

# Spinal subdural hygroma

Spinal [subdural hygroma](#) has been associated with [intracranial hypotension](#) or as a complication of [spinal surgery](#)<sup>1) 2)</sup>.

## Case reports

### 2016

A report describes the circumstances of a patient with a [cauda equina syndrome](#) due to the development of a lumbar subdural CSF collection with ventral displacement of the [cauda equina](#) shortly following [Posterior fossa decompression for Chiari type 1 deformity](#) (CM-I). This unusual, but clinically significant, complication was successfully treated with percutaneous drainage of the extraarachnoid CSF collection. Although there are a few cases of intracranial [subdural hygroma](#) developing after surgery for CM-I, often attributed to a pinhole opening in the arachnoid, as far as the authors can determine, a [spinal subdural hygroma](#) associated with surgery for CM-I has not been recognized<sup>3)</sup>.

### 2014

Spontaneous resolution of idiopathic lumbar subdural hygroma<sup>4)</sup>.

### 2012

Two cases of symptomatic, post-lumbar surgery cauda equina compression due to formation of a dissecting subdural extra-arachnoid cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) collection (hygroma) under tension. In both cases, a small inadvertent durotomy was sustained during the initial surgery. Surgical re-exploration confirmed a tension subdural extra-arachnoid hygroma due to one-way flow of CSF through a pinhole puncture in the arachnoid. The mechanism and clinico-radiological features of this rare post-operative complication are discussed<sup>5)</sup>.

1)

Schievink WI. Spontaneous spinal cerebrospinal fluid leaks. *Cephalalgia* 2008;28:1345-56.

2)

Luetmer PH, Schwartz KM, Eckel LJ, et al. When should I do dynamic CT myelography? Predicting fast spinal CSF leaks in patients with spontaneous intracranial hypotension. *AJNR Am J Neuroradiol* 2012;33:690-4.

3)

Darwish HA, Oldfield EH. Lumbar subdural cerebrospinal fluid collection with acute cauda equina syndrome after posterior fossa decompression for Chiari malformation Type I: case report. *J Neurosurg Spine*. 2016 Sep;25(3):328-31. doi: 10.3171/2016.2.SPINE151480. Epub 2016 Apr 15. PubMed PMID: 27081710.

4)

Yi CK, Biega TJ, Burgos RM. Spontaneous resolution of idiopathic lumbar subdural hygroma on CT myelography and lumbar spine MRI. *BMJ Case Rep*. 2014 Aug 22;2014. pii: bcr2014206223. doi: 10.1136/bcr-2014-206223. PubMed PMID: 25150244; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC4154029.

5)

Singleton WG, Ramnarine D, Patel N, Wigfield C. Post-operative spinal subdural extra-arachnoid hygroma causing cauda equina compression: a report of two cases. Br J Neurosurg. 2012 Jun;26(3):429-31. doi: 10.3109/02688697.2011.625063. Epub 2011 Nov 15. PubMed PMID: 22085250.

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