

# Pediatric idiopathic intervertebral disc calcification

Pediatric idiopathic [intervertebral disc calcification](#) (PIIVDC) is a rare condition, with less than 200 cases reported to date.

In a vast majority of cases, children do not experience any pain symptoms, and therefore the diagnosis of calcification lesions is largely incidental. However, in some cases patients may experience pain within the spine or the head, nausea, possibly reduced range of motion of cervical spine or torticollis.

## Epidemiology

Epidemiology of intervertebral disc calcification reveals higher incidence in boys <sup>1)</sup>

The mean age of onset is 7.7 years <sup>2)</sup>.

Most cases are reported to be selflimited with conservative management. In a study, Lam et al describe a case of PIIVDC presenting with acute [incomplete spinal cord injury](#) with [Brown Sequard plus syndrome](#) that was treated with surgery and demonstrate the subsequent rehabilitation time course <sup>3)</sup>.

<sup>1)</sup>

Falcone L, Rossiello P, D'Addetta I, et al. Idiopathic intervertebral disc calcification in children: the role of diagnostic imaging. A case report. Reumatismo. 2006;58(1):62-65.

<sup>2)</sup>

Dai LY, Ye H, Qian QR. The natural history of cervical disc calcification in children. J Bone Joint Surg Am. 2004;86-A(7):1467-72.

<sup>3)</sup>

Lam SK, Niedzwecki CM, Daniels B, Mayer RR, Vakharia MM, Jea A. Acute spinal cord injury associated with multilevel pediatric idiopathic intervertebral disc calcification: case report. J Neurosurg Pediatr. 2015 Oct 16:1-5. [Epub ahead of print] PubMed PMID: 26474104.

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