척추·관절 나누리병원

SYMPTOMATIC THORACIC INTRADURAL ARACHNOID CYST

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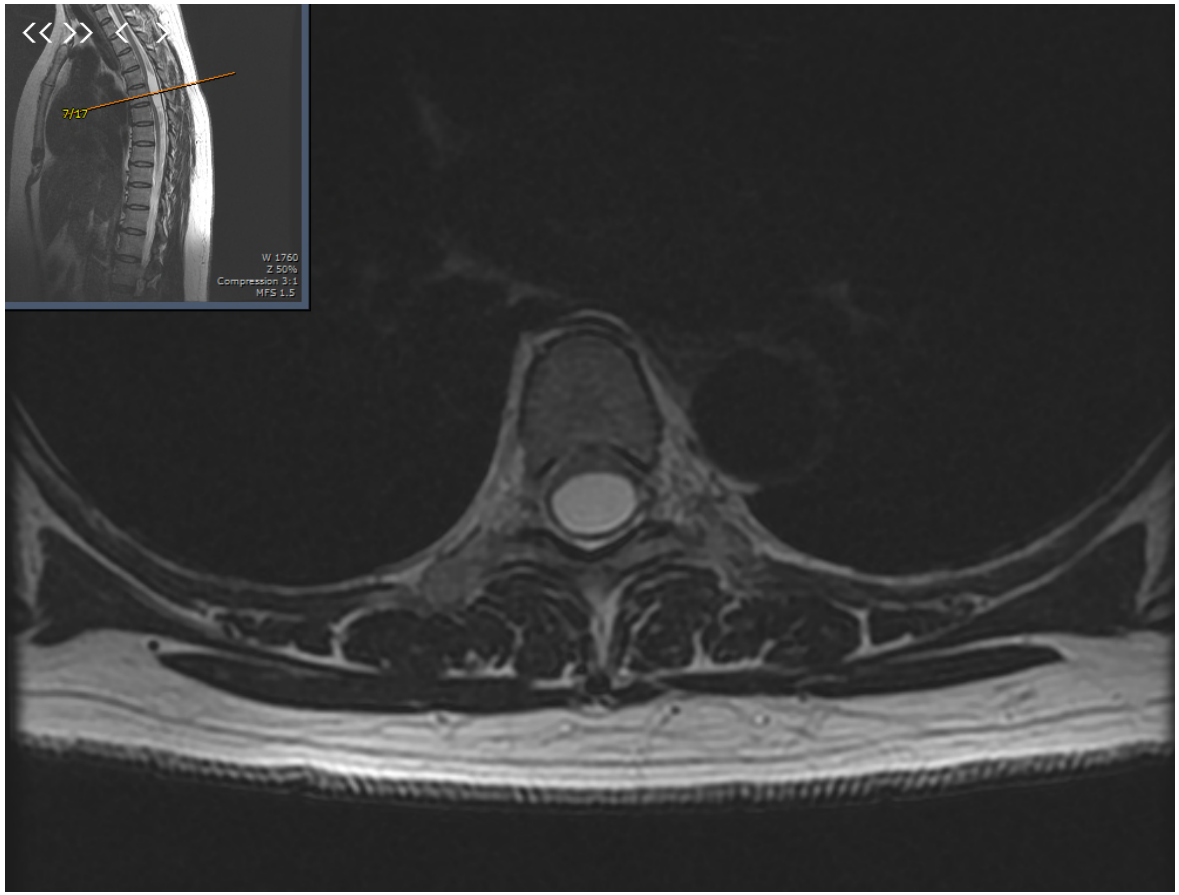
PURPOSE

Spinal arachnoid cysts are uncommon lesions in the spinal canal. They are usually asymptomatic, but can occasionally cause mass effect leading to neurologic symptoms. They can be congenital or secondary to a variety of causes. They can produce a variety of neurologic symptoms including pain, weakness, sensory changes, incontinence, and more. Surgical intervention may be necessary when spinal arachnoid cysts cause symptomatic mass effect.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

