

Spinal ependymoma diagnosis

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 - [Intramedullary Spinal Cord Tumors and Tumor-Like Lesions](#)
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 - [The lamina-spinous process-ligament complex implantation for the spinal stability: A case report and review of literature](#)
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see also [Intracranial ependymoma diagnosis](#).

The diagnosis of [spinal ependymoma](#) typically involves a combination of [medical history](#), physical examination, and imaging tests. During a medical history, the doctor will ask the patient about their symptoms, including any pain, weakness, or changes in sensation. A physical exam will involve assessing the patient's motor function, reflexes, and sensitivity to touch.

Imaging tests such as magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and computed tomography (CT) scans are typically used to diagnose spinal ependymomas. An MRI can provide detailed images of the spinal cord and surrounding tissues, allowing doctors to identify any abnormal growths or tumors. A CT scan uses X-rays to produce cross-sectional images of the body, which can also help identify any abnormal growths.

Plain film

Plain film features that may be seen with a spinal ependymoma include:

scoliosis

spinal canal widening

vertebral body scalloping

pedicle erosion

laminar thinning

CT

CT may demonstrate:

non-specific canal widening

iso to slightly hyper-attenuating compared with normal spinal cord

intense enhancement with iodinated contrast

large lesions may cause scalloping of the posterior vertebral bodies and neural exit foramina enlargement

Magnetic Resonance Imaging

[Spinal Ependymoma Magnetic Resonance Imaging](#)

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