic incidence (PI) according to Legaye [3] and Duval-Beaupere [4].

Using the software, routine analysis was carried out of other variables, such as those described by Jackson [5]:

- angle of pelvic rotation or PA (pelvic angle), linear pelvic parameters: HA-S1 (hip axis and S1 vertebra) and HA-SP, comprising the horizontal distance between the vertical bicoxfemoral axis (hip axis) and a vertical line passing through the posterior superior corner of the superior sacral endplate (S1), i.e. HA-S1, and the vertical line passing through the sacral promontory, i.e. HA-SP, in millimetres. Finally, the PRS1 angle, calculated using the Jackson's pelvic radius technique [5], a constant morphological pelvic parameter in the same way as pelvic incidence.

Spinal parameters

The angle of distal lordosis, C1 according to Roussouly [6], defined by the lumbar apex and the inflection point, allowing construction of the kyphotic angle, C2 (i.e. thoracic curve), and the number of vertebrae involved in each curve.

The tilt angle, RT, which defines the overall orientation of distal lordosis, between the vertical and the inflection point. This value was positive if the spine tilted forward of this vertical, indicating inadequate lordosis.

Back type [6], indicating the morphology of the distal (lumbar) lordosis, was classified as one of four types, according to sacral slope value, defining a characteristic spinal morphology and allowing prediction of local and general biomechanical phenomena of the spine potentially responsible for certain degenerative diseases such as spondylolisthesis, facet syndrome, disc disease, etc.

Sagittal balance parameters

The SSA formed by a straight line through the centre of the S1 endplate and the centre of C7 and the orientation of the sacral endplate (Fig. 2); this is an intrinsic parameter [7]. In a balanced spine, SSA is extremely strongly correlated with

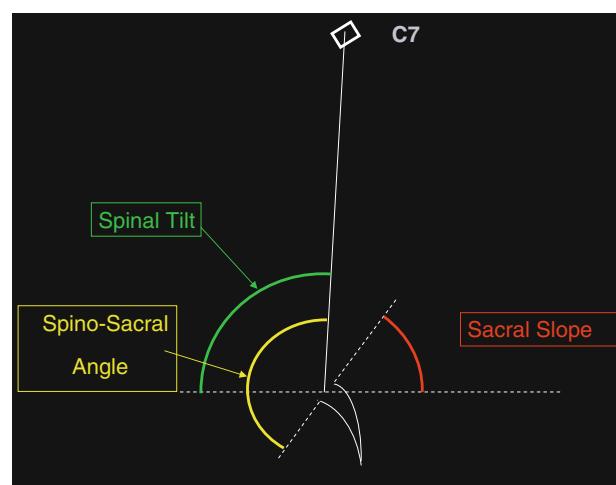


Fig. 2 Spino-sacral angle: angle between a line delimited by the central point of C7 vertebral body, and central point of S1 sacral plateau and a second line, which is the sacral slope line

the sacral slope angle ($R = 0.91, P < 0.001$) according to Roussouly [7] and this could be an important parameter in analysis of the study population.

The horizontal distance between the C7 plumb line and the vertical passing through the posterior superior corner of S1, i.e. S1-C7. This index for the position of C7 described by Barrey [1] as the ratio of S1-C7 to HA-S1 ranged between 0 and 1 or more where global balance was positioned in front of the posterior corner of S1 (unbalanced spine), and was negative position where it was behind (balanced spine).

Statistics

Statistical calculations were performed with the help of the Public Health Department (ISPED) of the Medical Faculty of Bordeaux 2.

Data were entered anonymously using Excel software (Microsoft, CA, USA) and then processed using EPI-INFO 3.5.1 software for the descriptive part of the analysis and with SPSS 14.0 software for the comparative study. Graphs were generated using Excel.

For the description of the study population, qualitative variables were described in terms of patient numbers and percentages while quantitative variables were described in terms of patient numbers, mean values, and standard deviations (and range or median and interquartile range) according to data distribution.

Pre- and post-operative quantitative data were compared using tests for paired data: Student's *t* test (comparison of means) with a significance level of 0.05 (type I error).

Correlations between two quantitative variables were determined by Pearson correlation analysis.

Table 1 Influence of each surgical technique on spinopelvic parameters

groupe prothèse discale	Mean	N	SD	SE mean	p
angSSA pré	125.7	51	7.4	1.2	0.0015*
angSSA post	128.5	51	6.5	1.1	
S1C7plumb pré	9.4	51	15.1	2.4	0.0004*
S1C7plumb post	-3.6	51	23.6	3.8	
sagHA-S1 pré	23.8	51	12.1	2	0.043*
sagHA-S1 post	28.8	51	15.4	2.5	
ratioC7 pré	0.38	51	0.7	0.1	0.011*
ratioC7 post	-0.04	51	0.9	0.1	

Table 2 Influence of the level operated on spinopelvic parameters with ALIF

groupe ALIF	Mean	N	SD	SEmean	p
angSSA pré	125.5	48	9.1	1.3	0.56
angSSA post	124.9	48	9	1.3	
S1C7plumb pré	4.8	48	11.9	1.7	0.33
S1C7plumb post	7.7	48	18.9	2.8	
sagHA-S1 pré	21.2	48	5	0.7	0.001*
sagHA-S1 post	27.9	48	13.5	1.97	
ratioC7 pré	0.22	48	0.6	0.08	0.48
ratioC7 post	0.3	48	0.8	0.11	

Results

The effect of each surgical technique on pelvic-spinal balance parameters is given in Tables 1 and 2

The SSA was increased significantly; disc arthroplasty resulted in a more balanced spinal position, approaching the mean seen in an asymptomatic population (135°) [1]. The C7 plumb line was shifted behind the posterior superior corner of S1 and became negative. The RC7 position index, the S1-C7/HA-S1 ratio, described by Barrey, was shifted towards the global ideal anatomic plane of balance, moving just behind the posterior superior corner of S1 (Fig. 3).

The effect of the fused level on pelvic-spinal balance parameters was studied separately

The results for L5-S1 in the prosthesis group are shown in Table 3. A significant increase was seen in SSA, as well as backward displacement of the C7 plumb line. The C7 position index showed a tendency to decrease, becoming negative, although this decrease was not significant. The results for L4-L5 in the prosthesis group are shown in Table 4. The SSA increased, but not significantly, while the post-operative plumb line had moved behind the posterior superior angle at S1. In addition, a significant increase was seen in HA-S1 distance (Fig. 4).