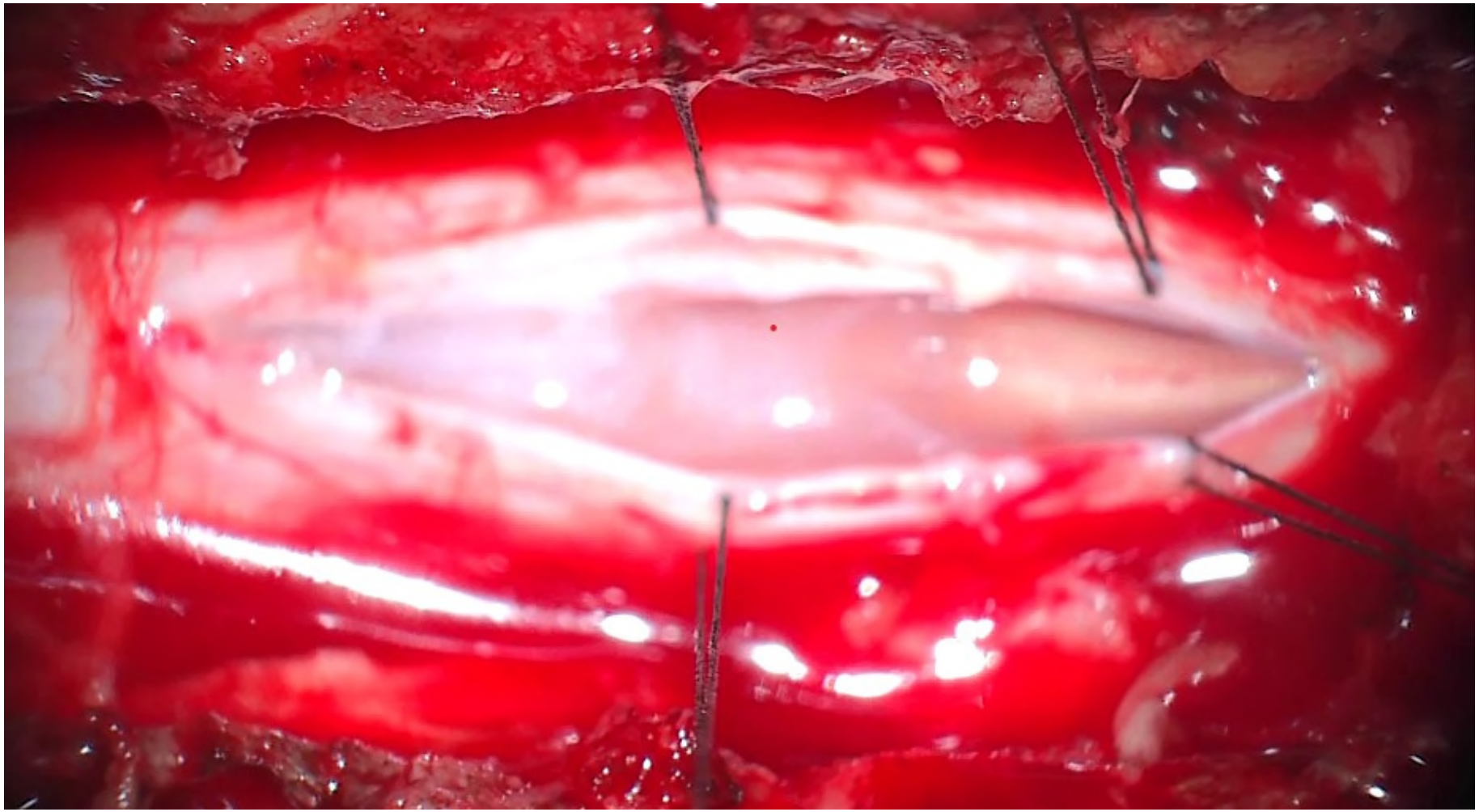
A 39-years-old woman was presented with back pain and both leg pain and paralysis. Findings on magnetic resonance imaging revealed thoracic arachnoid cyst with severe cord compression at T4-6 level.





