MEDICAL IMAGING CONSULTANTS OF NEW YORK, P.C.

98 CUTTER MILL ROAD, SUITE 471S GREAT NECK, NEW YORK 11021-1730

*LEONARD N. EBIN. M.D.

TEL: (516) 773-3300 FAX: (516) 773-3515

JOSEPH TUVIA, M.D. JANE EBIN. TUVIA, M.D.

Re: _____, Merdine

June 6, 2006

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mild central stenosis. There is no significant foraminal narrowing. The remaining disc spaces are unremarkable.

Impression:

Multilevel disc desiccation and degeneration. Posterior lumbar disc bulges as described in association with productive bony changes.

The above findings are consistent with chronic degenerative spinal disease which is a pre-existing condition. The multiplicity of levels involved, the signal changes in the discs, indicating long-standing discogenic disease, the presence of productive bony changes and lack of features of trauma, all favor a degenerative etiology.

Disc bulges are not unusual, even in asymptomatic young individuals. In all likelihood the findings represent natural wear and tear, unrelated to a single acute injury.

STATEMENT: The undersigned radiologists, physicians duly licensed by the State of New York, are not party to this action, under penalties of perjury, pursuant to C.P.L.R. Section 2106, and hereby affirm the contents of the foregoing reviews.

_Sincerely,

Jane Tuvia, M.D. Joseph Tuvia, M.D.

JT:JT:tp

*1926-2004