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## Osteoid Osteoma and Osteoblastoma of the Spine

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### – Abstract –

**Study design:** A retrospective study

**Objective:** To analyze the clinical and radiological findings, and the results of the surgical treatment of osteoid osteomas and osteoblastomas of the spine.

**Summary of Literature Review:** With the development of new imaging techniques, earlier diagnoses have been reported. However, a few reports of unexpected misdiagnosis, and postoperative results, have also been published.

**Materials and Methods:** Between January 1980 and September 2002, twelve patients were diagnosed with an osteoid osteoma or osteoblastoma of the spine, and were surgically treated. The average preoperative symptom-duration and follow-up period were 20 and 33 months, with ranges from 6weeks to 96 months, and 4 to 120 months, respectively. All the patients were younger than 30 years old, with the majority being of growing age, and underwent at least a bone scan, CT or MRI, as part of the diagnostic procedures.

**Results:** The most common symptom was pain at the lesion, with 2 torticollis and 4 scoliosis observed as combined spine deformities, respectively. Neurological abnormalities were seen more often in the osteoblastomas (80%) than in the osteoid osteomas (43%). From the radiological findings, a CT scan was a more effective procedure than any of the other diagnostic modalities in differentiating an osteosclerotic bony lesion and a nidus. In three out of the five MRI, 2 cases were misdiagnosed as infections and the other as a malignant tumor, with no significant abnormal findings in the simple roentgenogram. A wide excision was performed in all patients, and a fusion, with a bone graft, was also performed in 8. There were no postoperative spinal instabilities or complications.

**Conclusion:** In a differential diagnosis, careful history taking for pain, and a physical examination for spine deformity, are required. Without any clinical information, these tumors can be misdiagnosed as malignant tumors, or other infectious diseases, in a MRI. With regard to the surgical treatment, there were no cases of recurrence reported due to the wide excision, but a fusion, both with or without instrumentation, can be considered to prevent postoperative spine instability.

**Key Words:** Spine, Osteoid osteoma, Osteoblastoma, Scoliosis, Torticollis, MRI

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\* 1996 (02-1996-303-0)

1, 1, 1, 2, 5, 7, 가, 가

20~40%<sup>2,17)</sup>, 3,7), 30<sup>17)</sup>, 12, 5, 8

(woven bone)<sup>9)</sup>, (osteoid)<sup>1)</sup>, (night pain), Mann-Whitney Test

가 가 가 (Table 1).

1.5 cm<sup>1)</sup>, 가<sup>8,17)</sup>, 1.

(nidus)<sup>14,15)</sup>, 6, 8, 20, 24 (6~8), 11 (4~3), (p=0.87), (4), (1), (7), (2), (4), (2), 5 (71%), 2 (40%) (p=0.3), 6 (86%), 1 (20%) (p=0.03), 50%, 2, 4 가 (Table 1).

1980 1 2002 9 2.

62, 45, 17, 12 (19%), 7 (16%), 5 (29%), 33 (4~10), 가, 20 (6~8), 가 7, 5, 7, 19 (6~50), 30, 10 가 가, 7, 5, 5, 6, 1, 3, 4, 1, 2, 3, 1 (Table 1 patient 5), 1, 1,

**Table 1.** Seven patients with osteoid osteoma and five patients with osteoblastoma (continue)

Pt	Sex	Age	Dx	Site	Side	Part	Pain Duration (Mo)	Night Pain	Response to Aspirin	Preop Deformity	Preop Neurologic Symptoms
1	F	16	OO	L2	Rt	La/Pe	36	+	+	Scoliosis	Radiating Pain
2	F	50	OO	L5	Lt	Facet	15	+	+	-	-
3	F	30	OO	L2	Rt	La/Pe	7	-	+	-	-
4	F	13	OO	T10	Lt	Pe	16	+	+	Scoliosis	Motor weakness
5	M	7	OO	L4	Lt	La	1.25	-	-	Scoliosis	-
6	F	27	OO	L4	Lt	Pe	3	+	+	Scoliosis	-
7	M	19	OO	L5	Lt	Pe	96	+	+	-	L5, S1 Sensory ↓
8	M	18	OB	C5	Lt	Trans	18	-	-	-	Radiating Pain
9	M	14	OB	L4	Rt	La	4	-	-	-	EPH, L5 Sensory ↓
10	M	17	OB	C6	Rt	La	36	+	+	Torticollis	Radiating Pain
11	M	6	OB	C7	Rt	Pe/Bo	4	-	-	-	-
12	M	7	OB	C6	Lt	Pe	6	+	-	Torticollis	Radiating Pain, C6,7 Sensory ↓

