

AN ATYPICAL CASE OF ISOLATED ACROMION FRACTURE

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INTRODUCTION:

An isolated fracture of the acromion is rare¹. It is often associated with other injuries such as coracoid fracture, clavicle fracture, or acromioclavicular lesion². Therefore it is commonly missed. We report a rare presentation of this injury.

REPORT:

The patient is a 43 year old male with history of left shoulder instability, done soft tissue stabilization procedure many years ago. He was a motorbike rider involved in a road traffic accident where his right shoulder directly hit on lamp post. Post trauma he had localized pain over the lateral aspect of his shoulder and no other injuries. Subsequently he went to the casualty and the fracture was missed. He was seen in Orthopaedic Clinic three weeks later with complain of persistent pain causing limitation of shoulder motion. On examination, there was drooping of lateral shoulder contour (Figure 1). Point tenderness elicited over the acromion and subacromion space. Neurovascular assessment were unremarkable. Antero-posterior view of shoulder x-ray looked normal however there was apparent displaced acromion fracture with reduced subacromion space (Kuhn classification type 3)³ (Figure 2) on lateral view. There was no acromioclavicular injury and other fractures involving shoulder region. He was planned for osteosynthesis with plate, yet to undergo the procedure to this date.

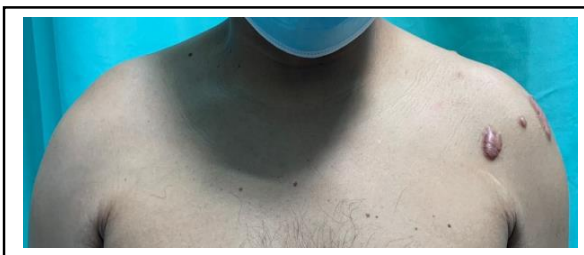


Figure 1 : Loss of right shoulder contour



Figure 2: Shoulder X-ray images

CONCLUSION:

Isolated acromion fracture is commonly caused by direct trauma to the shoulder. Even rarer, it may also caused by stress fracture or as consequence of arthroscopy or arthroplasty procedures. Hence, careful clinical examination with adequate imaging are required for diagnosis. If displaced and causing significant impingement, operative intervention is warranted with few options described in the literature.

REFERENCES:

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