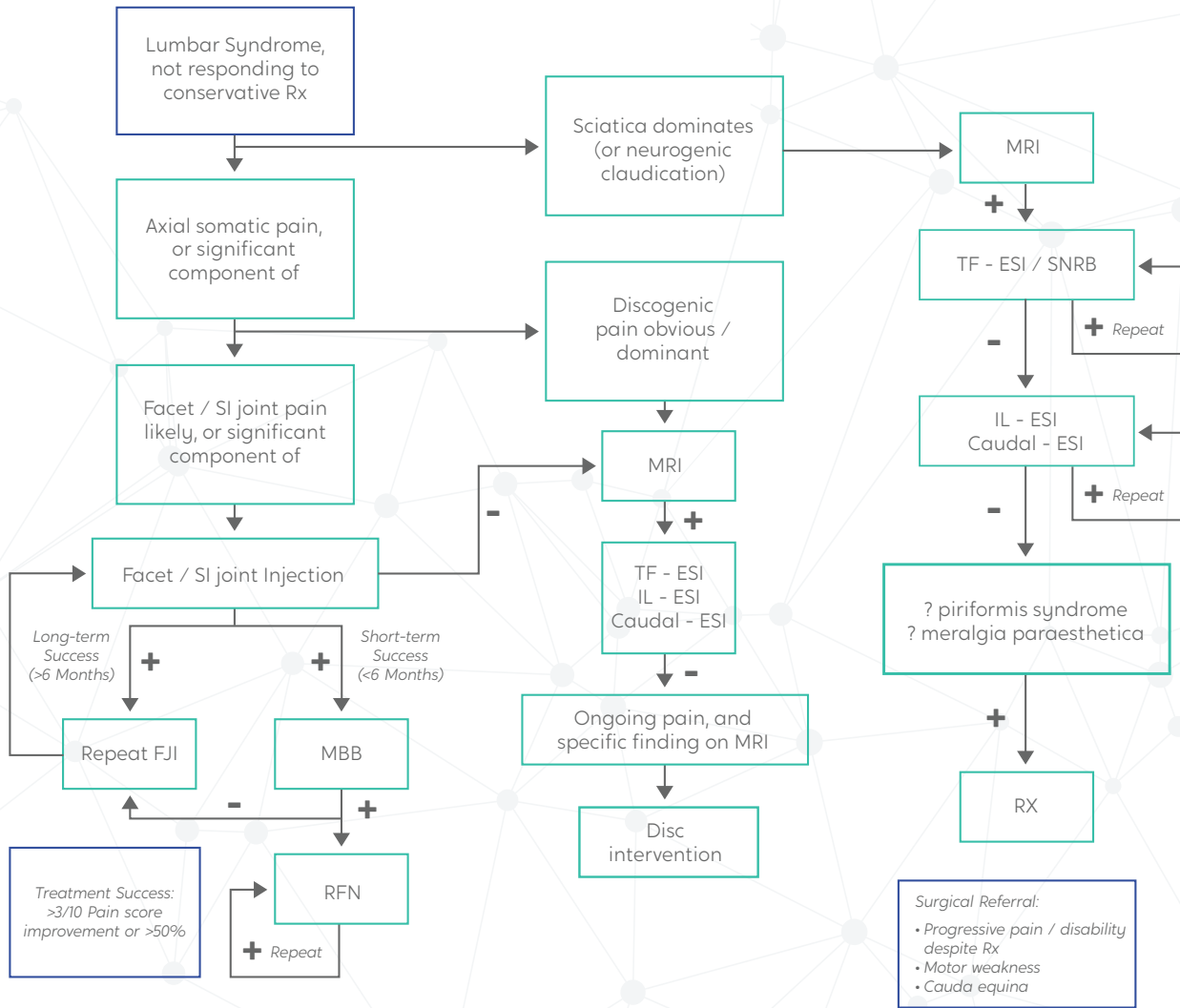


Lumbar Injections Care Pathway



FJI = Facet Joint Injection
MBB = Medial Branch Block
RFN = Radiofrequency Neurotomy

General Guidance for Facet Joint Injection Ordering:

What levels to consider selecting in a patient with suspected facet joint pain?

- Joints with increased uptake on bone scan other asymmetric pathology on MRI
- Joints that are tender to palpation and abnormal on x-ray or CT, beginning with the lowest (Note: L4-5 and L5-S1 are much more likely to be symptomatic than higher joints)
- For MBB / RFN, a combined L4-5 / L5-S1 approach is therefore usually appropriate as a next step, unless indicate a higher joint is symptomatic
- Joints with effusions, synovial cysts, or affected level there is specific information to indicate a higher joint is symptomatic

SNRB = Selective Nerve Root Block
kTF-ESI = Transforaminal Epidural Steroid Injection
IL-ESI = Inter-Laminar Epidural Steroid Injection

General Guidance for Epidural Steroid Injection Ordering:

What levels to consider selecting in a patient with suspected discogenic orradicular pain?

- SNRB matching suspected symptomatic nerve root impingements
- TF-ESI matching suspected symptomatic disc herniations or annular tears
- IL-ESI at or below the level of pathology if the above interventions are unsuccessful