



A Rare Cause of Walking Disorder in Childhood

IMAGES IN CLINICAL RADIOLOGY

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ABSTRACT

Teaching point: Guillain-Barre Syndrome is a rare cause of a walking disorder during childhood. MRI is a key role for diagnosis.

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CASE

A 16 months old child was admitted in the emergency department because of a walking disorder evolving since four weeks. The child was in good condition and with no particular medical history. At clinical examination, the child was unable to turn around or to move from a seated to a standing position. He was able to stay in a standing position only with help. The tone of legs was Flabby and there was no spontaneous mobility. Osteotendinous reflexes were abolished. There was no pain and no movement limitation.

Blood and cerebrospinal liquid analysis were normal. EMG revealed important decrease of motor conduction velocities.

Hip and knee US showed no joint effusion. Magnetic Resonance Imaging of the brain and of the spine showed normal brain and spinal cord. Lumbosacral roots were regularly thickened and strongly enhanced on the post-contrast fat satured T1-weighted sequences (arrow on axial [Figure 1] and sagittal scans [Figures 2–3]). These characteristics predominated on the anterior roots. The diagnosis of Guillain Barre Syndrome (GBS) was established.

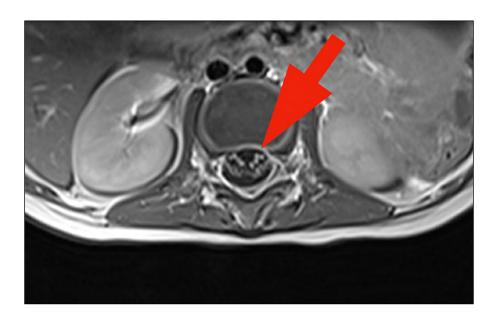


Figure 1.





