

The **fifth lumbar ventral spinal rami** exit the vertebral column through the intervertebral foramina between the pedicles of L5 and S1. They are larger than the ventral rami above and emerge above the transverse processes of L5, where they are connected to adjacent sympathetic ganglia by grey rami communicantes. The fifth lumbar nerves do not have white rami communicans.

The fifth lumbar ventral spinal rami join with the larger ventral and dorsal branches of the ventral rami of L4 to form the lumbosacral trunk; this descends over the pelvic brim anterior to the sacro-iliac joint, to join the first sacral nerve to participate in the formation of the sacral plexus.

### **Supply**

The fifth lumbar ventral spinal rami give off branches, which are distributed to the muscles of the buttock and lower limb via the sacral plexus. Cutaneous fibers are also distributed via the sacral plexus.