

A RARE PRESENTATION OF MISSED ATLANTO-AXIAL SUBLUXATION WITH FRACTURE CLAVICLE.

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Introduction: Traumatic atlantoaxial subluxation occurs primarily in childhood torticollis. However, torticollis associated with clavicular fracture is extremely rare. The diagnosis of atlantoaxial subluxation is often missed delayed. The incidence of atlantoaxial subluxation for patient aged 2 to 8 years old is 49% (1).

Discussion: This is a case of 8 years old girl who is involved in motor vehicle accident and was diagnosed with closed fracture left clavicle. After 2 months, parents claimed patient's head is tilted over right side associated with pain since after accident. Upon our review, head tilted over right side with stiff sternocleidomastoid muscle. CT scan of neck revealed that patient had atlantoaxial subluxation. Patient was treated conservatively with halter traction for 10 days and was put on cervical thoracic orthosis for at least 3 months. During first review, patient still having limited range of movement of neck however patient did not have neurological deficit or myelopathy sign. Clavicle fracture rarely may be associated with atlantoaxial subluxation. Early detection of pediatric atlantoaxial subluxation require combination of clinical assessment and radiographic imaging. The diagnosis should be suspected if the child holds the head in the classic "cocked-robin" position. Moreover, three-dimensional CT scan enables proper spine examination and provides correct diagnosis.. First time atlantoaxial subluxation is managed with traction reduction followed by prolong immobilization. Surgical intervention is indicated if failed to obtain reduction or multiple recurrence of subluxation (2,3)

Conclusion: Early diagnosis of the lesion, proper evaluation and prompt treatment leads to a permanent resolution of the deformity, while misdiagnosis may lead to chronic deformity.