

**Dr James Rankine MBChB, MRCP, MRad, FRCR MD.  
Consultant Musculoskeletal and Spine Radiologist**



**Current position:**

Consultant Musculoskeletal Radiologist, Leeds teaching hospitals and Honorary Associate Professor, University of Leeds, since October 1999.

**Overview:**

Dr Rankine is an expert in all aspects of musculoskeletal radiology, with a particular interest in spinal imaging. He is the lead radiologist for one of the largest multidisciplinary spinal meetings in the UK, incorporating both neurosurgical and orthopaedic spinal practice.

He has over 25 years' experience in medico-legal practice and is regularly instructed to provide expert evidence in personal injury and medical negligence cases involving a wide range of musculoskeletal conditions. He has a particular expertise in spinal trauma and degenerative spinal disease. He produces over 100 reports a year exclusively in the field of musculoskeletal radiology and chest X-ray reporting. The reports are firmly rooted in personal experience of evidence-based practice.

He has extensive experience of meetings with Counsel, opposing witnesses and joint witness reporting. He has given evidence to the court on five occasions, on behalf of both claimant and defence counsel. He is instructed by the claimant in 60% and 40% by the defendant.

Dr Rankine has authored over 50 publications in musculoskeletal and spinal imaging. His work has been recognised with the Editor's Medal from the Royal College of Radiologists. He has a comprehensive knowledge of literature relating to the significance of spinal MRI findings and is regularly instructed as an expert witness in this area. He gave evidence before the Court of Session in Edinburgh in the landmark case *Wilson v North Lanarkshire Council*, which successfully challenged the assertion that repetitive trauma causes disc degeneration.

He teaches at the Leeds Radiology Academy and has established the successful free online teaching platform mskradvideos.com.

**Recent invited lectures at Medicolegal conferences:**

St John's Chamber Clinical negligence conference 2025

AvMA 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Clinical negligence conference 2022

Irwin Mitchell IMAway day 2022

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|------------------------|-------|------------|------|
| <b>QUALIFICATIONS:</b> | MBChB | Edinburgh  | 1986 |
|                        | MRCP  |            | 1991 |
|                        | M Rad | Aberdeen   | 1993 |
|                        | FRCR  |            | 1994 |
|                        | MD    | Manchester | 1998 |

**JOURNAL ACTIVITIES**

Assistant Editor, Current Orthopaedics 2001 - 2009  
Assistant Editor Orthopaedics and Trauma 2009- 2016.

Reviewer:  
Clinical Radiology  
European Radiology  
Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery  
Injury  
Skeletal Radiology  
Canadian Medical Association

## **PUBLICATIONS:**

**Rankine JJ**, Smith FW, and Scotland TR. Short Tau Inversion Recovery (STIR) sequence MRI appearances of Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy. *Clinical Radiology* 1995; 50:188-190.

Sabharwal A, **RankineJJ** and McClinton S. A popliteal fossa urinary fistula. *Hospital Update* 1996;22(1):32

**Rankine JJ**, Hutchinson CE, and Hughes DG. MRI of lumbar spondylosis: a comparison of sagittal T2 weighted and three sequence examinations. *The British Journal of Radiology* 1997;70:1112-1121.

**Rankine JJ**, Fortune DG, Hutchinson CE, Hughes DG and Main CJ. Pain Drawings in the assessment of nerve root compression : a comparative study with lumbar spine MRI. *Spine* 1998;23:1668-1676.

**Rankine JJ**, Gill KP, Hutchinson CE, Ross ERS and Williamson JB. The therapeutic impact of lumbar spine MRI on patients with low back and leg pain. *Clinical Radiology* 1998;53:688-693.

**Rankine JJ**, Hutchinson CE and Adams JE. A problem in Diagnostic Radiology: Investigating a patient with Sciatica. *Clinical Anatomy* 1998;11:342-345.

**Rankine JJ**, Gill KP, Hutchinson CE, Ross ERS and Williamson JB. The clinical significance of the high intensity zone on lumbar spine MRI. *Spine* 1999;24:1913-1920.

**Rankine JJ**, The role of lumbar spine MRI in the investigation of back pain and leg pain. *Journal of Diagnostic Radiography and Imaging* 1999;2:15-20.