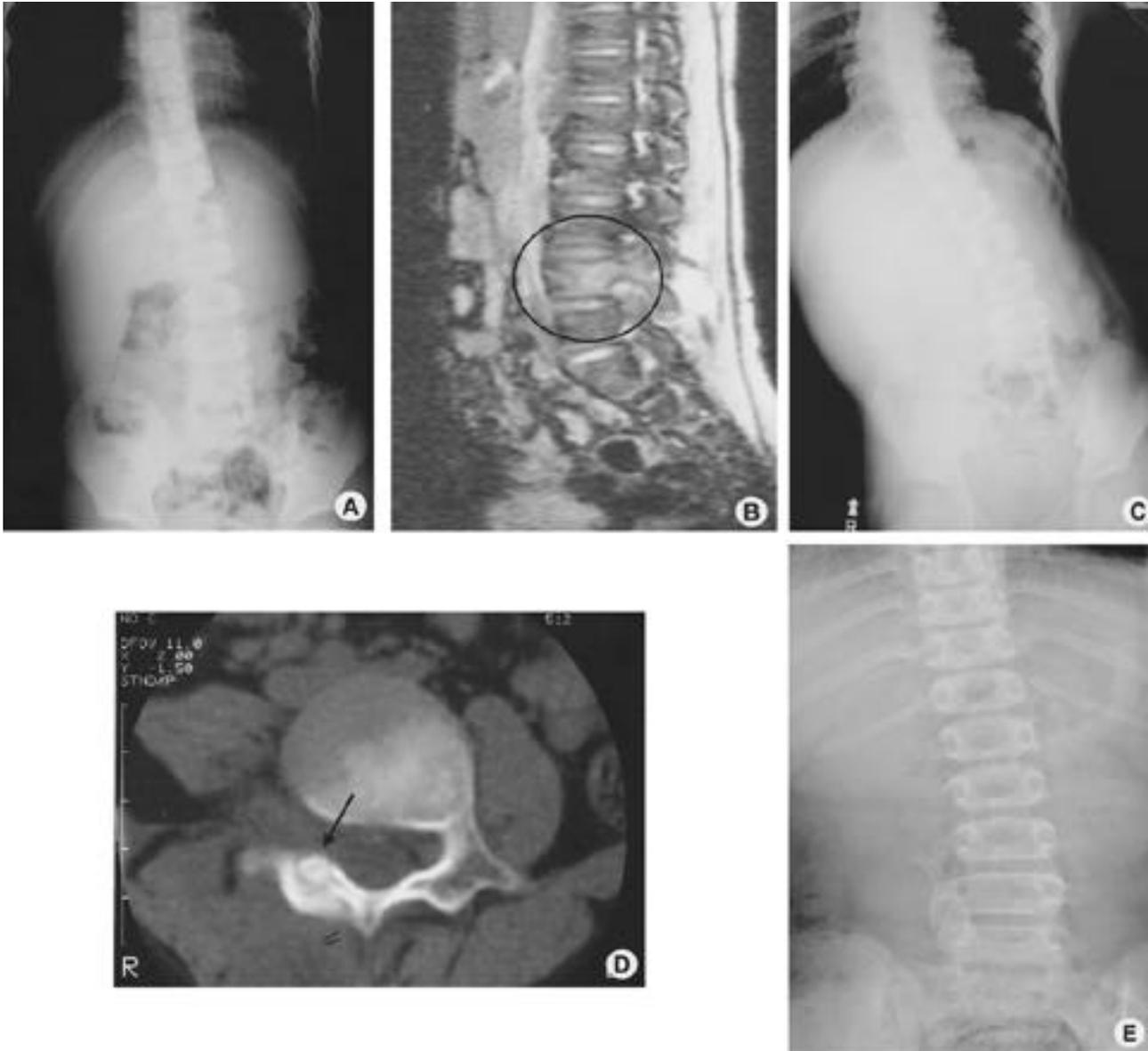
Pt: Patient, Dx: diagnosis, OO: osteoid osteoma, OB: osteoblastoma, Rt: right, Lt: left, La: lamina, Pe: pedicle, Trans: transverse process, Bo: Body, Mo: months, Preop: preoperative

