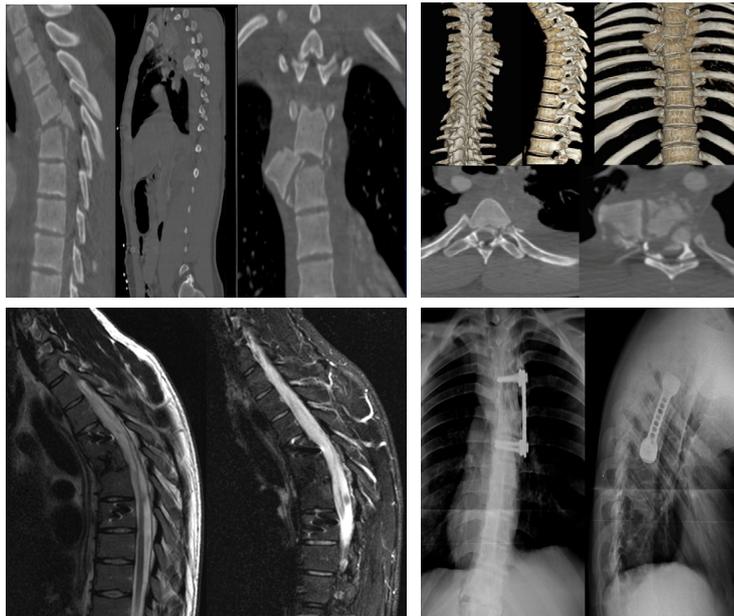


Clinical Image

Title: Atypical Fracture Dislocation of Thoracic Vertebra in a Young Men

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Description

We present the case of a 16 years old male patient who had a motor vehicle accident that required admission to intensive care unit. He suffered severe TBI (Glasgow 3) with severe chest trauma and fractures in the lower limbs. Total body CT was performed where it is appreciated a fracture dislocation type C without reliable evidence of damage of posterior ligamentous complex. Surgical treatment by right transthoracic approach, anterior decompression and stabilization was performed 48 hours later. At 3 weeks after admission, the patient was transferred to hospital for paraplegics. The patient had no neurological improvement. This is an unusual lesion that can be described as dislocation-enucleation of thoracic vertebral body.

We work in a hospital that encompasses a major health area approximately 300,000 people. The Department of Orthopaedics and Trauma of our hospital performed the treatment of traumatic pathology both in children and in adults.

The improvement in the safety of cars and roads has caused decrease progressively of motor vehicle accidents and mortality in recent years.

This case shows a young men with a rare fracture dislocation of T5 vertebra. We can see an enucleation of T5 vertebral body with severe neurological impairment. Reviewing the literature, we have not found any similar case. Only it is described a case of C6 vertebral body enucleation [1] and an unrecognized acute traumatic T1 fracture dislocation in a 13 years old boy [2].

References

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