

Ligamentum flavum hematoma

Hemorrhage from a [ganglion cyst](#) is rare and the rate of hemorrhagic incidence is less than 10%.

Although the suspected causal factors such as [anticoagulation](#) therapy, trauma, and the presence of a vascular anomaly has been proposed, the etiology of the hemorrhage from the [juxtafacet cysts](#) is still unclear.

The similar conditions differently called a [ligamentum flavum hematoma](#), juxtafacet cyst hematoma, hemorrhagic synovial cyst and facet apoplexy have been reported ¹⁾.

Spontaneous epidural hematoma arising from the ligamentum flavum is a rare cause of acute spinal cord compression. There are only four reports in the cervical spine literature, and all were managed with surgery. Here, we describe an acute case of a spontaneous epidural hematoma arising from the ligamentum flavum in the cervical spine successfully managed without surgery.

Case reports

A 69-year-old woman with a cervical spine epidural hematoma contained within the ligamentum flavum presented with paroxysmal neck pain and stiffness without a history of trauma. The magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) revealed a posterolateral epidural hematoma contained within the ligamentum flavum. As the patient was intact, she was managed conservatively with cervical orthosis. Three months later, she was symptom-free, and the hematoma resolved on the follow-up MRI study.

Spontaneous epidural hematoma arising from ligamentum flavum is a rare cause of spinal cord compression. Previous reports have described success with surgical decompression. However, initial observation and conservative management may be successful as illustrated in this case ²⁾.

¹⁾

Park JH, Im SB, Kim HK, Hwang SC, Shin DS, Shin WH, Kim BT. Histopathological findings of hemorrhagic ganglion cyst causing acute radicular pain: a case report. Korean J Spine. 2013 Dec;10(4):242-5. doi: 10.14245/kjs.2013.10.4.242. Epub 2013 Dec 31. PubMed PMID: 24891856; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC4040643.

²⁾

Algattas H, Kimmell KT, Petraglia AL, Maurer PK. Conservative management of a cervical ligamentum flavum hematoma: Case report. Surg Neurol Int. 2016 Jan 25;7(Suppl 3):S61-S63. eCollection 2016. PubMed PMID: 26904367.

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