**Rankine JJ**, Thomas AN and Fluechter D. Diagnosis of pneumothorax in critically ill adults. *Postgraduate Med Journal* 2000;76:399-404.

**Rankine JJ**, Ten Cases. *Current Orthopaedics* 2000;14:384-389.

**Rankine JJ**, Ten Cases. *Current Orthopaedics* 2000;14:475-480.

**Rankine JJ**, Barron DA, Robinson P, Millner PA, and Dickson RA. The Therapeutic Impact of Percutaneous spinal biopsy in spinal infection *Postgrad Med J* 2004;80:607-609

**Rankine JJ.** Adult Traumatic Brachial Plexus Injury. Clinical Radiology 2004;59:767-774.

**Rankine JJ.** MRI of Spinal Infection. Current Orthopaedics 2004;18:426-433.

Kulkarni J, Gaine WJ, Buckley JG, **Rankine JJ** and Adams JE. Chronic low back pain in traumatic lower limb amputees. Clinical Rehabilitation 2005;19:81-86.

O-Connor PJ, RankineJJ, Gibbon WW, Richardson A, Winter F, Miller JH. Interobserver variation in sonography of the painful shoulder. Journal of Clinical Ultrasound, 2005, Vol/Iss/Pg. 33/2 (53-56), ISSN: 0091-2751.

**Rankine JJ.** The diagnosis and percutaneous treatment of osteoid osteomas. Current Orthopaedics, 2007;21:464-470.

AngoulesA, Tsapakis EM, Polzois I, Gamie z, **Rankine JJ** and Tsiridis E. Cowden syndrome. Managing multiple skeletal metastases of different origin: a case report. Cases Journal 2008;1'1(265):1757-1626.

Patel CN, Smith JT, **Rankine JJ** and Scarsbrook AF. 18F-FDG PET/CT can help differentiate SAPHO syndrome from suspected metastatic bone disease. Clinical Nuclear Medicine. 2009;34(4):254-257.

Limb D, **Rankine J**, Sloan J and Aldous S. Soft tissue injuries : 7 Shoulder and elbow. Emergency Medicine Journal. 2009;26: 426-433.

**Rankine JJ.** Imaging of foot and ankle disorders. Orthopaedics and Trauma 2009; 23:412-419.

**Rankine JJ** and Dickson RA. Unilateral spondylolysis and the presence of facet joint tropism. Spine 2010;35(21):E1111-E1114.

Dunbar JA, Sandoe JA, Rao AS, Crimmins DW, Baig W and **Rankine JJ.** The MRI appearances of early osteomyelitis and discitis. Clin Rad 2010;65:974-981.

Almazed B and **Rankine JJ.** Lower Limb Amputation Stump Pain. Orthopaedics and Trauma 2011;25:448-453.

**Rankine JJ,** Nicholas CM, Wells G and Barron DA. The diagnostic accuracy of plain radiographs in Lisfranc injury and the potential value of a cranial caudal projection. AJR 2012;198:w365-w369.

Compression of the dorsalis pedis artery: a novel cause of blue toe syndrome. Griffin KJ, **Rankine J,** Kessel D, Berridge DC, Scott DJ. Vascular. 2012 Dec;20(6):325-8

Modern spinal instrumentation. Part 2: multimodality imaging approach for assessment of complications.

Allouni AK, Davis W, Mankad K, **Rankine J**, Davagnanam I.  
Clin Radiol. 2013 Jan;68(1):75-81

Modern spinal instrumentation. Part 1: normal spinal implants.

Davis W, Allouni AK, Mankad K, Prezzi D, Elias T, **Rankine J**, Davagnanam I.  
Clin Radiol. 2013 Jan;68(1):64-74

**Rankine JJ**. The postoperative Spine. Seminars in Musculoskeletal Radiology  
2014;18:300-308.

**Rankine JJ**, Hodgson RJ, Tan HB, Cox G and Giannoudis PV. MRI appearances of the femur following bone graft harvesting using the Reamer-Irrigator-Aspirator. Injury, Int. J. Care Injured 46 S8 (2015) 565-567.

