A Tethered Conus Syndrome in an Adult Woman

Kazuo Abe

(DOI: 10.2169/internalmedicine.45.1709)

A 35 year-old woman had enjoyed good health until the age of ten and was noticed to drag her left foot during walking. She was admitted a hospital and was diagnosed with Charcot Marie Tooth syndrome. Her weakness in the left foot gradually progressed so that she had to attach a short foot brace. She had not undergone any neuroimaging examination. On admission, she had weakness predominantly in the lower left limb and mildly weakness in both feet. Nerve conduction studies were all normal. A lumbar cord MRI showed a lowered level of the conus and a high intensity mass at the level of the fifth lumbar centrum (Fig. 1).

The tethered cord syndrome (TCS) is generally diagnosed in childhood. However, although few, there is a certain number of adult patients with TCS. Adult patients with persistent leg pain and skeletal deformities should be evaluated with MRI to establish an early diagnosis (1-3).

References


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