

# Epicon syndrome

A spinal area called the epiconus is located just above the end of the spinal cord at the level of the L1 vertebral body. Epicon syndrome involves involvement of the **L4-S2** segments.

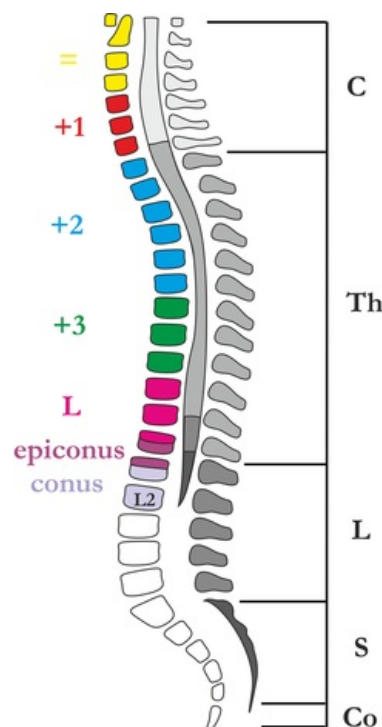
## Etiology

Epicon syndrome is very rare, it arises either as a result of intraspinal expansion or traumatically.

## Clinical picture

In epicon syndrome, we find impairment in the corresponding segments:

- The main symptom is a **limitation of DK mobility** – external rotation and dorsiflexion in the hip (L4–S1) are weakened or disabled, as well as flexion in the knee joints (L4–S2), reflexes are extinguished (L5–S2),
- The patellar reflex remains preserved (L2–L4)
- The **hearing impairment** is more of a dispersed character in dermatomes L4 and L5 – **on the back of the DK and from the knee acrally**,
- **A partial malfunction of the sphincter function** occurs - there is no complete incontinence of urine and stool, but the bladder and ampoule are emptied only reflexively (spinal, automatic bladder),
- As far as sexual functions are concerned, **erectile dysfunction**, generally occurs, but paradoxically, priapism without the ability to ejaculate is sometimes described,
- In the affected area due to the loss of neurotrophic action, the innervation of the sweat glands is disturbed - skin lesions and pressure sores develop easily.



## Links

### Related articles

- Cauda Syndrome
- Cone Syndrome
- Traumatic spinal cord syndromes

### Source

- BENEŠ, Jiří. *Studijní materiály* [online]. ©2007. [cit. 2010]. <<http://www.jirben.wz.cz/>>.
- NEUROLOGICKÁ KLINIKA 1. LF UK A VFN V PRAZE,. *Neurologie – E-learning* [online]. [cit. 2014-02-07]. <[https://www.neuro.lf1.cuni.cz/vyuka/index.php?page=edu\\_elearning](https://www.neuro.lf1.cuni.cz/vyuka/index.php?page=edu_elearning)>.

### References

- NEVŠÍMALOVÁ, Soňa – RŮŽIČKA, Evžen – TICHÝ, Jiří. *Neurologie*. 1. edition. Galén, 2002. 0 pp. ISBN 80-7262-160-2.
- AMBLER, Zdeněk. *Základy neurologie*. 6. edition. Galén, 2006. ISBN 80-7262-433-4.