Ryckie G. Wade, Vinay Itte, **James J. Rankine**, John P. Ridgway, Grainne Bourke  
The diagnostic accuracy of 1.5T magnetic resonance imaging for detecting root avulsions in traumatic adult brachial plexus injuries  
J of Hand. Surg. 2018 43(3) 250-258

Ryckie G Wade, Yemisi Takwoingi, Justin CR Wormald, John P Ridgway, Steven Tanner, **James J Rankine**, Grainne Bourke  
Magnetic resonance imaging for detecting root avulsions in traumatic adult brachial plexus injuries: protocol for a systematic review of diagnostic accuracy  
Systematic reviews 2018/12/17(1) 76

IV Papachristos, **J Rankine**, PV Giannoudis  
Hip arthrodiastasis combined with core decompression and diamond concept for postcollapse femoral head avascular necrosis  
BMJ Case Reports 2019 CP 12 (8), e23108

Ryckie G Wade, Yemisi Takwoingi, Justin CR Wormald, John P Ridgway, Steven Tanner, **James J Rankine**, Grainne Bourke  
MRI for Detecting Root Avulsions in Traumatic Adult Brachial Plexus Injuries: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of Diagnostic Accuracy  
Radiology 2019 293(1) 125-133

Ryckie G Wade, Steven F Tanner, Irvin Teh, John P Ridgway, David Shelley, Brian Chaka, **James J Rankine**, Gustav Andersson, Mikael Wiberg, Grainne Bourke  
Diffusion Tensor Imaging for Diagnosing Root Avulsions in Traumatic Adult Brachial Plexus Injuries: A Proof-of-Concept Study  
Frontiers in Surgery 2020 7,19

Battleday, F.M., Williams, M., **Rankine, J.** *et al.* MRI versus CT: a retrospective investigation of the feasibility and agreeability in post-operative evaluation of screw position after posterior lumbar interbody fusion. *Eur Spine J* (2020).  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s00586-020-06433-4>

Incidental findings associated with magnetic resonance imaging of the brachial plexus  
AR Perumal, UA Anyamele, RK Bhogal, G McCauley, I Teh, G Bourke, ...  
The British Journal of Radiology 2021 94 (1117), 20200921.

“Dirty Fat Pad” Sign: A novel computed tomography (CT) indicator of injury to the posterior ligamentous complex in acute fractures of the thoracolumbar spine. Dunsmuir R, Price M, **Rankine J**  
Injury, 2026; 0

## CHAPTERS:

**Rankine JJ**, Nicholson DA and Driscoll P. Radiological assessment, in ABC of Major Trauma, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition ed. Driscoll P and Skinner D, BMJ Books 2000.

**Rankine JJ** Chronic overuse injuries of the anterior spine, in Spinal Trauma – an imaging approach ed Cassar-Pullicino and Imhof H 2006 Thieme Verlag.

**Rankine JJ.** Spinal deformity. Imaging of the Musculoskeletal system, ed Pope T, Morrison W, Bloem H, Wilson D, and Beltran J, 1st ed 2008.

**Rankine JJ**, Nicholson DA, Driscoll P and Barron D. Radiological assessment, in ABC of Major Trauma, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition ed. Driscoll P and Skinner D, BMJ Books 2013

**RankineJJ**, Harwood P and Giannoudis P. Lumbar Spine Facet, and Sacroiliac Joint in Practical procedures in Orthopaedic surgery ed Giannoudis 2012.

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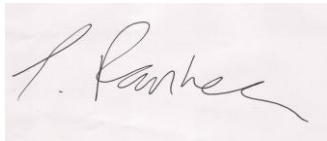
**Rankine JJ.** Spinal deformity. Imaging of the Musculoskeletal system, ed Pope T, Morrison W, Bloem H, Wilson D, and Beltran J, 2nd ed 2015.

**Rankine JJ** Spinal intervention in Chapman & Nakielny’s Guide to Radiological Procedures 7e 2017

Robinson P and **Rankine JJ** Joint Injections in Chapman & Nakielny's Guide to Radiological Procedures 7e2017

**Rankine JJ.** Spinal Trauma in Grainger and Allison's diagnostic radiology 7th edition 2020.

**Rankine JJ.** Spinal deformity. Imaging of the Musculoskeletal system, ed Pope T, Morrison W, Bloem H, Wilson D, and Beltran J, 3rd ed 2026.

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in black ink. The signature appears to be 'J. Rankine' written in a cursive style.

April 2026