

Eikenella corrodens

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The first case of cryptogenic spinal intramedullary abscess secondary to Eikenella spp. and Gemella spp. coinfection. Intramedullary abscesses are exceptionally rare and most commonly develop in children with dermal sinus malformations or in the context of immunosuppression. In adults without risk factors, they can readily be mistaken for more common pathologies in this age group, such as intramedullary neoplasms or demyelinating disease. Prompt diagnosis and management based on rapidly progressive myelopathy, assessment of infectious risk factors and/or symptoms, and targeted imaging are critical to avoid potentially devastating neurological sequelae ¹⁾.

To assess the influence of periodontal disease on cerebral hemorrhage and its clinical course, we examined the association of the serum IgG titer of periodontal pathogens with hemorrhage growth and 3-month outcome. We consecutively enrolled 115 patients with acute cerebral hemorrhage (44 females, aged 71.3 ± 13.1 years) and used ELISA to evaluate the serum IgG titers of 9 periodontal pathogens: Porphyromonas gingivalis, Aggregatibacter (A.) actinomycetemcomitans, Prevotella intermedia, Prevotella nigrescens, Fusobacterium (F.) nucleatum, Treponema denticola, Tannerella forsythensis, Campylobacter rectus, and Eikenella corrodens. Significant hematoma growth was defined as an increase in the volume of >33% or an absolute increase in the volume of >12.5 mL. A poor outcome was defined as a 3 or higher on the modified Rankin Scale. We observed hemorrhage growth in 13 patients (11.3%). Multivariate analysis revealed that increased IgG titers of A. actinomycetemcomitans independently predicted the elevated hemorrhage growth (odds ratio 5.26, 95% confidence interval 1.52-18.25, $p = 0.01$). Notably, augmented IgG titers of F. nucleatum but not A. actinomycetemcomitans led to a poorer 3-month outcome (odds ratio 7.86, 95% confidence interval 1.08-57.08, $p = 0.04$). Thus, we demonstrate that elevated serum IgG titers of A. actinomycetemcomitans are an independent factor for predicting cerebral hemorrhage growth and that high serum IgG titers of F. nucleatum may predict a poor outcome in patients with this disease. Together, these novel data reveal how systemic periodontal pathogens may affect stroke patients, and, should, therefore, be taken into consideration in the management and treatment of these individuals ²⁾

A young African American female with type I diabetes mellitus who presented to us with worsening back pain. The MRI lumbar spine was suggestive of vertebral osteomyelitis involving the right facet joint of the fifth lumbar (L5) and the first spinal (S1) joint and a significant narrowing of the thecal sac

at the L4-L5 vertebral level with an anterior epidural abscess. The patient was started on empirical antibiotics, and surgical intervention was performed with L4-L5 laminectomy and extraction of the epidural abscess. Her pus culture showed *Eikenella corrodens* as a possible cause of vertebral osteomyelitis. She had an uneventful recovery after two weeks of antibiotics (intravenous ceftriaxone) therapy³⁾

1)

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2)

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3)

Ranabhat K, Bhatta S, Bhatta RK, Acharya Y. *Eikenella Corrodens* Vertebral Osteomyelitis in a Young Patient With Type I Diabetes Mellitus. *Cureus*. 2020 Aug 4;12(8):e9553. doi: 10.7759/cureus.9553. PMID: 32905408; PMCID: PMC7470658.

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