

Clinical Image

The Celery Stalk Sign: An Indicator of Mucoïd Cyst of Anterior Cruciate Ligament

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Mucoïd cyst of the anterior cruciate ligament is a rare condition that is often overlooked [1,2]. It is a newly formed cystic formation consisting of one or more cavities containing very viscous mucoïd fluid and surrounded by a fibro conjunctive wall [2], described by Bergin et al as an uncommon form of mucoïd degeneration [1]. Its prevalence in magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) is 0.4 to 1.3% with a male predominance and an average age between 40 and 50 years old [1]. The clinical picture at the beginning is asymptomatic, the evolution is characterized by gonalgia of progressive intensity often posterior in the popliteal fossa [1,2], associated with a limitation of flexion and/or extension with sometimes episodes blocking [1,2]. The physical examination is poor and not very specific, a history of acute trauma or repetitive strain injuries are often involved [1,2]. Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) is the gold standard for diagnosis [1,2]. It appears in the form of a cystic lesion, fusiform of liquid signal, filling the intercondylar notch and oriented in the long axis of the anterior cruciate ligament which appears widened in a fan "like a stalk of celery" [1,2]. The evolution can be marked by the rupture of the cyst [1] hence the importance of early diagnosis and adequate management. Arthroscopic resection is the treatment of choice given its minimally invasive nature, its good functional results and a near-zero recurrence rate [1,2].

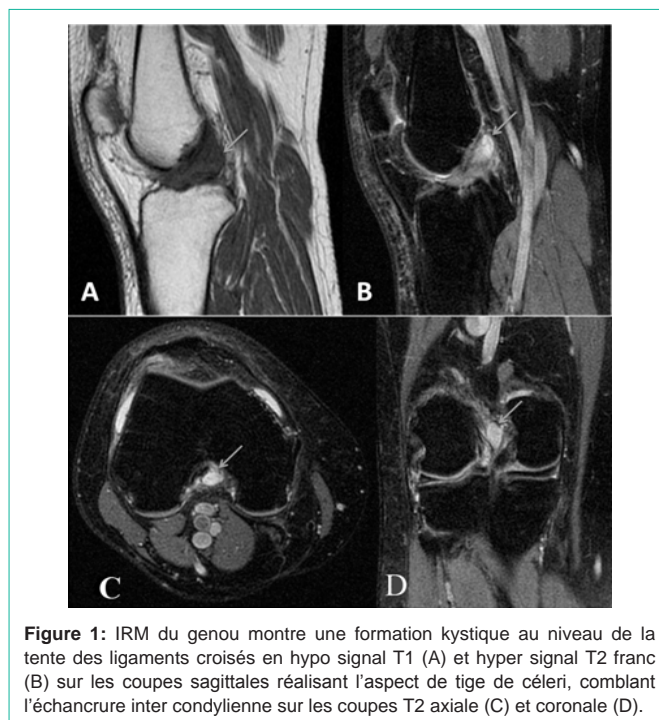


Figure 1: IRM du genou montre une formation kystique au niveau de la tente des ligaments croisés en hypo signal T1 (A) et hyper signal T2 franc (B) sur les coupes sagittales réalisant l'aspect de tige de céleri, comblant l'échancrure inter condylienne sur les coupes T2 axiale (C) et coronale (D).

References

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