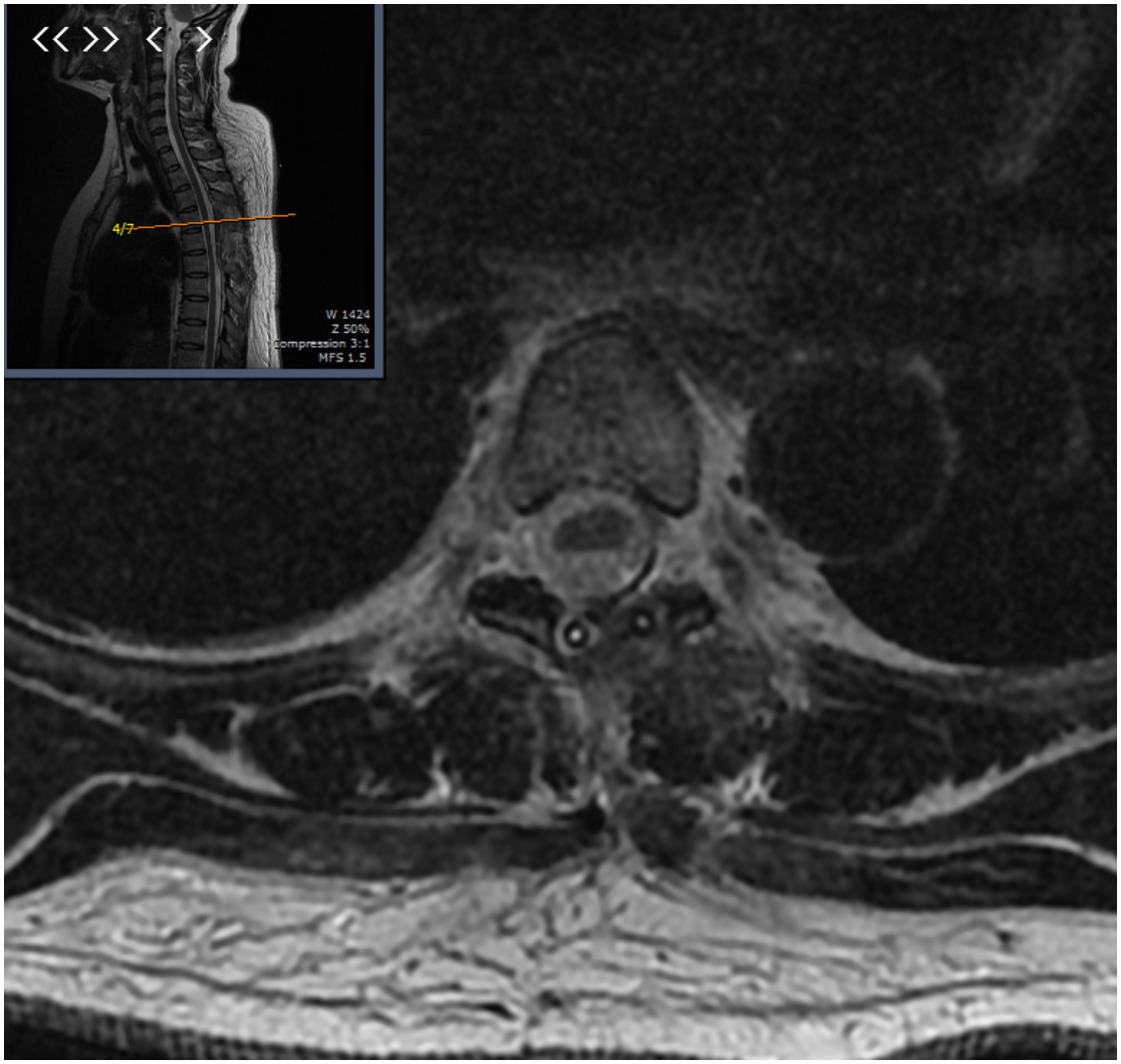
RESULT

The surgery involves a thoracic laminectomy. The dura is opened sharply with care taken not to open the arachnoid so that the cyst can be well visualized. The thickened arachnoid walls of the cyst are removed to alleviate the compression caused by the arachnoid cyst.



RESULT





CONCLUSION

Spinal arachnoid cysts are usually asymptomatic, but rarely cause mass effect and neurologic deficits requiring surgical intervention. Surgical intervention is tailored to the position of the cysts' dorsal or ventral locations. Pain and weakness are the most likely symptoms to improve, whereas sensory symptoms are least likely to improve.

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Thank you!

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