**Table 1.** Seven patients with osteoid osteoma and five patients with osteoblastoma

Pt	Bone scan	MRI (impression)	CT	Operation	2nd Op	F/U (Mo)	Postop instability	Postop Cx	Postop Deformity
1	+	-	+	exc/fus	-	45	-	-	improved
2	+	-	+	exc	-	48	-	-	-
3	-	-	+	exc/fus/ins	-	12	-	-	-
4	+	+(Tbc infection)	+	exc/fus/ins	-	38	-	-	improved
5	+	+(pyogenic infection)	+	exc/fus	+	18	-	-	improved
6	-	-	+	exc/fus	-	29	-	-	improved
7	+	+(OO)	+	exc/fus/ins	-	53	-	-	-
8	+	-	+	exc	-	18	-	-	-
9	-	-	+	exc/fus	-	120	-	-	-
10	+	+(malignant bone tm)	+	exc	-	6	?	-	improved
11	-	-	+	exc/fus	-	12	-	-	-
12	+	+(OO)	+	exc	-	4	?	-	improved

tm: tumor, exc: excision, fus: fusion, ins: instrumentation, Op: operation, F/U: follow up, Postop: postoperative, Cx: complication

가 1 2 (Table 1 patient 4)  
 (Fig. 1. A.B.C.D.E) 2



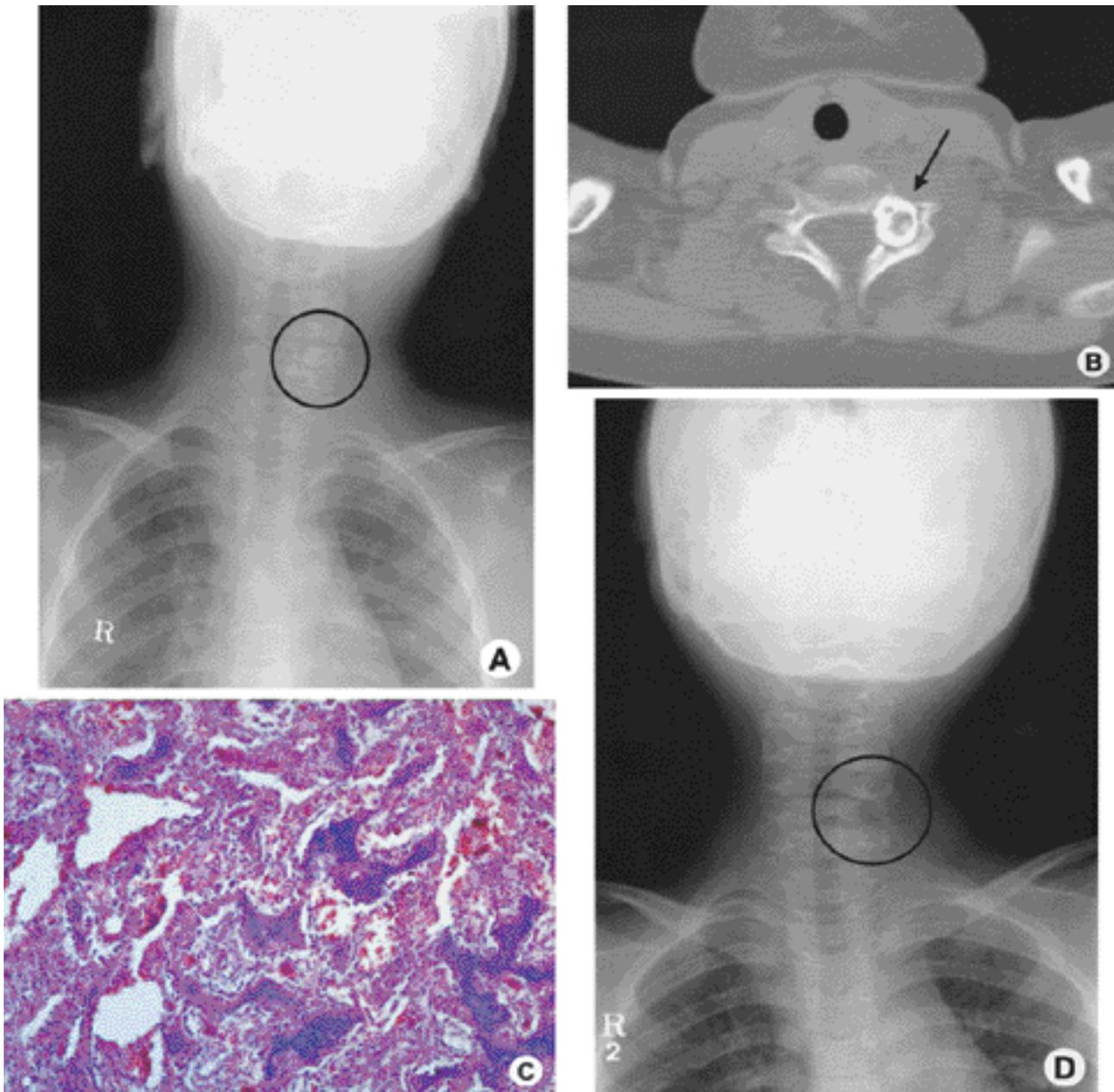
**Fig. 1.** Radiographs of a boy of seven years old who complained of severe low back pain for 6 weeks.

