History
Teenager with back pain.

Diagnosis
Bilateral L3 Spondylolysis

Discussion
Spondylolysis is a common defect of the par interarticularis, mostly occurring at L5 (90-95%). Defects may be congenital or related to hyperextension microfractures. Spondylolysis may heal by fibrous or osseous fusion although nonunion/pseudojoint formation also occur. Lumbar curvatures, muscle imbalance and ligamentous laxity contribute to spinal malalignment (spondylolisthesis) and worsening pain from foraminal and spinal nerve distortion, degenerative disc and facet disease.

Findings
CT-Axial and sagittal and coronal reformats show bilateral irregular linear defects in the posterior elements of L3.

Reference
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