

Proximal Lower Extremity Mononeuropathies – Table 2

Nerve	Nerve roots	Nerve course	Cutaneous innervation	Motor innervation	Common injury location
Ilioinguinal	L1 (variable T12)	Travels along the lateral border of psoas, along the iliac crest, pierces transversus abdominis near the anterior superior iliac spine (ASIS). Travels with the spermatic cord/round ligament in the inguinal canal.	Proximal inner thigh Base of penis Upper scrotum Mons pubis Lateral labia	Internal oblique	Psoas muscle, transversus abdominis muscle, and inguinal canal
Iliohypo-gastric	L1 (variable T12)	Travels along the lateral border of psoas  The lateral cutaneous branch penetrates the internal and external oblique muscles above the iliac crest.  The anterior cutaneous branch passes along the crest of the ilium, enters the internal oblique muscle at the level of the ASIS and runs through the aponeurosis of the external oblique muscle.	Lateral cutaneous branch supplies the skin of the gluteal region  Anterior cutaneous branch supplies the abdominal skin at the inguinal ligament	Internal oblique	Psoas muscle, and transversus abdominis muscle
Genito-femoral	L1-2	Pierces the psoas  The femoral branch passes under the inguinal ligament.  The genital branch passes through the inguinal ligament.	Proximal medial thigh Labia majora Distal scrotum	Cremasteric muscle (males)	Psoas muscle, transversus abdominis muscle, inguinal ligament

<b>Femoral</b>	L2-L4	Descends through the psoas muscle, passes in a groove between the psoas and iliacus. After sending motor branches to psoas and iliacus, passes under the inguinal ligament and divides into anterior and posterior divisions separated by the lateral femoral cutaneous artery. <sup>14</sup>	<p>Anterior division:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Intermediate &amp; medial cutaneous nerves of the thigh<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Anteromedial thigh</li><li>○ Anterior patella<sup>14</sup></li></ul></li></ul> <p>Posterior division:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Articular branches to hip and knee joints</li><li>● Saphenous nerve<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Medial leg</li><li>○ Medial ankle<sup>14</sup></li></ul></li></ul>	<p>Psoas major</p> <p>Iliacus</p> <p>Anterior division<sup>14</sup>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Sartorius</li><li>● Pectineus</li></ul> <p>Posterior division<sup>14</sup>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Quadriceps (vastus medialis, intermedius and lateralis; rectus femoris)</li></ul>	<p>Anterior surface of psoas</p> <p>Under the inguinal ligament</p> <p>Within the adductor canal (saphenous nerve)</p>
<b>Lateral femoral cutaneous</b>	L2-3	Exits the pelvis close to the ASIS and inguinal ligament	Anterolateral thigh		Entrapment under or within the inguinal ligament near the ASIS <sup>11</sup>
<b>Obturator</b>	L2-4	Forms within the psoas muscle, runs anterior to the sacroiliac (SI) joint. Passes between the obturator muscles and the obturator sulcus of the pubic bone.	Distal 2/3 of medial thigh	<p>Adductor brevis and longus; obturator externus, gracilis, and portion of adductor magnus (with sciatic nerve)</p> <p>Variably innervates pectineus</p>	Entrapment in fascia overlying the adductor brevis or in the adductor compartment in athletes <sup>10</sup>