The effect of preoperative back type was analysed for both groups using the various parameters. The SSA angle

was distributed in increasing fashion between type 1 and type 4: from 117° to 137° with a mean angle of 126° . The mean spine tilt angle for each back type, obtained by subtraction of SSA and PS, was 90° compared with a mean 95° for healthy subjects according to Barrey [1]. No change was seen in S1-C7 post-operatively for types 1 and 2. Comparative analysis of variance (ANOVA) for each variable across several groups showed a clear difference in the 4 back types in terms of pelvic parameters (PI, PT, PS and SSA) but not of balance parameters (S1-C7, HA-S1 and C7 ratio). The difference in terms SSA found preoperatively between the different back types was not seen post-operatively.

Pearson's correlation analysis of the parameters is shown in Table 5. The SSA was highly correlated with incidence ($R = 0.73$, $p < 0.001$), sacral slope ($R = 0.92$, $p < 0.001$) and distal lumbar lordosis. It was negatively correlated with the C7 plumb line ($R = -0.24$, $p = 0.02$).

Discussion

Analysis of the two series of patients presenting chronic lower back pain predominantly of disc origin showed no difference between the two treated groups, demonstrating homogeneity of selection. Roussouly [7] defined a mathematical formula associating SSA angle and sacral slope: $SSA = 0.96SS + 97^\circ$. This was a constant geometric relationship between the position of the top of the spine and

Fig. 3 Sagittal view of a TYPE 4 spine according to Roussouly classification preoperatively (a) and postoperatively (b) after an ALIF procédure at L4/L5 level

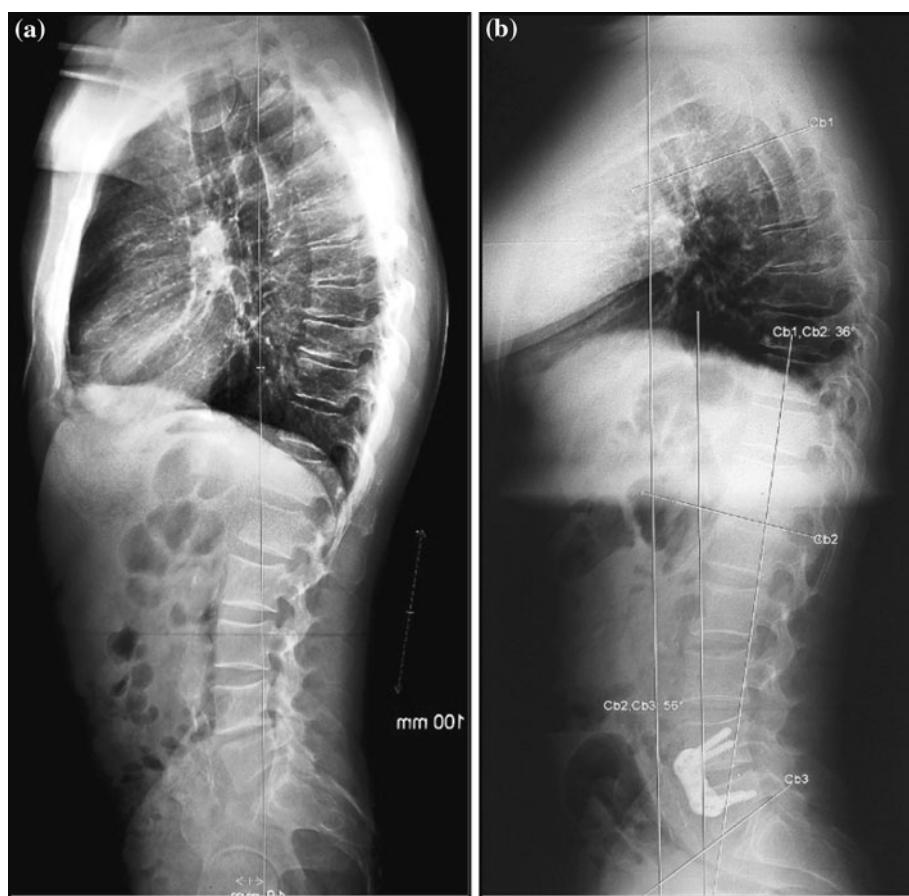


Table 3 Influence of the level operated on spino-pelvic parameters with arthroplasty L5S1

Prothèse L5–S1	Mean	N	SD	SE mean	p
angSSA pré	126.6	29	7.2	1.6	0.01*
angSSA post	129.8	29	5.9	1.3	
S1C7plumb pré	7.9	29	11	2.4	0.024*
S1C7plumb post	-2.6	29	18.6	4.1	
sagHA-S1 pré	20.3	29	9.2	2.1	0.6
sagHA-S1 post	21.6	29	8.3	1.9	
ratioC7 pré	0.46	29	0.7	0.2	0.08
ratioC7 post	-0.03	29	0.9	0.2	

Table 4 Influence of the level operated on spino-pelvic parameters with arthroplasty L4L5

Prothèse L4–L5	Mean	N	SD	SE mean	p
angSSA pré	124.3	19	8.2	2	0.1
angSSA post	126.7	19	7.4	1.8	
S1C7plumb pré	9.7	19	17.8	4.4	0.03*
S1C7plumb post	-3	19	27.9	7	
sagHA-S1 pré	27.6	19	13.4	3.4	0.01*
sagHA-S1 post	39.4	19	17	4.2	
ratioC7 pré	0.3	19	0.6	0.1	0.09
ratioC7 post	0.02	19	0.7	0.2	

