

Table 3. CSA and fCSA of multifidus muscle and the CSA to fCSA ratio, classified according to Pfirrmann Classification of lumbar disc of each level.

	L2-3			L3-4			L4-5			L5-S1		
Pfirrmann Classification	n	Mean±SD	F(p)	n	Mean±SD	F(p)	n	Mean±SD	F(p)	n	Mean±SD	F(p)
Multifidus												
2	7	621.21±177.42	0.964	3	1097.98±201.58	1.259	4	1481.78±302.65	0.701	2	1796.25±411.56	0.488
3	2	726.16±179.	(0.434)	2	1142.14±385.	(0.361)	2	1545.01±392.	(0.569)	1	1577.78±569.	(0.705)
	2	85	)	4	91	)	2	37	)	8	22	
4	2	757.15±193.		2	978.26±217.8		2	1381.80±363.		2	1582.67±430.	
	2	26		7	3		3	43		4	60	
5	6	753.35±173.79		3	1076.77±97.5		8	1408.06±273.70		1	1417.45±485.	
					7					3	61	
Functional Multifidus												
2	7	456.25±180.54	0.710	3	824.28±251.5	1.952	4	1025.07±365.30	0.949	2	1508.42±357.14	1.454
3	2	563.04±158.	(0.560)	2	920.74±382.5	(0.230)	2	1132.76±407.	(0.449)	1	1115.24±514.	(0.333)
	2	67	)	4	8	)	2	64	)	8	52	
4	2	546.52±204.		2	691.43±224.4		2	942.56±318.0		2	1113.47±382.	
	2	59		7	2		3	1		4	73	
5	6	586.77±170.92		3	664.90±227.8		8	1058.40±309.65		1	902.68±414.1	
					3					3	0	
Ratio												
2	7	71.48±11.24	1.706	3	74.02±12.19	4.035	4	68.14±14.64	0.758	2	83.90±0.66	32.120
3	2	77.50±10.56	(0.361)	2	79.63±9.32	(0.081)	2	72.14±10.44	(0.540)	1	68.91±11.12	(<0.001)
	2		)	4		)	2		)	8)
4	2	70.70±11.16		2	69.57±10.48		2	68.16±12.46		2	69.78±10.12	
	2			7			3			4		
5	6	77.26±7.47		3	60.83±16.77		8	74.18±9.31		1	62.21±14.01	
										3		

Ratio (%): CSA of multifidus muscle/CSA of functional multifidus muscle x100. Abbreviations: CSA, cross-sectional area