- A, B.** On initial AP plain radiograph, there is no bony abnormality except mild scoliosis, but on initial MRI, there is high signal intensity change in the lamina including the vertebral body of the 4th lumbar spine on T2 weighted image. The radiologic diagnosis was made as infectious spondylitis.
- C.** After 2 months of the first operation of curettage in the lesion, the patient suffered more severe low back pain. On AP plain radiograph, scoliosis aggravated.
- D.** CT shows the clear view of nidus (black arrow) located in right lamina of the 4th lamina, r/o osteoid osteoma was diagnosed.
- E.** After the 2nd operation of wide excision and spondylodesis with iliac bone graft, pain disappeared. On postoperative AP plain radiograph, scoliosis dramatically improved.

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1 (Table 1 patient 10)

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**Fig. 2.** Radiographs of a boy of seven years old who complained of neck pain and photomicrograph of osteoblastoma.

- A.** On preoperative AP plain radiograph, there is sclerotic bony lesion in the left pedicle of the 6th cervical spine and mild torticollis is shown.
- B.** CT shows the 1.5 cm diameter mass with central ossification (black arrow) in the left pedicle of the 6th cervical spine.
- C.** A photomicrograph of the biopsy specimen taken at operation, showing a fibrous, vascular stroma surrounding the small trabeculae of osteoid. A single layer of osteoblasts can be recognized around the osteoid tissue (hematoxylin and eosin  $\times 100$ ).
- D.** After 4 months of wide excision without fusion, there is no postoperative instability on the last follow-up AP plain radiograph. A careful follow-up with frequent radiographic examination has been recommended.

14,15)

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15)

1,15)

7

4

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2

12)

3.

,7

. Pettine Klassen<sup>11)</sup>

15

가 6

3

(5 4 )

1

1

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가

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1,17)

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(Table 1 patient 12)

1)

1,4,7,17)

(43%)

(80%)

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(P=0.21),

(Fig. 2. A.B.C.D).

2)

7).

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(P=0.43).

(P=0.03).

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가

prostaglandin

16,18)

(1 )

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(2 )

가 .

Zanetti <sup>19)</sup> , 가

, Lefton <sup>6)</sup> 가 ,

4 ,

, Kawaguchi <sup>5)</sup>

COX-2

가

<sup>13)</sup> . Ozaki <sup>10)</sup>

2 가

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(Table 1

patient 10, 12) 가

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