

Thoracic degenerative spondylolisthesis

Degenerative spondylolisthesis of the **spine** is less common in the lower **thoracic region** than in the lumbar and cervical regions. However, lower thoracic degenerative **spondylolisthesis** may develop secondary to **intervertebral disc degeneration**. Most are found to have concomitant lumbar **spondylosis** ¹⁾.

A 78-year-old Japanese man presented with a 6-month history of **gait disorder**. A magnetic resonance imaging scan of his cervical and thoracic spine revealed anterior **spondylolisthesis** and severe **spinal cord compression** at T3 to T4 and T10 to T11, as well as high signal intensity in a **T2 weighted image** at T10/11. Computed tomography revealed diffuse idiopathic skeletal hyperostosis at T4 to T10. He underwent partial **laminectomy** of T10 and posterior **fusion** of T9 to T12. The postoperative **magnetic resonance imaging** revealed resolution of the spinal cord compression and an improvement in the high signal intensity on the T2-weighted image.

This is the first case of thoracic **spondylolisthesis** and spinal cord compression in **diffuse idiopathic skeletal hyperostosis**. Neurosurgical intervention resulted in a significant improvement of patient's neurological symptoms ²⁾.

¹⁾

Hsieh PC, Lee ST, Chen JF. Lower thoracic degenerative spondylolithesis with concomitant lumbar spondylosis. Clin Neurol Neurosurg. 2014 Mar;118:21-5. doi: 10.1016/j.clineuro.2013.11.019. Epub 2013 Dec 6. PubMed PMID: 24529224.

²⁾

Takagi Y, Yamada H, Ebara H, Hayashi H, Iwanaga T, Shimozaki K, Kitano Y, Kagechika K, Tsuchiya H. Thoracic spondylolisthesis and spinal cord compression in diffuse idiopathic skeletal hyperostosis: a case report. J Med Case Rep. 2017 Apr 1;11(1):90. doi: 10.1186/s13256-017-1252-0. PubMed PMID: 28363281; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC5376279.

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