CLINICAL IMAGE

Abortive seronegative Spondylitis?

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This T2W MRI image shows hypersignal changes in four vertebral endplates of a man with long lasting low back pain. He was a 47 years old teacher with history of low back pain since about 20 years ago. He had several medical visits. Muscle spasm or psychogenic problems were the diagnoses. Her mother has had destructive rheumatoid arthritis since her adulthood. Careful medical history confirmed inflammatory low back pain awakening him sometimes at nights. Corresponding vertebrea were tender to palpation and light tapping. Previous

imaging investigations are not available now but some of laboratory results showed increased C-reactive protein titers. His HLA-B27, ESR and other laboratory tests related to chronic infections were all unremarkable. Sacroiliac joints were normal on scot radiograph. We supposed that it could be an abortive feature of inflammatory spinal disorders. Further studies needed to discriminate these symptomatic lesions from actually asymptomatic Schmorl's nodes from clinical standpoint.



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