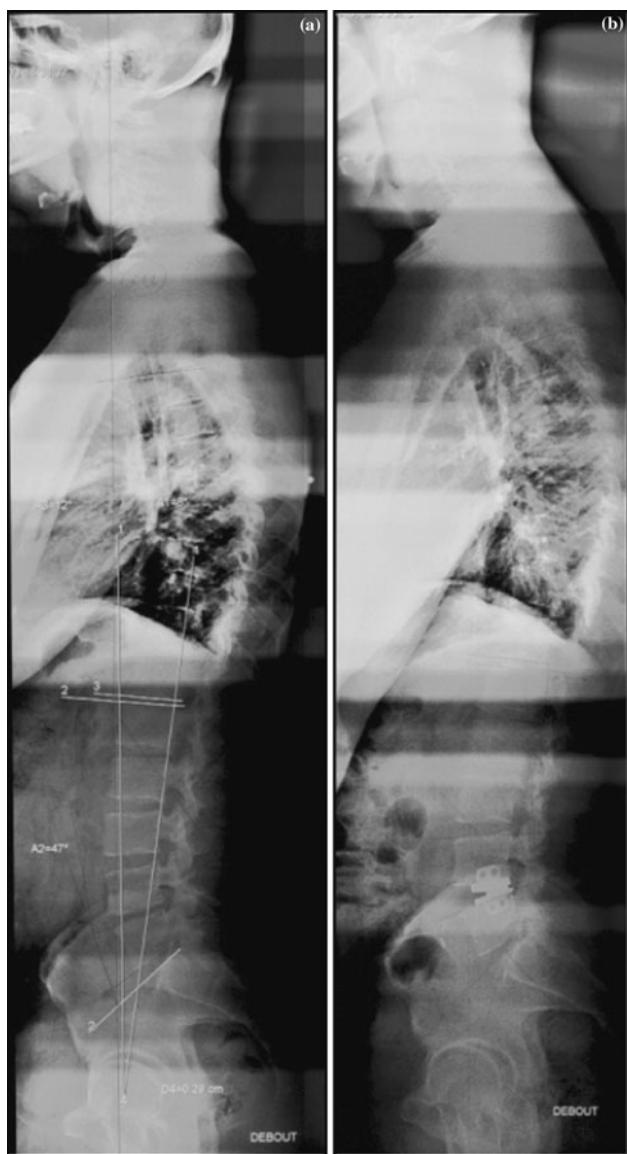


Fig. 4 Type 3 spine according to Roussouly's classification, **a** preoperatively there is lost of lumbar lordosis, and **b** postoperatively after total disc arthroplasty at level L4/L5 there is an increase of the segmental lordosis without modification of the global lumbar lordosis. Preop SS is 46.7° and postoperatively due to the restoration of L4/L5 disc height the spine recovered its original shape corresponding to a type 3. SSA preop: 124°, SSA postop: 134°

the sacral slope. In an asymptomatic spinal balance population ($n = 160$), he found the mean angle to be $135^\circ \pm 7.8^\circ$. He noted that SSA was extremely closely correlated with sacral slope. We observed this correlation ($R = 0.921$) in our population of patients with lower back pain of disc origin. Roussouly also indicated spine tilt (ST) or spinal balance using the formula: $ST = SSA - SS$; in other words, regardless of the orientation of the sacral endplate, the angle formed by the sacrum/C7 line and the horizontal was approximately 95° , i.e. spinal balance of 5°

backwards (in relation to the vertical). This formula was not used for patients in our series, for whom the value calculated from the sacral slope produced a higher theoretical angle than that determined by the software, indirectly confirming that our patients were imbalanced, while also accounting for the fact that they were symptomatic. We found a mean ST value of 90° corresponding to forward balance of 5° for the vertebral column in this series of patients with lower back disc disease at only one level.

In a series of 32 patients with disc disease similar to that of our patients, Barrey [1] found an SSA of 127 ± 11.3 . The characteristics of these patients were similar to those of our own in terms of sex ratio M/F, age and BMI. We found a similar value for SSA of 126.09 ± 8.45 . However, our series was three times larger, thus emphasising this characteristic feature of lumbar back pain of disc origin. Thus, like Jackson [5], we confirmed anterior spinal imbalance in lower back pain associated with disc degeneration.

In an asymptomatic population, no “standard position” was found. Sagittal spinal balance is defined at any given moment by the position of the spinal column in relation to a particular posture, and this reflects only one part of a continually changing dynamic status. It represents a state of energy economy for the body and of minimal mechanical effort. The anterior imbalance we found in lumbar disc degeneration was also related to loss of lumbar lordosis, and cannot be accounted for by disc disease alone and loss of disc height, and in addition to this isolated structural component there is likely to be a postural component probably caused by patients efforts to avoid pain [8].

In the arthroplasty group, the presence of a disc prosthesis affected all spinal-pelvic balance parameters: SSA, C7 plumb line, HA-S1 and C7 ratio. Its role as a “regulator” was warranted and it allowed patients to position themselves in such a way as to achieve postural and muscular economy. Arthroplasty appears to work most effectively at L4–L5 for all back types, in accordance with Tournier [9]. It provided better control of sagittal balance, yielded a better defined mean centre of rotation and gave better clinical results without affecting the lordosis of the underlying L5–S1 segment. A disc prosthesis in L5–S1 appeared more suitable for backs with a lower sacral slope. Backs with a higher sacral slope produce increased shear constraints and reduce this regulator role due to reduced mobility of the prostheses [10]. It will be possible to vary the different sizes/heights and angles of prostheses in order to optimise their effect on L5–S1, although in practice this effect appeared very limited and random [9]. The ALIF group presented no significant improvement in SSA angle, allowing us to confirm that insertion of an intersomatic cage, even a lordosis cage (12° in this series), did not in fact restore lordosis but more generally resulted in restoration of

Table 5 Correlation analysis type Pearson

Correlations/par regression linéaire de Pearson								
	2	oswertyG	incpelpré	incpelpost	verspelpré	verspelpost	pentsacpré	pentsacpost
oswertyG	Pearson correlation	1	-0.037369358	0.015791918	0.114187908	0.055059973	-0.127040945	-0.024021192
oswertyG	Sig. (2-tailed)		0.652046677	0.848405405	0.16701895	0.504811378	0.123888139	0.771213025
incpelpré	Pearson correlation		-0.037369358	1	0.93185947	0.526340783	0.547627306	0.779888856
incpelpré	Sig. (2-tailed)				3.66473E-66	6.39705E-12	5.89948E-13	1.64689E-31
incpelpost	Pearson correlation				1	0.52771589	0.59573952	0.709603756
incpelpost	Sig. (2-tailed)					5.51154E-12	1.10828E-15	5.81927E-24
verspelpré	Pearson correlation					1	0.798066805	6.98839E-30
verspelpré	Sig. (2-tailed)						-0.115030838	-0.102977499
verspelpost	Pearson correlation							-0.039439649
verspelpost	Sig. (2-tailed)							-0.024020037
pentsacpré	Pearson correlation							
pentsacpré	Sig. (2-tailed)							
pentsacpost	Pearson correlation							
pentsacpost	Sig. (2-tailed)							
angssapré	Pearson correlation							
angssapré	Sig. (2-tailed)							
angssapost	Pearson correlation							
angssapost	Sig. (2-tailed)							
S1C7plumpré	Pearson correlation							
S1C7plumpré	Sig. (2-tailed)							
S1C7plumpost	Pearson correlation							

