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Clinical Image

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The Draped Curtain Sign

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The posterior longitudinal ligament serves as the inferior continuation of the tectorial membrane. Extending from C2 to the sacrum, it is firmly attached to the posterior aspect of vertebral bodies, with a stronger attachment in the midline and looser connections laterally. Consequently, when a vertebral mass or lesion extends posteriorly toward the anterior epidural space, it tends to displace this ligament [1]. However, its extensive medial fixation limits this displacement, resulting in a distinctive bilobular intracanalar appearance in axial images, commonly referred to as the curtain sign (or draped curtain sign) [1,2].

Diffuse metastatic involvement of the vertebral bodies show-

ing in hypointense signal on sagittalT1 and T2 WI (Figure a and b), with heterogenous enhancement (Figure c). The Axial T1-WI FS with gadolinium (Figure d) depicts the anterior epidural extension showing enhancement of the anterior epidural space bilaterally, creating the "draped curtain sign".

References

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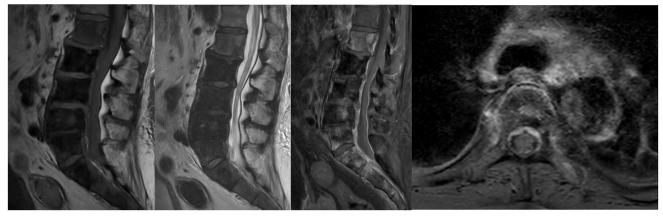


Figure a-d