Arachnoiditis Ossificans
Joseph Junewick, MD FACR

05/02/2009

History
Patient with cerebral palsy and spinal stabilization 6 months prior, now with back pain.

Diagnosis
Arachnoiditis ossificans

Discussion
Arachnoiditis ossificans is a rare chronic inflammatory process affecting the thoracic and lumbar regions which may be asymptomatic or may cause pain, radicular signs, sensory disturbance or incontinence. The pathogenesis is unknown but is thought to be the result of end-stage adhesive arachnoiditis related to prior surgery, trauma, subarachnoid hemorrhage, or previous lumbar taps/injections.

Findings
CT-Ossified dural plaques in nerve root sleeves and caudal recess of the thecal sac.

Reference
Disclaimer
This teaching site is partially funded by an educational grant from GE Healthcare and Advanced Radiology Services, PC. The material on this site is independently controlled by Advanced Radiology Services, PC, and GE Healthcare and Spectrum Health have no influence over the content of this site.

Content Download Agreement
The cases and images on this website are owned by Spectrum Health. Permission is granted (for nonprofit educational purposes) to download and print materials to distribute for the purpose of facilitating the education of health professionals. The authors retain all rights to the material and users are requested to acknowledge the source of the material.

Site Disclaimer
This site is developed to reach healthcare professionals and medical students. Nothing this site should be considered medical advice. Only your own doctor can help you make decisions about your medical care. If you have a specific medical question or are seeking medical care, please contact your physician.

The information in this website is provided for general medical education purposes only and is not meant to substitute for the independent medical judgment of a physician relative to diagnostic and treatment options of a specific medical condition.

The viewpoints expressed in these cases are those of the authors. They do not represent an endorsement. In no event will Advanced Radiology Associates, PC, Spectrum Health Hospitals (Helen Devos Children's Hospital) or GE Healthcare be liable for any decision made or action taken in reliance upon the information provided through this website.