

TRANSVERSE LIGAMENT HYPERTROPHY OF ATLAS CAUSING CERVICAL MYELOPATHY - AN EXPERIENCE AT HOSPITAL TUANKU JAAFAR, SEREMBAN

Shyamala Sivapragasam¹, Norshaidi Salim¹, Abdul Rauf Haji Ahmad¹

¹Hospital Tuanku Ja'afar

Introduction: A case of ossification of transverse ligament of atlas (TLA) is reported. A 79-year-old male suffered from a transverse type myelopathy was successfully treated by posterior decompression.

Discussion: A computed tomogram revealed ossified posterior longitudinal ligament from c2 til C7 causing spinal canal stenosis. Magnetic resonance imaging showed compressed spinal cord at C1 level by the ossification more on the right side leading to TLA. Also noted to have significant narrowing of spinal canal from c3 to C6 and narrowing of bilateral lateral recess and neuroforamina.

Conclusion: We proceeded with posterior approach of decompression of C1 with occipitocervical fusion and pedicle screw fixation C2,C4,C5 with good recovery.