Table 5 continued

Correlations/par regression linéaire de Pearson								
	2	oswetryG	incpelpré	incpelpost	verspelpré	verspelpost	pentsacpré	pentsacpost
sagHA-S1pré	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.144326405	0.065386316	0.062267514	0.109206273	0.107435456	0.283919452	0.335808379
Pearson	Pearson correlation	0.07994932	0.345099317	0.32144247	0.733658017	0.45962468	-0.137946828	0.013818722
sagHA-S1post	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.461662991	0.001062256	0.002398562	6.35925E-16	7.52245E-06	0.202601917	0.898913303
Pearson	Pearson correlation	0.002247486	0.387281411	0.370381225	0.483034412	0.617288413	0.097905733	-0.060877545
ratC7pré	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.98341967	0.000193272	0.000382295	1.87435E-06	1.50175E-10	0.36414886	0.573135636
Pearson	Pearson correlation	-0.130209888	-0.033645884	0.010103422	-0.248089457	-0.082607974	0.159422903	0.086904242
ratC7post	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.229334099	0.757035216	0.926000675	0.020509036	0.446852522	0.140228294	0.42349035
Pearson	Pearson correlation	-0.163117983	0.107792192	0.092075145	0.104765286	0.07736299	0.062494679	0.052856088
lombsacpré	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.131148702	0.320332055	0.396325568	0.334188007	0.476325179	0.56526219	0.626812513
Pearson	Pearson correlation	0.181270247	-0.204185315	-0.097361337	0.204397743	0.117759532	-0.380477649	-0.229312302
lombsacpost	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.089123399	0.054943556	0.364047622	0.054686041	0.271739458	0.000235049	0.03064603
Pearson	Pearson correlation	0.154824699	-0.009239427	0.035999858	0.250321919	0.359870246	-0.190718097	-0.273115561
lordic1pré	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.147416758	0.931518732	0.737678271	0.017983948	0.00053254	0.073410974	0.009609437
Pearson	Pearson correlation	0.039488088	0.629647483	0.598117834	0.156579216	0.179790083	0.641134046	0.61268242
lordic1post	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.697969416	2.92603E-12	6.26484E-11	0.12168962	0.074959852	8.77223E-13	1.58693E-11
Pearson	Pearson correlation	0.031527447	0.547537197	0.501702734	0.106335545	-0.003463441	0.580340283	0.649549427
cypC2pré	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.755505594	4.4944E-09	1.05254E-07	0.294840612	0.972718409	3.05788E-10	2.6574E-13
Pearson	Pearson correlation	-0.230961486	0.119091608	-0.028110999	-0.047235389	-0.110819581	0.1621069619	0.061242553
cypC2post	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.021445786	0.24036251	0.782391976	0.642449618	0.274831047	0.108778074	0.54705718
Pearson	Pearson correlation	-0.174970235	0.064679319	-0.070886502	-0.051150962	-0.156786767	0.114396399	0.045294561
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.081655064	0.524747509	0.483405881	0.615096969	0.119279057	0.259539621	0.654527991

Table 5 continued

Correlations/par régression linéaire de Pearson											
	2	oswestryG	incpelpré	incpelpost	verspelpré	verspelpost	pentsacpré	pentsacpost	angssapié	angssapost	SIC7/plumper
lodproC3pré	Pearson correlation	-0.170494347	-0.169626576	-0.285965136	-0.09330749	-0.201790841	-0.146185271	-0.191235297	-0.233753116	-0.111627074	0.310449678
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.093256274	0.094959711	0.004310966	0.358101549	0.046311355	0.150911044	0.059255717	0.02747599	0.297662208	0.003067398
lodproC3post	Pearson correlation	-0.188074298	-0.136924365	-0.23463227	-0.021285345	-0.126005534	-0.15706062	-0.192441198	-0.182467697	-0.274146569	0.059797452
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.062290499	0.178808731	0.019405641	0.835202314	0.213950165	0.122473567	0.056349136	0.083873716	0.00932937	0.577765417
il5pré	Pearson correlation	0.192209291	0.665091864	0.700173789	0.715613875	0.602513536	0.254461248	0.36407763	0.212147211	0.273547239	0.133538354
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.071148112	1.172E-12	2.24428E-14	3.26577E-15	4.18964E-10	0.016110588	0.00045622	0.047221215	0.00991453	0.214844782
il5post	Pearson correlation	0.212381857	0.659597395	0.74390972	0.703247238	0.78176881	0.258401002	0.26124421	0.206661108	0.129288974	0.089512969
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.045701509	2.07653E-12	6.71354E-17	1.54427E-14	1.54781E-19	0.014486574	0.013404521	0.053378853	0.229928557	0.406897089
rtpré	Pearson correlation	0.106453076	0.171777741	0.293255844	0.067543011	0.163830532	0.190002088	0.231151501	-0.033499168	0.117259797	0.532909671
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.317975534	0.105467674	0.005029556	0.527037188	0.122842337	0.072861196	0.028378024	0.755306211	0.273793194	7.61443E-08
rtpost	Pearson correlation	-0.024921144	0.210703547	0.2774819	0.214380698	0.181804446	0.104136658	0.195483889	0.118598264	-0.0043859252	-0.017341554
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.815641746	0.046216906	0.008100811	0.042456248	0.086352094	0.328677915	0.064825866	0.268315915	0.967466711	0.871857703
n5pré	Pearson correlation	0.051128699	0.355773554	0.361968703	0.11292348	0.134274297	0.330990164	0.345817206	0.267302524	0.253042015	0.103795296
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.63418846	0.000622572	0.000491195	0.292051168	0.209651711	0.001533757	0.00090226	0.011330499	0.016732967	0.33305536
n5post	Pearson correlation	0.074542785	0.393122216	0.3889298	0.171707304	0.14428869	0.327572119	0.371520991	0.315131555	0.335534245	-0.002590246
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.48751873	0.000138453	0.000165403	0.107625504	0.176897467	0.001726998	0.000337627	0.002785031	0.00139459	0.98089148
plpré	Pearson correlation	-0.135606712	0.022746018	-0.066967098	-0.00724452	-0.111712263	0.030095853	0.013024542	-0.034093451	-0.019164274	0.455833998
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.205123743	0.832435214	0.532932428	0.946279685	0.297291341	0.779497892	0.903579037	0.751105231	0.85852199	7.15872E-06
plpost	Pearson correlation	-0.080202446	0.080177595	0.016757562	0.026848586	-0.017112246	0.065462989	0.036094786	0.090350586	0.173202719	0.001062547
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.454980873	0.455121065	0.876138181	0.802778037	0.873538029	0.542192733	0.737011702	0.402503198	0.106576001	0.992160868

