

Traumatic Pseudomeningocele

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History

Teenager involved in motor vehicle accident now complaining of right upper extremity paresthesia and weakness.

Diagnosis

Traumatic Pseudomeningocele

Discussion

Transverse process fractures are mechanistically the result of lateral flexion. Lateral flexion gives rise to simultaneous distraction and impaction ipsilateral and contralateral respectively to the applied force. Impaction is associated with fracture and/or soft tissue injury and distraction is associated with soft tissue injury (often neuropraxia from nerve stretching or pseudomeningocele). The presence of a pseudomeningocele indicates nerve root avulsion.

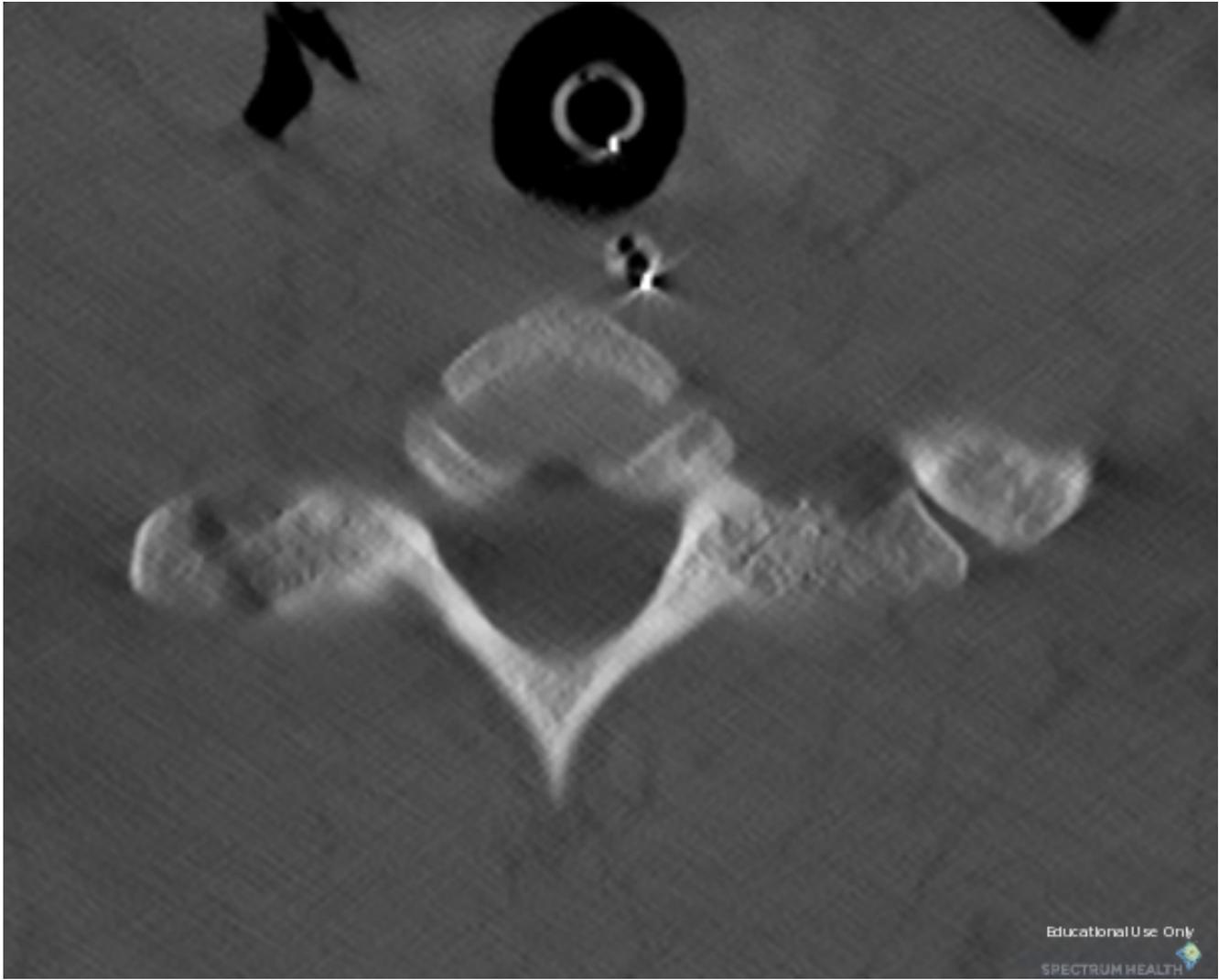
Findings

CT-Right T1 transverse process fracture.

MR-Axial T2 image shows a pseudomeningocele dissecting into the soft tissues of the right shoulder.

Reference

Khosla A, Wippold FJ. CT Myelography and MR Imaging of Extramedullary Cysts of the Spinal Canal in Adult and Pediatric Patients. AJR 2002; 178:201-207



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