

Clinical Image

Neurogenic Para-Osteoarthropathy

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35-year-old patient, with no medical history, admitted to resuscitation department for severe polytrauma after a road accident. Abdominopelvic CT realized a month later revealed bilateral coxo-femoral para-articular exuberant bone structures with preservation of joint space and moderate bone demineralization in relation with a neurogenic para-osteoarthritis (NPOA) (Figure 1). NPOA or neurogenic osteoma or myositis ossificans (NMO) is the development of a heterotopic bone in the para-articular tissues in patients with severe traumatic brain injury, as in the case of our patient. It results from neuro-vegetative abnormalities. We distinguish two forms in imaging; the atrophic form, associating bone demineralization, early narrowing of the joint space and frequent misalignments and the hypertrophic form, as in our case, associating exuberant para-articular bone structures that can be complicated by pseudoarthritis or hypertrophic callus, minimal demineralization with preservation of joint space for a long time.

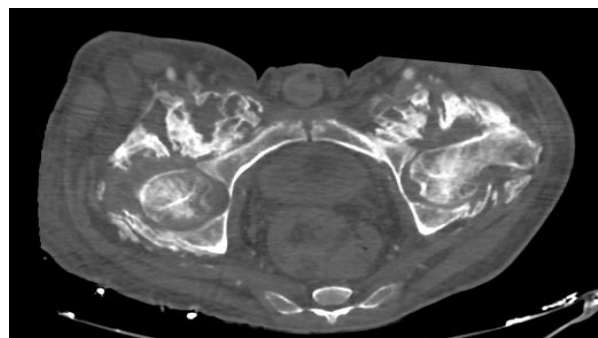


Figure 1: Axial reformatting of pelvic CT: Bilateral neurogenic para-osteoarthritis.