Table 5 continued

Correlations/par régression linéaire de Pearson											
	2	S1C7plumpost	sagHA-SIpré	sagpost	ratC7pré	ratC7post	lombssacré	lombsacpost	ordiclépré	ordiclépost	cypC2pré
oswertyG	Pearson correlation	-0.156001859	0.07994932	0.0022475	-0.13020989	-0.163117983	0.181270247	0.154824699	0.039488088	0.031527447	-0.230961486
incelpré	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.144326405	0.461662991	0.9834197	0.229334099	0.131148702	0.089123399	0.147416758	0.697969416	0.755505594	0.021445786
incelpost	Pearson correlation	0.1961867	0.345099317	0.3872814	-0.033645888	0.107792192	-0.204185315	-0.009239427	0.629647483	0.547537197	0.119091608
verspelpré	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.065386316	0.001062256	0.0001933	0.757035216	0.320332055	0.054943556	0.931518732	2.92603E-12	4.4944E-09	0.24036251
verspelpost	Pearson correlation	0.198459446	0.32144247	0.3703812	0.010103422	0.092075145	-0.097361337	0.035999858	0.598117834	0.501702734	-0.028110999
pentsacpré	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.062267514	0.002398562	0.0003823	0.926000675	0.396325568	0.364047622	0.737678271	6.26848E-11	1.05254E-02	0.782391976
pentsacpost	Pearson correlation	0.170951648	0.733658017	0.4830344	-0.24808946	0.104765286	0.204397743	0.250321919	0.156579216	0.106335545	-0.047235389
angssapré	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.109206273	6.35925E-16	1.874E-06	0.020509036	0.334188007	0.054686041	0.017983948	0.12168962	0.294840612	0.642449618
angssapost	Pearson correlation	0.171798733	0.45962468	0.6172884	-0.08260797	0.07736299	0.117759532	0.359870246	0.179790083	-0.003463441	-0.110819581
Sig. (2-tailed)	0.107435456	7.52245E-06	1.502E-10	0.446852522	0.476325179	0.271739458	0.00053254	0.074959852	0.972718409	0.274831047	
Pearson	0.114831816	-0.137946828	0.0979057	0.159422903	0.062494679	-0.380477649	-0.190718097	0.641134046	0.580340283	0.162169619	
Sig. (2-tailed)	0.283919452	0.202601917	0.3641489	0.140228294	0.56526219	0.000235049	0.073410974	8.77223E-13	3.05788E-10	0.108778074	
Pearson	0.10320895	0.013818722	-0.0608775	0.086904242	0.052856088	-0.229312302	-0.273115561	0.61268242	0.649549427	0.061242553	
Sig. (2-tailed)	0.335808379	0.898913303	0.5731356	0.42349035	0.626812513	0.03064603	0.009609437	1.58693E-11	2.6574E-13	0.547052718	
Pearson	-0.013410339	-0.160708628	0.0882102	-0.151513926	-0.051273152	-0.402601959	-0.258869288	0.678981534	0.552022129	0.100600952	
Sig. (2-tailed)	0.901309762	0.137016626	0.4165306	0.151339521	0.637185656	9.17922E-05	0.014877193	2.61273E-13	2.05203E-08	0.348227224	
Pearson	-0.263054238	-0.071325773	0.0011338	0.008594086	-0.306263798	-0.295222309	-0.335442149	0.571156131	0.710817189	0.088969147	
Sig. (2-tailed)	0.013280394	0.511504424	0.9916846	0.93703077	0.003914263	0.004975128	0.0013991	5.07191E-09	6.0239E-15	0.40703995	
Pearson	0.292911189	0.320211588	0.0583957	0.777524525	0.245102499	0.061855194	0.131383738	-0.079581307	0.049557108	0.187900091	
Sig. (2-tailed)	0.005614527	0.002498081	0.5910883	8.2925E-19	0.022130617	0.564721092	0.22240292	0.458492055	0.644658538	0.077844985	

