

Solutions

2.1

- Conus medullaris at L1–2.

2.2

- T10 ✓.

2.3

- Below the conus the canal holds only roots (cauda equina), which move aside from a needle – the cord is safe.

3.1

- Sensory level T10 dermatome; bony T10 $\approx$ cord L1–2 segment (rule of two).
- The vertebral column outgrows the cord: roots elongate downward, so bony and neural levels diverge.
- Image the fracture site (T10) but expect the lesion at the lower cord/conus segment.

3.2

- Cauda equina syndrome: roots of the lumbar cistern compressed (e.g. L4/5 disc).
- S2–4 roots carry bladder and perineal fibres – among the first caught.
- Urgency: hours – decompression before permanent sphincter loss.