

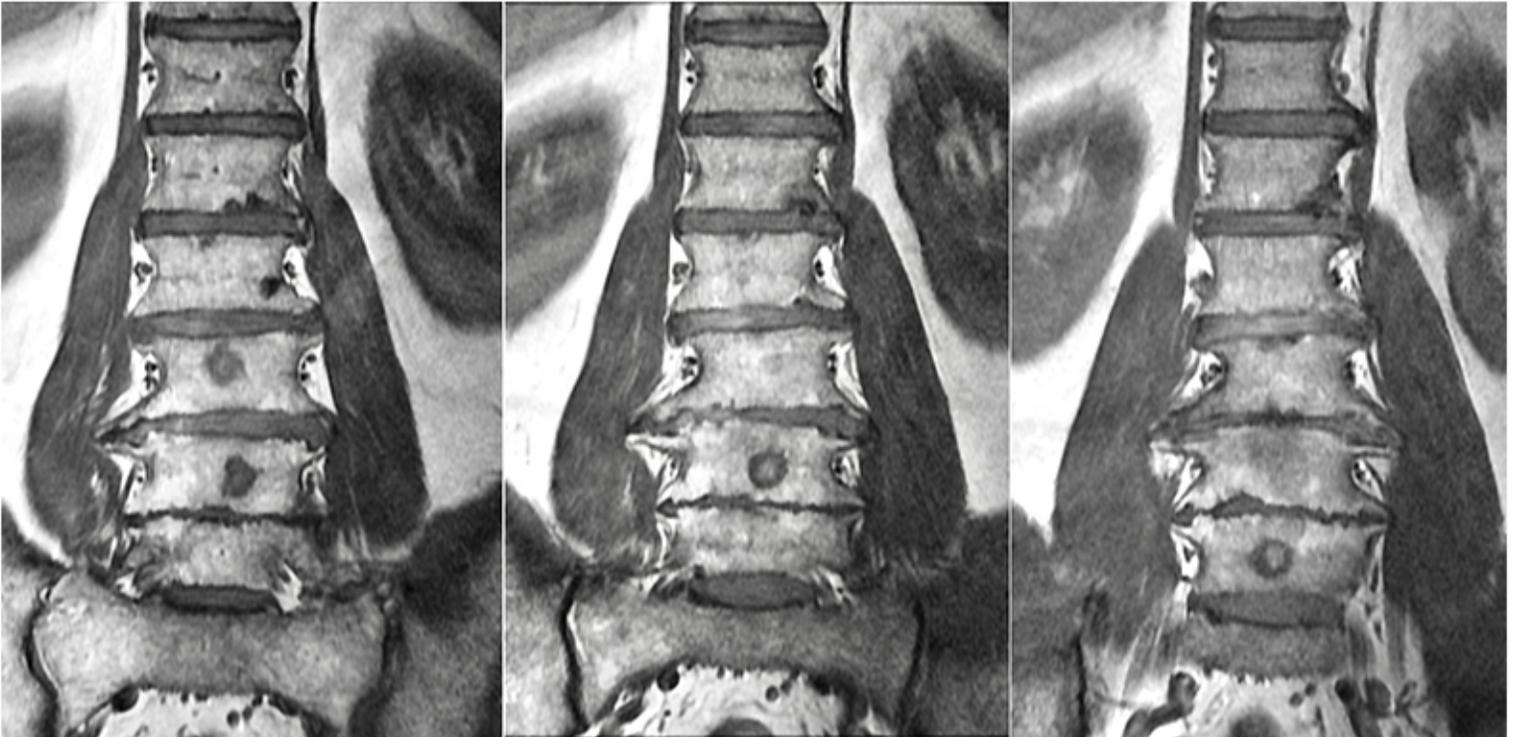
Interesting spine case

Dear colleagues,

What is your DDX in this 71 y/o male with LBP S/P recent MVA? There are small target-like round lesions in central L3, L4, and L5 vertebral bodies. Pt also reports recent increased urinary frequency. These foci were not present on a prior MRI a year ago.

Here's a DDX:

1. Metastasis (e.g. prostate) or multiple myeloma
2. Sarcoid (due to the central fat)
3. atypical vertebral hemangiomas



This pt had undergone a fairly new procedure (a couple months prior to his MVA) called INTRACEPT Procedure, which is RF ablation of the basivertebral nerves (BVN) to treat LBP caused mainly by endplate Modic changes. He states that he became pretty much pain free immediately after the procedure and was able to resume normal activities afterwards (until his car was totaled in a hit and run).



The fact that these foci are round and well defined, geometric, about the same size and central in location with central marrow (target like) would be more in favor of man-made post-op changes rather than a disease process such as metastasis, which was the initial thought (prostate mets) prior to talking to the referring spine surgeon. That helped to prevent an unnecessary slew of malignancy workup and a wild-goose chase to find a primary. This proves the obvious value of radiologists collaborating with the referring clinicians and not reading cases in vacuum.

Here's a link describing the procedure:

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1529943019308009>

Ray Hashemi, MD

Ray H. Hashemi, M.D., Ph.D.

Diplomat American Board of Radiology

~ 43731 N. 15th St. West
~ 25842 Tournament Road
~ 607 West Ave Q
~ 900 Heritage Dr., Bldg B

~ Lancaster, CA 93534 ~ Tel: (661) 949-8111 ~ Fax: (661) 949-6600
~ Valencia, CA 91355 ~ Tel: (661) 255-0060 ~ Fax: (661) 255-0024
~ Palmdale, CA 93550 ~ Tel: (661) 456-2020 ~ Fax: (661) 456-2021
~ Ridgecrest, CA 93555 ~ Tel: (760) 446-1999 ~ Fax: (760) 446-1910

~ www.aicscan.com
~ www.aicscan.com
~ www.aicscan.com
~ www.aicscan.com