Table 5 continued

Correlations/par régression linéaire de Pearson											
	2	oswestryG	incelptré	incelpost	verspelre	verspelpost	pentsacré	pentsacpost	angssapré	angssapost	S1C7plumper
S1C7plumpost	Pearson correlation										
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.215293945	1	0.215293945	-0.0707547	0.199307293	0.869586822	0.099192514	0.106223422	-0.057814375	-0.145870897
sagHA-S1pré	Pearson correlation										
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.045216586	1	0.045216586	0.5124232	0.064206769	8.81856E-28	0.357847767	0.32180772	0.590466709	0.17256833
sagHA-S1post	Pearson correlation										
	Sig. (2-tailed)	-0.070754679	0.390203848	0.0001868	0.354569562	0.163507904	0.050991282	0.010893522	0.131531643	0.142169207	0.359195231
ratC7pré	Pearson correlation										
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.512423232	0.00018683	1	-0.08408453	-0.156176668	-0.068756149	0.30448506	0.190398771	0.136057761	0.138642666
ratC7post	Pearson correlation										
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.064206769	0.354569562	0.438743214	0.148590007	0.526871846	0.003922745	0.075592379	0.206239894	0.197669828	
lombsacpré	Pearson correlation										
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.099192514	0.209927036	-0.0687561	0.006307107	0.173708515	0.006307107	0.02412879	-0.218259565	-0.096508233	0.1199949523
lombsacpost	Pearson correlation										
	Sig. (2-tailed)	8.82E-28	0.163507904	0.14859	0.107601255	0.953765787	0.824441969	0.042265153	0.373881023	0.268269839	
lordic1pré	Pearson correlation										
	Sig. (2-tailed)	-0.057814375	0.162958275	0.1903988	-0.21825957	-0.097702106	0.342018087	1	-0.097702106	-0.22572945	0.017505286
lordic1post	Pearson correlation										
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.32180772	0.010893522	0.0039227	0.824441969	0.610475407	0.01108287	0.367971191	0.035533488	0.872149217	
cypC2pré	Pearson correlation										
	Sig. (2-tailed)	-0.145870897	0.158656653	0.1360578	-0.09650823	-0.22572945	-0.049320965	0.096252186	1	0.096252186	-0.238567185

Table 5 continued

Correlations/par régression linéaire de Pearson											
	2	oswestryG	incelptré	incelpost	verspelre	verspelpost	pentsacré	pentsacpost	angssapré	angssapost	SIC7plumpré
cypC2post	Pearson correlation	0.097942852	0.133126979	0.0866473	0.035282712	0.06795356	-0.134458267	-0.168510649	0.075340181	0.31057431	0.763053809
lodproc3pré	Pearson correlation	0.361175794	0.218979658	0.4221406	0.745607722	0.53171866	0.209022325	0.114436097	0.460934393	0.001661728	6.72865E-20
lorproC3post	Pearson correlation	0.051538062	0.002680108	0.0861975	0.215310374	0.067137051	-0.077203265	0.01528832	-0.171558747	-0.064422404	0.648954618
il5pré	Pearson correlation	0.631472909	0.980344624	0.4245629	0.045199777	0.536672199	0.472071725	0.886918982	0.091199915	0.530715904	4.95471E-13
il5post	Pearson correlation	0.317910063	0.113758545	0.1092455	3.40884E-05	0.324944612	-0.0325423-4	-0.070152502	-0.196251953	-0.160897723	0.467029142
rtpré	Pearson correlation	0.002397906	0.294117222	0.3109663	0.999749977	0.00213461	0.762084621	0.513584093	0.054031972	0.111617565	1.41919E-06
ripost	Pearson correlation	0.210676064	0.547665231	0.3252664	-0.04003729	0.137688376	0.434432641	0.290652886	0.578466801	0.461251602	-0.177915211
Sig. (2-tailed)											
Sig. (2-tailed)		0.048811816	4.83786E-08	0.0021117	0.714361886	0.206152515	2.34663E-05	0.006011467	2.90305E-09	5.38655E-06	0.095304246
Sig. (2-tailed)		0.015435099	9.73544E-07	7.78E-07	0.688126083	0.168105027	0.109824363	1.34224E-07	2.47854E-06	0.000159599	0.326980472
Sig. (2-tailed)		0.0225723938	0.125027383	0.0397157	0.446261047	0.195587892	0.433042104	0.305241073	0.207479829	0.137849476	-0.446825098
Sig. (2-tailed)		0.033428055	0.248563886	0.713328	1.47611E-05	0.069445018	2.24932E-05	0.00362949	0.049736753	0.195089239	1.01156E-05
Sig. (2-tailed)											
n5post	Pearson correlation	0.444679012	0.136284052	-0.0036087	-0.09295542	0.389839924	0.229422415	0.24186961	0.192945149	0.050353865	-0.276105046
n5pré	Pearson correlation	1.26661E-05	0.20814989	0.9733806	0.391908696	0.000189664	0.030563849	0.022397709	0.068453025	0.637411961	0.008434486
plpré	Pearson correlation	-0.01143034	0.158043983	0.1571303	-0.09330066	0.000872081	0.121720596	0.180903003	0.21836664	0.170486652	-0.196050501
Sig. (2-tailed)											
Sig. (2-tailed)		0.915332844	0.143735625	0.1437315	0.390042332	0.993603762	0.285346913	0.143873588	0.000149123	4.01578E-05	0.866964252
Sig. (2-tailed)		0.11516586	0.701108553	0.0854133	0.097086696	0.121446368	0.052875727	0.092956716	0.089382188	0.1235515	0.160225925
Sig. (2-tailed)		0.285311152	3.98649E-14	0.4315173	0.371010386	0.26248128	0.622633538	0.389114623	0.40485683	0.24869244	0.133638066

