

Intramedullary spinal cord tumor an unsuspected finding: A case report

Charles L Blum

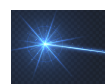
Objective: This study presents a very unusual case of a patient referred by her acupuncturist to chiropractic care for a slip and fall injury.

Clinical Features: 40-year-old female patient was seen for acute left-shoulder pain diagnosed by her orthopedist as a frozen shoulder, secondary to a slip and fall injury weeks prior. Her presentation at this office was considered unusual because while she had limited active ranges-of-motion, she had full passive ranges-of-motion, and had signs of benign joint hypermobility syndrome.

Intervention and Outcome: Due to her hypermobility she was treated with sacro-occipital technique and cervical stairstep treatments. Her pain decreased in the cervical spine and shoulder but her active ranges of motion were still limited. The incongruence in her presentation suggested that an MRI be performed of the cervical spine to rule out anything unusual. Regrettably an intramedullary spinal cord tumor was found. It was challenging since her function and pain had improved but there was concern about the tumor, so ultimately surgery was performed, with a very poor outcome.

Conclusion: When there are incongruences in patient presentations and response to care, more diagnostic studies and referrals to other healthcare providers are important considerations.

Indexing terms: Chiropractic; intramedullary tumor; acupuncture; sacro-occipital technique.



Charles L Blum

DC

drcblum@aol.com

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