

Neurological image

A massive extradural cerebrospinal fluid collection

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A 19-year-old woman presented to the Neurology Clinic in June 2007 with a principal complaint of headaches provoked by Valsalva manoeuvre and relieved by lying down. She also complained of a tight feeling in the lower back. She had a personal history of severe idiopathic kyphoscoliosis, which developed during puberty and was treated with Harrington-rod instrumentation at the age of 16. She suffered from low back pain and frequent headaches ever since. In May 2007 the Harrington rods were removed because of recurrent aseptic meningitis and increased low back pain. During the surgical procedure a small dural leak was identified and closed with surgical and collagen tissue. The patient was discharged without headache or other complaints. In June 2007 a renitent lumbar swelling was evident on clinical examination. MRI of the spine reveals a massive extradural cerebrospinal fluid collection, that extends over more than 20 cm in the cranio-caudal direction and is due to a dural leak at the level of T9.



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