

II malformation ([Adzick, 2013](#)).



FIG 30-6 **A**, Myelomeningocele with an intact sac. **B**, Myelomeningocele with a ruptured sac. (Courtesy of Dr. Robert C. Dauser, Neurosurgery, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX.)

Diagnostic Evaluation

The diagnosis of SB is made on the basis of clinical manifestations ([Box 30-5](#)) and examination of the meningeal sac. Diagnostic measures used to evaluate the brain and spinal cord include MRI, ultrasonography, and CT. A neurologic evaluation will determine the extent of involvement of bowel and bladder function as well as lower extremity neuromuscular involvement. Flaccid paralysis of the lower extremities is a common finding with absent deep tendon reflexes.

Box 30-5

Clinical Manifestations of Spina Bifida

Spina Bifida Cystica