Mr. Hernandez had both hands on the steering wheel; he was aware of an impending crash but unable to brace. The collision shook him up, but Mr. Hernandez was not aware of immediate pain or injury. Over the next few days, however, he developed pain in his left shoulder and lower back with pain radiating down his left leg.

On December 21, 2022, February 1, and May 1, 2023, Mr. Hernandez revisited Dr. Chaparro’s office with complaints of occasional spasms in the left thoracolumbar paraspinal muscles (associated with activity) and with some sensory deficit on the right shin. On examination he had dysesthesias to soft touch and pinprick in the right L4 and L5 distributions. Maria Alves, NP, prescribed Gabapentin.

*Pre-crash medical history*

Height: 5 ft 8 inches

Weight: 221 lbs.

Mr. Hernandez was undergoing therapy with Dr. Charles Mitzelfeld (chiropractic) for lower back pain at the time of the subject crash (initial visit on July 15, 2020, then subsequent visits on July 29, 2021, through August 12, 2021, 12 days prior to the subject crash. Following the latter consultation Dr. Mitzelfeld placed Mr. Hernandez at MMI (maximum medical improvement).

*Medical and other records reviewed for history*

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Foundation Chiropractic (prior/post)