Table 5 continued

Correlations/par regression linéaire de Pearson										
	2	oswestryG	incipelpré	incpelpost	verspelpré	verspelpost	pentsacpré	pentsacpost	angssapré	angssapost
plpost	Pearson correlation	-0.252053113	0.135173861	0.7440186	-0.11821428	-0.315906798	-0.153128363	0.05655175	0.15952551	0.227402077
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.017178796	0.211913845	9.945E-17	0.275488385	0.002875967	0.154345849	0.598618839	0.15243363	0.032101655
Correlations/par regression linéaire de Pearson										
	2	cypC2post	lodproc3pré	lodprocC3post	15pré	il5post	ripré	ripost	n5pré	n5post
oswestryG	Pearson correlation	-0.174970235	-0.170494347	-0.188074298	0.192209	0.2123819	0.106453	-0.02492	0.051129	0.0745428
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.081655064	0.093256274	0.062290499	0.0711148	0.0457015	0.317976	0.815642	0.634188	0.4875187
incipelpré	Pearson correlation	0.064679319	-0.169626576	-0.136924365	0.665092	0.6595974	0.171778	0.210704	0.355774	0.3931222
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.524747509	0.094959711	0.178808731	1.17E-12	2.077E-12	0.105468	0.046217	0.000623	0.0001385
incpelpost	Pearson correlation	-0.070886502	-0.285966136	-0.23463227	0.700174	0.7439097	0.293356	0.277482	0.361969	0.3889298
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.483405881	0.004310966	0.019405641	2.24E-14	6.714E-17	0.00503	0.008101	0.000491	0.0001654
verspelpré	Pearson correlation	-0.051150962	-0.093830749	-0.021285345	0.715614	0.7032472	0.067543	0.214381	0.112923	0.1717073
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.615096969	0.358101549	0.835202314	3.27E-15	1.544E-14	0.527037	0.042456	0.29051	0.1076255
verspelpost	Pearson correlation	-0.156786767	-0.201790841	-0.126005534	0.602514	0.7817688	0.163831	0.181804	0.134274	0.1444289
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.119279057	0.046311355	0.213950165	4.19E-10	1.548E-19	0.122842	0.086352	0.209652	0.1768975
pentsacpré	Pearson correlation	0.114396399	-0.146185271	-0.15706062	0.254461	0.258401	0.190002	0.104137	0.33099	0.3275721
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.259539621	0.150911044	0.122473567	0.016111	0.0144866	0.072861	0.32868	0.001534	0.001727
pentsacpost	Pearson correlation	0.045294561	-0.191235297	-0.192441198	0.364078	0.2612442	0.231152	0.195484	0.345817	0.371521
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.654527991	0.059255717	0.056349136	0.000453	0.0134045	0.028378	0.064826	0.000902	0.0003376
angssapré	Pearson correlation	0.06534094	-0.233753116	-0.184267697	0.212147	0.2066611	-0.0335	0.1118598	0.267303	0.3151316
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.542947591	0.02747599	0.083873716	0.047221	0.0533789	0.755306	0.268316	0.01133	0.002785
angssapost	Pearson correlation	0.07551216	-0.1111627074	-0.274146569	0.273547	0.129289	0.11726	-0.00439	0.253042	0.335342
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.481859603	0.297662208	0.00932937	0.009915	0.2299286	0.273793	0.967467	0.016733	0.0013946
SIC7plumpré	Pearson correlation	0.132674785	0.310449678	0.059797452	0.133538	0.089513	0.53291	-0.01734	0.103795	-0.00259
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.215180729	0.003067398	0.577765417	0.214845	0.4068971	7.61E-08	0.871858	0.333055	0.9808915
SIC7plumpost	Pearson correlation	0.097942852	0.051538062	0.317910063	0.210676	0.2574986	0.225724	0.444679	0.164215	-0.011431
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.361175794	0.631472909	0.002397906	0.048812	0.0154351	0.033428	1.27E-05	0.126304	0.9153328
sagHA-S1pré	Pearson correlation	0.133126979	0.002680108	0.1113758545	0.547665	0.4995904	0.125027	0.136284	0.062674	0.158044

Table 5 continued

Correlations par régression linéaire de Pearson												
	2	cypC2post	lodproC3pré	lodproC3post	l5pré	l5post	rpré	rpost	n5pré	n5post	plpré	plpost
sagHA-S1post	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.218979658	0.980344624	0.294117222	4.84E-08	9.735E-07	0.248564	0.20815	0.564143	0.1437356	3.99E-14	0.2119138
Pearson correlation		0.086647305	0.086197472	0.109245451	0.325266	0.5008734	0.039716	-0.00361	0.00095	0.1571303	0.085413	0.7440186
ratC7pré	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.422140601	0.424562927	0.310966323	0.002112	7.78E-07	0.713333	0.973381	0.993033	0.1437315	0.431517	9.945E-17
Pearson correlation		0.035282712	0.215310374	3.40884E-05	-0.04004	-0.043906	0.446261	-0.09294	0.07657	-0.093301	0.097087	-0.118214
ratC7post	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.745607722	0.045199777	0.999749977	0.714362	0.6881261	1.48E-05	0.391909	0.480868	0.390423	0.37101	0.2754884
Pearson correlation		0.06795356	0.067137051	0.324944612	0.137688	0.1499804	0.195588	0.38984	0.214569	0.0008721	0.121446	-0.315907
lombacspré	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.53171866	0.536672199	0.00213461	0.206153	0.168105	0.069445	0.00019	0.045963	0.9936038	0.252481	0.002876
Pearson correlation		-0.134458267	-0.077203265	-0.032542384	0.434433	0.1716388	0.433042	0.229422	0.121721	0.1151574	0.052876	-0.153128
lombsacpost	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.209022325	0.472071725	0.762084621	2.35E-05	0.1098244	2.25E-05	0.030564	0.255828	0.2853469	0.622634	0.1543458
Pearson correlation		-0.168510649	0.015288832	-0.070152502	0.290653	0.5268527	0.305241	0.24187	0.180903	0.1561759	0.092937	0.0565517
lordinC1pré	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.114436097	0.886918982	0.513584093	0.006011	1.342E-07	0.003629	0.022398	0.09166	0.1438736	0.389115	0.5986188
Pearson correlation		0.075340181	-0.171558747	-0.196251953	0.578467	0.4755833	0.20748	0.192945	0.218367	0.391379	0.089382	0.1539526
lordinC1post	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.460934393	0.091199915	0.054031972	2.9E-09	2.479E-06	0.049737	0.068453	0.039799	0.0001491	0.404857	0.1524336
Pearson correlation		0.31057431	-0.064422404	-0.160897723	0.461252	0.3897763	0.137849	0.050354	0.170487	0.4204846	0.123552	0.2274021
lordinC1post	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.001661728	0.530715904	0.111617565	5.39E-06	0.0001596	0.195089	0.637412	0.110188	4.016E-05	0.248692	0.0321017
cytC2pré	Pearson correlation	0.763053809	0.648954618	0.467029142	-0.17792	-0.1051	-0.44683	-0.27611	-0.19605	-0.01801	0.160226	0.274854
lordinC1post	Sig. (2-tailed)	6.72865E-20	4.95471E-13	1.41919E-06	0.095304	0.3269805	1.01E-05	0.008434	0.065577	0.8669643	0.133638	0.0091414
lodproC3pré	Pearson correlation	1	0.538801189	0.657194822	-0.10934	-0.138718	-0.40139	-0.33579	-0.19301	-0.03361	0.1685556	0.2496807
lodproC3post	Sig. (2-tailed)	1.24745E-08	1.49129E-13	0.307714	0.1948225	8.82E-05	0.001214	0.069961	0.7545219	0.114338	0.0182903	0.1983198
l5post	Pearson correlation	0.538801189	1	0.58833958	-0.26833	-0.194413	-0.22583	-0.2414	-0.1239	-0.02685	0.015465	0.1416907
l5post	Sig. (2-tailed)	1.24745E-08	2.34227E-10	0.011007	0.0679075	0.032337	0.0219	0.247364	0.8027709	0.885623	0.0624557	
l5post	Pearson correlation	0.657194822	0.58833958	1	-0.21392	-0.165764	-0.32724	-0.14156	-0.08843	-0.070925	0.063819	0.2163728
l5post	Sig. (2-tailed)	1.49129E-13	2.34227E-10	0.044117	0.1205494	0.001643	0.183221	0.409892	0.5089485	0.552401	0.0416907	
l5post	Pearson correlation	-0.109344185	-0.268334238	-0.213922735	1	0.7933454	0.507512	0.393333	0.370142	0.4218	0.065507	-0.029779
l5post	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.307713876	0.011006723	0.044116665	1.889E-20	3.85E-07	0.000137	0.000386	4.259E-05	0.544265	0.7829938	
l5post	Pearson correlation	-0.13871834	-0.194412796	-0.1657643	0.793345	1	0.392957	0.405554	0.307197	0.386898	-0.00231	0.0364565
l5post	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.1948822519	0.067907527	0.120549397	1.89E-20	0.000139	8.06E-05	0.0003599	0.0001964	0.982994	0.7359552	
l5post	Pearson correlation	-0.401391927	-0.225832071	-0.327236161	0.507512	0.3929572	1	0.315368	0.356335	0.2386132	0.162544	-0.138479

