

Images in clinical medicine



The persistent central canal

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Received: 24 Jun 2020 - **Accepted:** 24 Jul 2020 - **Published:** 05 Aug 2020

Keywords: The persistent central canal, MRI, ependymal canal

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Cite this article: Abdel Ilah Drissi Maniani et al. The persistent central canal. PAMJ Clinical Medicine. 2020;3(159). 10.11604/pamj-cm.2020.3.159.24554

Available online at: <https://www.clinical-medicine.panafrican-med-journal.com//content/article/3/159/full>

The persistent central canal

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Image in medicine

Our case is about a 30-year-old woman who consults for neck pain, a cervical MRI with and without contrast was performed who objectified a thin centro-medullary cavity measuring 2 mm located at the junction of the anterior third and the posterior two thirds (A), extends from C6 to D1 (B), who appears as high intense on T2-weighted without an enhancement on a post-contrast characteristic of a persistent central canal (PCC). The PCC is defined as a persistence of a focal distension of the ependymal canal, generally discovered during a radiological exploration presents 1 to 2% of cases of exploration of the spinal cord, often of thoracic location. The clinic is poor, sometimes an atypical pain symptomatology with a generally normal neurological examination. Medullary MRI is a reference examination which shows a filiform or fusiform centromedullary cavity appears as high intense on T2-weighted less than 3 mm in diameter located at the junction

between the anterior third and the posterior two thirds of the antero-posterior diameter of the spinal cord, The post injection sequences are

necessary to eliminate the differential diagnosis, in particular tumor-related syringomyelia.

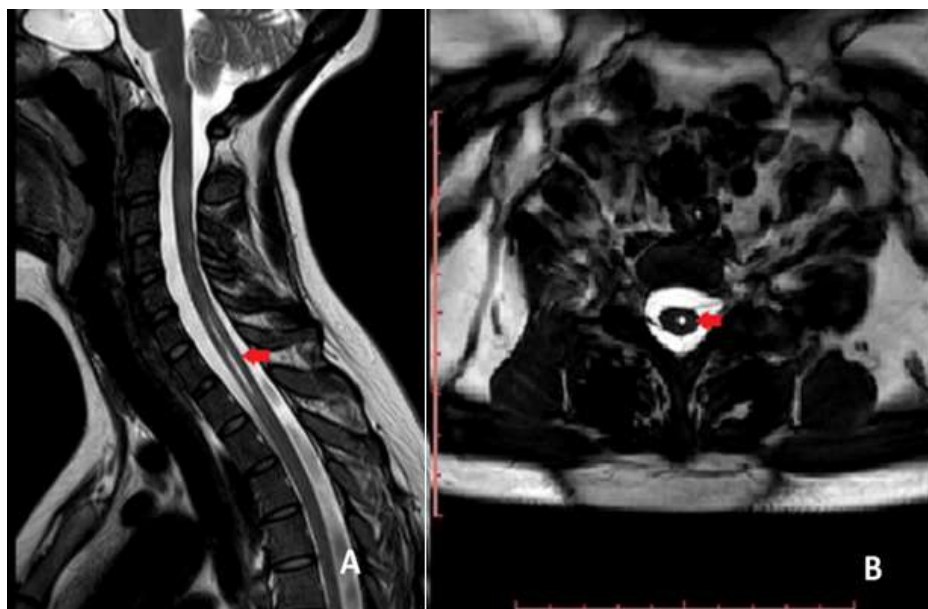


Figure 1: cervical medullary MRI in axial (A) and sagittal (B) section T2 showing a thin centro-medullary cavity filiform, measuring 2 mm located at the junction of the anterior third and the posterior two thirds (A), extends from C6 to D1 (B), who appears as high intense on T2-weighted (red arrow)