

Lumbo costovertebral syndrome

Lumbo-costovertebral syndrome (LCVS) is a rare disorder in children that is characterized by hemivertebrae, congenital absence of ribs, meningocele, and hypoplasia of the truncal and abdominal wall presenting as a congenital lumbar hernia

Case reports

2016

An otherwise healthy 12-month-old girl was referred to the authors' hospital with soft swelling on her left middle back; scoliosis had been present since birth. Imaging revealed a thoracic meningocele, ectopia of the spleen suggesting lumbar hernia, multiple anomalies of the thoracic vertebral columns, and defects of the ribs; thus, LCVS was diagnosed. Surgical observation revealed that the meningocele was firmly anchored to part of the diaphragm, which created stretching tension in the meningocele continuously with exhalation. Once detached, the meningocele shrank spontaneously and never developed again after cauterization. In this case, continuous or pulsatile pressure in the presence of a vertebral defect was thus considered to be an important factor for formation of the thoracic meningocele ¹⁾.

2014

A 2-year-old girl who had a progressive swelling over left lumbar area noted for the last 12 months. Clinical examination revealed a reducible swelling with positive cough impulse. Ultrasonography showed a defect containing bowel loops in the left lumbar region. Chest x-ray showed scoliosis and hemivertebrae with absent lower ribs on left side. Meshplasty was done ²⁾.

¹⁾

Wataya T, Horikawa K, Kitagawa M, Tashiro Y. Thoracic meningocele in lumbo-costovertebral syndrome in a child: possible enlargement with repeated motion by anchoring to the diaphragm. J Neurosurg Pediatr. 2016 Aug;18(2):183-6. doi: 10.3171/2016.2.PEDS15598. Epub 2016 Apr 8. PubMed PMID: 27058456.

²⁾

Gupta L, Mala TA, Gupta R, Malla SA. Lumbo-costovertebral syndrome with congenital lumbar hernia. APSP J Case Rep. 2014 Apr 1;5(1):5. eCollection 2014 Jan. PubMed PMID: 24834386; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC4005092.

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Last update: **2024/06/07 02:59**