Table 5 continued

Correlations par regression linéaire de Pearson										
	2	cypC2post	lodproC3pré	lodproC3post	15pré	il5post	ripré	ripost	n5pré	n5post
ripost	Sig. (2-tailed)	8.82061E-05	0.032337449	0.001642813	3.83E-07	0.0001394	0.002464	0.000609	0.0243296	0.128035
ripost	Pearson correlation	-0.335790191	-0.241397601	-0.141560653	0.39333	0.4055542	0.315368	1	0.3873	0.187844
n5pré	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.001214103	0.021900094	0.183220971	0.000137	8.056E-05	0.002464	0.000177	0.0779354	-0.03225
n5post	Pearson correlation	-0.193006609	-0.123896404	-0.088431425	0.370142	0.3071967	0.356335	0.3873	1	0.5037745
n5post	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.069961448	0.247363748	0.409892392	0.000386	0.0035993	0.000609	0.000177	5.633E-07	0.766411
n5post	Pearson correlation	-0.033610038	-0.026849578	-0.070924686	0.4218	0.386898	0.238613	0.187844	0.503774	1
n5post	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.754521929	0.802770894	0.508948517	4.26E-05	0.0001964	0.02433	0.077935	5.63E-07	0.538816
n5post	Pearson correlation	0.168555521	0.015465304	0.063819388	0.065507	-0.002305	0.162544	-0.03225	-0.03193	0.066394
n5post	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.114338241	0.885622508	0.552401175	0.544265	0.9829941	0.128035	0.764181	0.766411	0.5388159
plpré	Pearson correlation	0.249680653	0.198319755	0.216372772	-0.02978	0.0364565	-0.13848	-0.15475	-0.10278	0.108344
plpré	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.018290328	0.062455654	0.041690748	0.782994	0.7359552	0.195602	0.147627	0.340663	0.309883
plpost										0.222704

Oswestry G oswestry score gain, Incpelypre pre op pelvic, Incpelpost post op pelvic, Verspelpre pre op pelvic tilt, Verspelpost post op sacral slope, Pentsacpost post op sacral slope, Angsspre pre op spinous sacral angle, Angspost post op spinous sacral angle, SIC7plumpre SIC7 plumb line distance pre op, SIC7plumpost SIC7 plumb line distance post op, sagHA-SIpre sagittal hip axis-S1 axis pre op, sagHA-SIpost sagittal hip axis-S1 axis post op, Rat R C7pre ratio S1-C7 vertical distance pre op, Rat R C7post ratio S1-C7 vertical distance post op, Lombaspre lombosacral angle preop, Lombaspost lombosacral angle postop, loraCIpre C1 lumbar lordosis pre op (tangent circle method), loraCIpost C1 lumbar lordosis post op (tangent circle method), CypC2pre thoracic kyphosis C2 pre op, CypC2post thoracic kyphosis C2 post op, lomproC3pre cervical lordosis C3 pre op, lodproC3post cervical lordosis C3 post op, il5pre pelvic incidence in L5 pre op, il5post pelvic incidence in L5 post op, RTpre distal lumbar tilt angle pre op, RTpost distal lumbar tilt angle post op, N5pre number of vertebrae included in the distal lordosis pre op, N5post number of vertebrae included in the distal lordosis post op, Plpre pelvic linear length pre op, Plpost pelvic linear length post op

disc height alone. Two levels DDD with fusion L5S1 and prosthesis L4L5 showed similar results [11].

We established the correlation between the lumbar-sacral angle and sacral slope and SSA, thus underlining the idea of the need for adaptation of lordosis to initial pelvic incidence and thus to a given preoperative back type in order to ensure the best possible spino-pelvic balance, and consequently postural economy.

Conclusion

Our study demonstrated marked anomalies in numerous sagittal balance parameters (HA-S1, S1-C7, C7 ratio, PLL, SSA, etc) in a setting of lower back pain of disc origin, and in particular in the SSA, for which measurement at the T9 site alone does not allow adequate assessment of these fine degrees of postural imbalance.

The tendency towards normalisation of the SSA angle confirmed the regulatory role of total disc prosthesis, which allows patients to position themselves appropriately, in contrast with arthrodesis, since fusion of L5 and S1 results in an unchanging position.

Use of the EOS™ system allowed more precise measurement of sagittal parameters, and in particular variables involving distance, since X-ray diffraction is corrected in the vertical plane. For example, we were able to measure the distance PLL in a 3D image of the spinal-pelvic complex. Computerised quantitative analysis should be used routinely in sagittal spinal studies and in preoperative planning in the same way as SSA.

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Conflict of interest None.

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